



27 Years of Ramblin' & Still Pushin'

CORNER



I hope this newsletter finds you in good health traveling somewhere exciting in your motorhome. After all, that is why we bought these rigs. Besides, those diesel engines need exercise.

At the 2017 Maintenance Session, outgoing president, John Jones, and I began some constructive meetings with our Holiday Rambler RV Club (HRRVC) Region 3 Director, Bill Kasko, regarding the Ramblin' Pushers relationship with our parent organization. Because of those discussions, Jane and I decided to attend the HRRVC Eastern International Rally (EIR) in Amana, Iowa, in mid July. It was most rewarding to represent our club along with 3 of our Directors, and a total of 52 of our members out of the 121 rigs present. The rally site was literally surrounded by cornfields, but there was plenty to see and do in the Amana Colonies area. Tom and Joyce Knight along with Bob and Linda Larsen, all four Ramblin' Pushers members, planned and executed a great event.

From further discussions with Bill Kasko, Jane and I agreed to facilitate a workshop for the HRRVC Board (both old and new) similar to that which we did with the Ramblin' Pushers Board at the 2015 mid-year meetings. This workshop gave the HRRVC Board the knowledge and tools needed to write a mission and vision statement for the organization and establish some goals to fulfill their vision statement. The resulting membership changes were a pleasant surprise to all of us.

The new HRRVC Board named Bill Kasko to be this year's President. They also distributed a document with new membership rules that would allow all towable brands and all of the old Monaco brands to join the organization. At the membership meeting President Kasko described the HRRVC membership having dropped from over 11,000 in 2000 to its current level of barely 1300, including emeritus members. Sentiment was voiced to follow the Ramblin' Pushers lead and allow all of the REV brands to join. Pushers Director Matt Libby made a strong plea to this effect followed by Director Paul Miller suggesting a "straw" vote of the members present. The vote was overwhelmingly in support of allowing all of the REV brands to join HRRVC. This action led the Board to reconsider their decision. At the EIR closing ceremony it was announced that all brands of towables and all REV brand coaches are now welcome to join HRRVC as of September 1, 2017. The announcement was met with applause.

This change marks a big step forward for HRRVC as they work to solve their membership problem. They have definitely opened the door. In my opinion, however, they must take several more serious steps to give the other REV brands sufficient reason to enter that door and join HRRVC. In the meantime, we are delighted that there is now a path for all of our Maintenance Session participants to vote at our own Business Meeting, and serve as officers and members of our Board of Directors.

(Continued)

PRESIDENT'S

RAMBLIN' PUSHERS NEWSLETTER

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2017
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Mission

To provide information to our members and associates to help them safely and properly operate and maintain their REV diesel motor homes and enhance their ownership experiences.

Purpose

The purpose of this *Ramblin' Pushers Newsletter* is to inform members of recalls; new products; information about REV, the manufacturer of motor homes; information concerning the next Maintenance Session; and methods other members have used to diagnose problems and maintain their motor homes.

This *Newsletter* does not claim to present the best way to make repairs, but shares methods and approaches other members have found to work for them. Members are encouraged to use various sources of information such as owners manuals, brand specific technical assistance, REV Repair Centers, and other supplier information along with web/phone support to diagnose and correct problems experienced in their motor homes.

(Pres. Corner cont.)

I have appointed a By-laws Committee to write the necessary changes to our governing documents. This committee may also consider other desirable changes to our rules. To provide additional guidance to the committee, we will conduct an on-line survey of all of you regarding these and other related matters. Please help us by taking the survey when it comes out.

There is one other part of this story worth mentioning. At our 2015 mid-year meeting, we created a new Vision Statement for our organization. At that time we stated, "One goal that we must achieve to fulfill this vision is to deliver the highest quality Maintenance Session possible. With fewer than 300 coaches attending, we find it increasingly difficult to attract top-notch seminar presenters, vendors, dealers, and service providers. To increase attendance we have opened participation to coaches from other brands within the Monaco and ARG (now REV Recreation Group) family. *To complete this goal and assure the survivability of the chapter, membership restrictions imposed by HRRVC must end no later than the*

General Membership Meeting at the 2016 Maintenance Session."

Yes, we are just over one year late; but we have now achieved this goal. We will look forward to continuing to grow the Maintenance Session to 300 participating rigs and maybe more. This is a good place to also mention that the Ramblin' Pusher Board approved including the REV Recreation Group Renegade Brand of Super C coaches in the 2018 MS. If any of you have friends with a Renegade coach, please be sure to invite them.

To those of you returning from summer travels, as well as those still on the road, heading to winter quarters, or perhaps going to Albuquerque for the Balloon Fiesta....

Happy Trails,

Jim Grossman

President, Ramblin' Pushers

Cover Photo

The title block photo for this issue is Roger & Dee Stickley's 2009 Navigator The photo was taken in the Yogi-Bear Jellystone RV Park in Alberta, Alabama in March 2016.

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Officers and Directors

From Left: Paul Miller, Director; Paul Pronze, Director; Dick Hohorst, Treasurer; Glenna Alexander, Secretary; Ray Blush, Vice President; Matt Libby, Director; Jim Grossman, President; Hugh Skidmore, Director; John Jones, Immediate Past President

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2018 Ramblin' Pushers Dues

Dues may be paid for the current year or future years at any time. If you would like to pay dues in advance, please make your check payable to **HRRVC Ramblin' Pushers**. Include your HRRVC or XX number on your check.

Mail your check to:

Ramblin' Pushers Ch. 419
413 Walnut Street #5294
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-3443

Cover Photos Needed

We are running short of title block photos. Now that the autumn travel season is upon us, take some uncluttered campsite photos and send them to ramblinpushersnewsed@gmail.com.

All REV brands are welcome in the title block. Please identify the coach make, model, and year, the owners' names, and the location, and date the photo.

IN THIS ISSUE

This third quarter issue arrives as children return to school, the field crops reach harvest, and many of us look forward to the fresh, crisp mornings of autumn. I hope you were among the millions who got to experience the eerie afternoon twilight of the total solar eclipse. It was indeed a singular experience.

The focus of this issue of the Newsletter is on current events of interest to our membership, and reports on the status of preparations for the 2018 MS. Most of us have been taking well-deserved summer trips, attending rallies, exploring National Parks and other historic locations, visiting family and friends, and enjoying some down time after the most recent Maintenance Session. But you can be assured that the planning of our next event is well under way. We are pleased to announce that there have been some additions and changes that are intended to make the MS an even better experience for everyone.

A number of our members attended the HRRVC Eastern International Rally in Amana, Iowa. The Ramblin' Pushers comprised almost half of the coaches in attendance. All in all it was an enjoyable time for socializing and visiting local attractions. As Jim Grossman described in his opening article, the HRRVC Board announced some important changes in membership eligibility that are intended to open the organization to a greater number of potential members, especially younger families.

The MS team has undergone a few changes. Ray Blush, now the MS Coordinator, has yielded the Building & Grounds responsibilities to Matt Libby, while Judi Libby has taken up the Administrative function. She is joined by Tonia Ahlmeyer who will coordinate MS office operations. Ray Cupples will manage golf cart contracting and assignments.

The Educational Program team now includes Doug Lindhout in the crucial role of Seminars and Scheduling. Doug is assisted in that effort by Bob Hill. The team will also concentrate on RV Lifestyle and Family Activities where we intend to see a dramatic increase in the number and variety

of seminars, classes, and activities. Key to the expansion of that area is Sandy Lindhout who is already working to develop a crafts program with something for everyone. Finally, Paul Pronze will coordinate the First-Timer Guides program. If you were a guide last year you should expect to be contacted by Paul in the near future

If you own a late model REV coach, you might be affected by the Recall Notice reported on p. 23. This recall responds to headlights that could shatter due to a manufacturing defect. Details may be found in the notice.

Paul Miller offers an intriguing report on his experience with chassis modifications to improve the handling of his coach. Coach handling and steering was a 2017 seminar topic that was welcomed by many of our attendees. The components were ordered at the MS and he was able to install them as a do-it-yourself project. Paul's experience demonstrates the mission of the MS—to acquire knowledge that helps us improve coach safety and enjoyment.

Important information concerning the election of Ramblin' Pushers board members (officers and directors) is presented by the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Carol Smalley. The eligibility requirements for each board position are presented for the information of persons who wish to join the Ramblin' Pushers leadership team. Anyone who meets the stated eligibility requirements and seeks to join the Board is invited to submit a summary of his/her qualifications for consideration by the Nominating Committee.

The next few months will see an increase in activity by the Maintenance Session team as the winter planning meeting approaches. This is a good time to decide how you would like to participate as a volunteer at MS 2018. And don't forget: **parking assignments are made in the order that registrations are received.** We now have more than 100 coaches registered, so take a few minutes and send in that registration form today.

FROM THE MS COORDINATOR

My, oh my...time is fleeing by too quickly for many of us! It seems like only last week we were gathered in Goshen, Indiana, at the 2017 Ramblin' Pushers Maintenance Session.

Already, as the Fall season creeps in, many of the more than 200 volunteers are beginning their work to make another wonderful event take place in May. The 2018 MS, scheduled for Thursday, May 3, through Wednesday, May 9, 2018, already has more folks registered at this time of year than in most previous years! And that is wonderful news for all of us.

We have reviewed all of the evaluations you submitted to us at the end of the 2017 MS and are taking the comments and recommendations very seriously. Overall, you rated the MS extremely high and we appreciate your taking the time to fill out the evaluations. One area, in which far too many seminars had to be dropped when the presenters cancelled out, is getting our extra attention to prevent a reoccurrence. It involves presentation on RV Lifestyle topics and Family Activities, including Crafts. You can be sure there will be plenty of these types of events at the 2018 MS!

As many of you have experienced, the MS is a great way to learn more about what makes your unit "tick," and how to handle some of the problems as they crop up, typically at a time when we least expect it or are nowhere near the experts. It is amazing how many fixes we can do on our own and do not need expensive professional technical help.

But for those larger jobs where an experienced tech is absolutely necessary, the MS is the place to get that work done, and at reasonable rates. Our routine preventive maintenance items are also handled during the MS by highly qualified service personnel.

And, of course, don't forget all the "goodies" available from the vendors who set up in Building A, as well as the new and used coaches our dealer sponsors bring to the MS.

Now to the social picture during the MS. The fun begins each morning with all the food you can eat and coffee, juice, etc., you can drink at morning hospitality. That's also the time to sit and chat with

friends as well as new acquaintances and catch up on any morning announcements.

Then, as we move through the morning and into the noon hour, there are the frequent vendor and dealer sponsored socials. In addition, some also are sponsored in the evenings. Many participants have requested an additional Amish dinner. As a result we are planning this year to add an Amish dinner on Saturday evening. And of course, we won't forget that favorite – the ice cream social following the business meeting!

With the more than 100 seminars we will have on our schedule, it's important to know that there is no way any of us can attend all of them. That's why we strongly recommend you closely scrutinize the MS program book you receive upon arrival, and decide how you will spend your days learning, touring, socializing, relaxing, getting things done on your coach, and above all, having a good time!

Planning all of this takes considerable time and effort, and no one gets paid one red cent for everything that is accomplished! We are fortunate to have a terrific group of dedicated volunteers who make all of the planning turn into a successful event.

So, as the cooler weather (we hope) begins to find its way to all of us, our planning will continue and formalize in January when we have the Mid-Year Board and MS Planning Session in Florida.

We look forward to gathering again in May for the next Maintenance Session and hope you all can make it to Goshen too!

Ray Blush

2018 Maintenance Session Coordinator
Vice-President, Ramblin' Pushers

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Educational Program team is working now on the preparations for MS 2018. The whole team has begun the process of examining the long list of possible seminar topics and presenters to choose the ones that will be the most useful and informative to our members. That includes the list of essential topics and presenters who continue to support our event with their time and expertise. Doug Lindhout has taken up the task of fitting the whole program into the jigsaw puzzle of the facilities resource matrix that defines the limits of what we can do using the spaces that are available.

Next year's MS promises to offer a wide array of seminars that focus on key systems maintenance. These are the topics like drive train, electrical distribution and management, chassis power distribution and control, safety equipment, and safe operation of the coach. The presenters will include representatives of major component suppliers, service providers and vendors, and Ramblin' Pushers members who have special skills and knowledge in these fields.

The MS will also offer a greatly expanded program of RV Lifestyle and Family Activities, including an extensive offering of crafts projects and activities for our members whose interest falls outside of the technical topics at the event's core. This is an area that a significant number of our participants found disappointing last year. Some of the reasons for this can be attributed to an unusual number of last-minute cancellations for which there was no available substitute. We have heard your voices, we understand, and we agree.

We have sought to address that deficiency by assembling an enthusiastic team of volunteers who will explore topics of interest in the subject areas and recruit persons willing to share their knowledge and skill with others. The MS team has for the first time dedicated a central location for the Lifestyle seminars and demonstrations with furnishings and utilities adequate for a wide range of projects. That space is the Ag Building—just east of ECCC. Whenever, during the hours MS buildings are open, the space is not being used as a seminar/classroom, it will be available for anyone to spread out materials and work on Family Activities/Crafts projects.

Our goal is to have at least two formal sessions (seminars or classes) on each day of the MS from the Opening Ceremony to the Closing Dinner. We want no one to feel that there is nothing for them to do at the MS.

Our RV Lifestyle and Family Activities team will work with persons who have special knowledge in areas like the use of cooking equipment in the limited space of an RV kitchen, and interior decorating to personalize our motor *homes*, and maintain their "like new" appearance. Just as last year, there will also be lifestyle topics that meld personal interests and RV travel. Many of us combine some lifelong goals of visiting many (all?)

National Parks and Historic Sites. Others plan trips that include stops at locations that are part of their family history. We already have some of these topics addressed and are on the lookout for more.

The Crafts area will be coordinated by Sandy Lindhout, an experienced crafter with many diverse interests and skills. Sandy's

goal is to assemble a group to present craft classes on projects and techniques that our MS participants want to pursue. To begin that effort she has prepared an article for this Newsletter that invites all of our readers to contact her with ideas for craft skills they would like to learn or ones they are eager to share with others.

The Educational leadership team believes that a major expansion of the Lifestyle and Activities area along with the dedication of a space for the purpose will go far toward making the MS an interesting, satisfying, and pleasant experience for everyone who arrives in an RV for the 2018 Maintenance Session.

Please read Sandy's article, think about the subject, and contact her with your suggestions. As always, this area needs volunteers to make it the success we all want to see. Volunteer now to be part of the team.

**Something for Everyone!
Expanded RV Lifestyle and
Family Activities program to
include a variety of craft
classes and projects.**

Roger Smalley

Educational Program Committee

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COORDINATOR

For those of you that don't know me, let me introduce myself. I'm Matt Libby, the new Building and Grounds Coordinator. First, I would like to thank all the volunteers who worked the 2017 MS and hope you all will be returning for the 2018 MS and volunteer again.

There are a couple areas where we need more help. First, we need 4 or 5 Propane Sniffers. This is an important coach safety check, and we will train you to do this inspection. Second, we need more volunteers in the Information-Transportation area. The more golf cart drivers we get, the shorter the shifts will be. We can schedule your shift around a class or activity you want to attend. Please let Jane Grossman, Volunteer Coordinator, jane.grossman@sbcglobal.net, know what you are willing to volunteer for in one of these areas. If you indicated a desire to volunteer in a certain area on the registration form you sent in, that's fine. And if you would prefer to work in one of the areas

mentioned above, just let Jane know. Volunteering is a great way to meet new friends and make the load easier for everyone.

I would like to thank again Tom Knight - Parking, Paul Miller - Engineering, Rod Ahlmeyer, Gordon Owenby and Don Whitehead - Propane Sniffers, Jerry Davis - Coach Weighing, Dan Poythress - Audio-Visual, Dennis Hill - Information-Transportation, Mitch Butler - First Aid and Jim Isett - Golf Cars. Ray Cupples will join the team as the Golf Car coordinator beginning in 2018.

Looking forward to seeing all the previous attendees and our 2018 first-timers.

Matt Libby

2018 Building & Grounds Coordinator





2017 MS REPORT AMISH DINNERS*

A total of 227 MS participants enjoyed the Amish Dinner experience at the 2017 Maintenance Session.

On Tuesday, 2 May, the 113 members of the set-up team dined at the Carriage House. On Sunday, 7 May, 102 people attended the Red Barn Theater's production of "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change." The accompanying Amish lunch and dinner attracted 122.

In response to popular demand, we intend to add another Amish dinner to the schedule on Saturday evening for those who were not on the set-up team dinner on Tuesday. We hope many will take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy some real Amish country fare in an authentic setting.

Bonnie Cupples
Amish Dinners Coordinator

*Editor's note: This report was submitted for inclusion in the Maintenance Session Report issue (Vol. 27 No. 2) of the Newsletter. It was misplaced by the editor and discovered after the issue had gone to press. My apologies to Bonnie for the oversight.

FROM THE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

It was a great 2017 Maintenance Session. Although it seems like it just ended, we have already begun to put together the 2018 MS. As always, we need everyone to volunteer and help in some way. Please give us some of your time and talent. Indicate where you would like to help when you send in your registration. If you have already sent it in and forgot to indicate your preference, just let me know at the email below.

We are particularly looking for some talented ladies (or gentlemen) to lead some non-technical sessions. If you can teach a craft, please volunteer to teach it! If you would like to do a seminar on a non-technical subject related to the RV Lifestyle, let us know that, too. The more choices

we give our participants (that includes you and me), the happier they are! Please contact me directly if you can do one or more of these sessions or have any questions.

If you can teach an RV Lifestyle class or share a craft skill, please volunteer.

Remember the benefits of volunteering include meeting new people, making life-long friends, feeling like you are needed (you are!), and having a great time.

Jane Grossman
Volunteer Chair 2018 MS
jane.grossman@sbcglobal.net
314-277-0382

AN MS SUCCESS STORY

At the 2017 Maintenance Session I attended two sessions by Craig French and Van Williams, titled, "Roadmaster Chassis: Suspension and Handling," and "Roadmaster Chassis: Sheppard & TRW Steering Gears Characteristics and Upgrades." In the first session they described how the leaning of the coach while cornering could be reduced by installing a Watts Link in the front, or both front and rear of the coach. They also described how adding cross bracing to the rear trailing arms could reduce the sideways movement of the coach in a crosswind from the flexing of the trailing arms.

In the second session they described how Holiday Rambler and Monaco used both Sheppard and TRW steering gears and that the TRW unit was adjustable, so that excessive play in the steering wheel could be adjusted out. The Sheppard steering gear is not adjustable and can have 1-1/2" to 2" of play in the steering wheel and be within tolerances. In both sessions Craig talked about the significant improvements in handling he experienced with these modifications on his 2012 Monaco Knight. He also said if you are moderately handy you can install them yourself as he had done.

From the very first time I drove our new 2013 HR Ambassador I noticed excessive play in the steering wheel, but I never knew I could eliminate it until listening to Craig and Van. At the MS Craig came out to my coach and we measured 1-1/2" of play in my Sheppard steering gear. I had also experienced some sideways buffeting of the coach in a head wind or cross wind, especially driving out west. I knew then that I wanted to make these modifications to my coach.

I ordered a front Watts Link kit and a rear cross bracing kit from MonacoWatts LLC using a discount code handed out at the MS that saved 10% of the cost. The kits had to be manufactured and shipped from California and I received them in about three weeks. The installation instructions that came with the kits were clear and easy to follow and the bolt-on installation was straightforward.

Before I ordered a new TRW steering gear I reviewed the installation instructions that Craig and

others had posted on the iRV2 website. I wanted to be confident I could do the whole job myself, or I would have found a shop that could do the installation. I had no trouble convincing myself that indeed I could do it. Craig had found an excellent source for rebuilt steering gears in Weller Truck Parts in Grand Rapids, MI, and the POC was listed on iRV2. Everyone at Weller was extremely helpful and professional. They helped me determine which model number Sheppard I had and found the appropriate TRW model and Pittman arm. Once I placed my order the unit arrived in three days. After installation Weller paid for shipping the old steering gear to them and I got my core deposit returned in a few days.

I followed the detailed instructions for swapping steering gears posted on iRV2 with one minor change. Their gear was bolted on with three 7/8" bolts; mine used four 5/8" bolts. The two hardest tasks were removing the Pittman arm from the drag link and drilling an access hole for the TRW adjustment screw, a 1-1/2" hole in a 1/2" steel plate in an awkward position.

Now the results. Our first long trip was from Virginia to Amana, IA, for the HRRVC EIR, and then north for a circle tour of Lake Superior, which we're still on as I write this article. The coach handles so much better now, with much fewer and smaller steering wheel movements driving down the road. The steering wheel is almost as responsive as a car, and in windy conditions I can feel wind trying to buffet the coach but it hardly moves side to side. I'm really glad for Craig and Van's presentations at the MS and all the work they have put into finding solutions to Roadmaster chassis handling issues. Total cost for the Watts Link and cross bracing was \$1,190 and the total cost for the new steering gear and Pittman arm was \$856. Well worth it.

Paul Miller

MS Engineering Coordinator

**Learning and Doing:
This is what the MS is
all about.**

SEMINARS & SCHEDULING

We surely had a good selection of technical seminars to choose from at this spring's Maintenance Session, didn't we! The number and variety held something for nearly everyone, and in many cases, there were too many choices for one person to attend everything they wished. I've been to the past four MS's and each time there were a number of sessions I couldn't attend because of schedule conflicts. I think that is actually a good problem to have.

The seminars that we present are those that we believe will help us understand our coaches, make them safer to operate, help you learn to do maintenance work yourself, or avoid getting ripped off by others. You can be assured that we will do all we can to enlist the help of OEM vendors (Cummins, Atwood, Lippert, etc.) as well as many of the service providers you have seen over the years.

But, and here is where you come in, we want to hear your suggestions for topics as well. Are there features or systems on your coach that you wish you knew more about? Reflect back on your activities with your coach this past year.

- Perhaps you traveled down some rough roads and wished your coach would handle better. Where do you begin?

- Maybe you have been thinking about replacing your dual fuel refrigerator with a residential. What is involved in that?

- Maybe you spent a few months in a warm place last winter, and even though you were plugged in, your chassis batteries didn't have enough charge to start your engine this spring. What? Why?

And of course, the list could go on and on.

Is there a parts vendor or service provider that you would like to hear from? Is there a technology that you would like to learn more about? Let me know.

We are painfully aware that our lifestyle section fell well short of satisfying anyone this past spring and we are determined to rectify that. If you or your copilot have any ideas, please let me know. If a sewing oriented session were available, would you be willing to pack your machine? If a craft seminar required multiple hours over multiple sessions to complete, would you still be interested? Let me know.

My team and I will be working throughout the fall and winter to line up our topics and speakers and I am giving you permission to flood my inbox with your ideas.

Doug Lindhout

MS 2018 Seminars & Scheduling

doug.lindhout@outlook.com



FIRST-TIMER GUIDES

The First-Timer Guides program is off to a good start this year. Last year's Guides program was a great success, and we will build on that solid foundation.

The evidence of the program's success can be seen in two questions from the First-Timers section of the MS Evaluation. The first asked if they (the first-timers) intended to return to the MS in the future. Eighty-four percent (41 out of 49) respondents who answered that question said yes. But even more impressive than that, 72 percent (52 out of 72) of the same group said that they intend to return next year.

Most of us remember our first MS and the time between our registration and our arrival at the fairgrounds. We weren't sure just how the event works, how to get service and repair work done on our coach, how much could actually be done on site at the event, and who to contact about off-site service before or after the MS. The Guides program is intended to make much of that uncertainty go away and to match each first-timer with an experienced MS participant who can be a valuable resource for the first-timers.

Be a First-Timer Guide in 2018. Volunteer Now!

The program requires that the Guide, assigned by the program coordinator, make early contact with the First-Timer to explain that not much happens until the last few weeks before the MS. The Guide should be on hand to meet their first-timers in person shortly after they arrive and get settled. The Guides should escort the first-timers to Friday morning hospitality and the opening ceremony and then check on them throughout the week to help resolve any problems that might arise.

If you were a Guide last year we want you to volunteer again in 2018. If you did not serve as a Guide last year, you missed a great opportunity. If you were a First-Timer last year and would like to make sure that our next class of first-timers has the same great MS experience, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Jane Grossman at jane.grossman@sbcglobal.net or me and let us know you want to help.

Paul Pronze

First-Timer Guides Coordinator

pcpronze@yahoo.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

As we are starting to plan for the upcoming 2018 Maintenance Session there has been a change in the Administrative Activities Chair. Deb Issett will not be returning to this position and I know she will be sorely missed. But, we hope to see her there with Jim or down the road traveling.

I'm Judi Libby and I will be taking over this position. I was the Registration Chair for MS 2017 when Car Scott could not attend. I hope to see her and Ira back this year.

Administration includes the Greeters, Goodie Bags, Registration, MS Office and Evaluations. Hopefully, all the prior Chairs of these areas will return along with all the volunteers from last year. One change is the MS Office Chair will be Tonia Ahlmeyer. I will be getting in contact with the Administrative team leaders in the future, since

most of us are traveling during the summer and fall months.

If there are any of you who are attending the 2018 MS and haven't signed up to volunteer on the Registration Form, please get in contact with Jane Grossman, Volunteer Coordinator. Her email is jane.grossman@sbcglobal.net and she will get you on the lists. For those of you who haven't registered yet, please do [so](#) and really think about volunteering, the more the "merrier."

Hope to see you all in May of 2018.

Judi Libby

2018 Administrative Activities Chair

applejack1022@yahoo.com

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Each year at the MS, an election is held to elect four officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer), and two directors.

The Standing Rules of the chapter define the eligibility requirements for the officers and directors of the chapter. According to the Standing Rules, members who seek to serve as officers or directors must meet the following eligibility requirements.

Nominees for the Chapter 419 Board must have been members of the chapter for at least two years and attended at least one Maintenance Session.

Nominees for Secretary and Treasurer must have been members of the chapter for at least three years and attended at least two Maintenance Sessions.

Nominees for Vice-President and President must meet at least three of the following requirements:

- a) Been a member of the Chapter 419 Board for one year;
- b) Been a Maintenance Session Coordinator;
- c) Been a Maintenance Session Co-Coordinator or Assistant Coordinator for two years;
- d) Held a Chapter Standing Committee Chair position for two years;
- e) Attended three Maintenance Sessions and served one year as a MS Committee Leader;
- f) Attended four Maintenance Sessions and served three years on a MS committee;
- g) Served in an official leadership position of HRRVC or one of its chapters (i.e.

Chapter President, State Manager, Asst. State Manager).

Exceptions to all nominee requirements must be approved by at least six members of the Board.

Additional nominees may be nominated from the floor during the meeting for each office provided that:

1. Each floor nominee is present at the meeting, and;
2. Meets the qualifications for the office, and;
3. Is in good standing with HRRVC and Ramblin' Pushers membership rules and dues.

The printed ballot distributed during the election will have space available for write-in candidates.

Persons who wish to serve on the Ramblin' Pushers Board, should present their qualifications for the office they seek to Carol Smalley, Nominating Committee chairperson by the deadline of December 31, 2017.

Carol Smalley

Nominating Committee Chair

carolgriffinsmalley@yahoo.com

RV LIFESTYLE, FAMILY ACTIVITIES, & CRAFTS

Are you a person who likes to try new art/craft ideas? Or a full-time RVer seeking a new hobby you can do on the road? Maybe you're someone who likes to share their talents to inspire others? We are seeking both teachers (and those who have never taught before) and enthusiastic learners for the 2018 Maintenance Session.

Based on the feedback we received from the 2017 session, many attendees were very disappointed in the limited selection of lifestyle classes available. (I'm with you—I was very disappointed too.) Some of your responses were passionate and frank. We have gotten the message, and the 2018 MS will be different. We plan to have a variety of RV Lifestyle seminars and Family Activities, like crafts, every day of the MS from Friday's opening session to the closing dinner on Wednesday. For MS 2018 we will have a dedicated space for RV Lifestyle and Family Activities including crafts. At times when seminars and classes are not in session, the space will be available for use as a place to spread out and work on craft projects. But **WE REALLY NEED YOUR IDEAS** for planning next year's craft sessions.

Sandy Lindhout here... I've been asked to coordinate the Arts and Crafts Classes for the 2018 Maintenance Session. We have much catch-up work to do. Since I am new to this responsibility, I need your ideas to set the proper direction for classes. What art and craft classes might you like to see in the schedule? I will work hard to find teachers for the classes and projects you want. Look

at the table on the next page and brainstorm your own ideas. Do any of these ideas look interesting to you? What might you prefer that is not in the chart? I really need to hear from you.

Please contact me now at beeswax62@outlook.com with your suggestions. What classes would you like? Would you be willing to share your skill in a class? What skill would you be willing to learn so you can teach it at the MS? Who do you know in our group that could teach a class listed or not listed here? Please e-mail me - a couple simple words or a long note. All responses will be appreciated. If you wish me to call you please give me your phone number. Some of these ideas are a little off the beaten path – just ideas to get your brain going. We want to have a broad enough

selection to interest our group but not so many that you feel overwhelmed because you can't take them all or there are schedule conflicts. I can't stress enough how important I believe your input is. I especially want to hear from those folks who gave us those heartfelt comments at the end of the 2017 session. Please let me hear from you. I promise I will respond promptly to each and every one of you.

Inspiration.
Creativity. Ideas.
Busy Minds and
Fingers...

Sandy Lindhout
Crafts Program Coordinator

beeswax62@outlook.com

Arts and Crafts Brainstorming Ideas for Feedback



*Pencil Drawing
Adult Coloring,
Color Doodling
or Certified Zentangle
Instructor*

Small Sewing projects:
Microwave Safe Bowl
Soft Fabric Bowl
Lavender Gift Sachets
Your ideas?

Photography
(What aspect?)

Lettering Techniques
(Ink? Pencil?)

Genealogy



*Greeting Cards
Iris Folded Greeting Card*

Knit/Crochet a Cotton Dishcloth

Make Your Own Blush or Eye Shadow
with Ingredients from Your Kitchen

Melt and Pour Soap

Using Essential Oils
Aromatherapy

Folding Dollar Bills For A Gift

Duct Tape Wallet

Poetry Writing
Reading Club
(What Would This Look Like?)



Cork and Canvas



*Make Mosquito
Repellant*



Decorate a Small Cake

*Felting
(Make a Small
Bowl? Small Purse?
Ornament?)*



Line Dancing?
Yoga?
(Need teachers!)

Quilted Glasses
Case

Quilt Project YOU
Can Share



Quilted Potholder

Dried Botanical Wreath
Living Wreath that Can Travel

iPhone Tips and Tricks

Outdoor Art from Recycled
Items (Need Ideas)

Natural Dyes for Fabric
(Dye Your Own Table Napkins?)



*Small Counted
Cross-Stich or
Needlepoint
Project*



Beaded Bracelet

Creative Writing
(with a Contest? Prize?)

Rock Painting

Paper Quilling

Tissue Paper Flowers
for an Occasion

Ribbon Rose for your Hat



*Polymer Clay
Pendant or
Friendship
Bracelet*



*Cement Garden
Ornament*

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

WE'RE GETTING POSITIVE FEEDBACK!

On behalf of the Ramblin' Pushers I send a letter, MS invitation flyer, pocket schedule, and MS registration form to all of the folks who have purchased a new REV diesel coach during the previous month. (Well, most of those folks. I didn't figure new owners in Hawaii would come!) This list does include all REV brands – Holiday Rambler, American Coach, Fleetwood, and Monaco. The sales by month of each brand is shown in the MS Mailings chart shown here.

While we certainly don't hear from everyone, we are being contacted by a number of new purchasers who are very interested in attending our annual Maintenance Session to learn more about their brand new coaches and how to care for them.

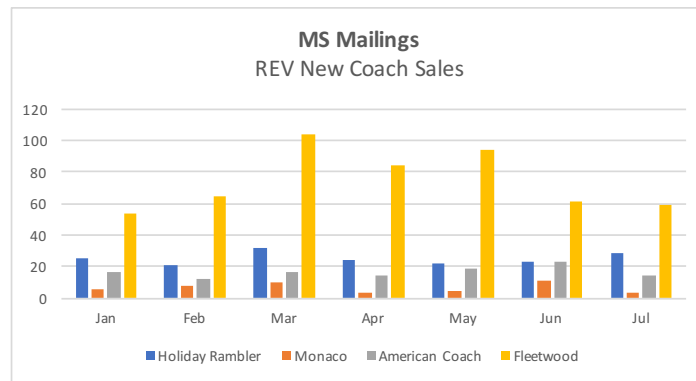
We started this practice in January 2017 and with only enough time prior to the MS to send to January and February purchasers, we welcomed 11 new owners to MS 2017! We are optimistic about MS 2018.

You may have heard that HRRVC announced at the Eastern International Rally that beginning in September all REV brand coach owners will be welcome to join as full members with voting rights and eligibility to hold chapter offices. While Ramblin' Pushers has invited these brands to the MS for 3 years, we are delighted that we can now welcome them as full members as well.

It is vital that **ALL OF US**, Ramblin' Pushers members and MS attendees, continue to spread the word about our annual Maintenance Session. We distributed about 1800 Ramblin' Pushers informational packets to those who attended the

closing dinner in Goshen in May. Don't forget to share them with other REV brand owners you meet in your travels this year. When you run out of invitation packets, contact me and I'll send you more.

Our letters are getting information to new owners, but by far the best way to interest REV coach owners in the MS is to talk to them in person. As you travel in your motor home, share our information packets and your enthusiasm for the MS, with your campground neighbors; and answer their questions about our organization and



event. You'll be gratified to see some of those people you meet on the road at the next MS.

Recently a number of Ramblin' Pushers members attended the EIR in Amana, Iowa in July. There were several REV brand owners not associated with the EIR who just happened to be in the campground at the same time, so we made some new acquaintances and gave out some invitations. It's easy and fun and a great way to meet your neighbors and to invite them to join us in Indiana next May. We are depending on YOU. Let's all spread the word and reach that goal of 300 coaches at the 2018 MS!

Carol Smalley

Membership Committee Chair
carolgriffinsmalley@yahoo.com

YOU'RE INVITED if you own a Holiday Rambler, American Coach, Beaver, Fleetwood, Monaco or Safari Diesel Coach

Ramblin' Pushers 2018 Maintenance Session

May 3 – May 9, 2018

You will leave better educated about Use, Care, Safety & Maintenance of your

Visit our WEBSITE www.ramblinpushers.org or call 866-208-7411 for more information!

REGISTRATION

Return this Form with Check or Money Order made payable to **Ramblin Pushers**:

Ramblin' Pushers Chapter 419
413 Walnut Street #5294
Green Cove Springs, FL
32043-3443

You should receive a confirmation email about 3 weeks after mailing in your registration. In early April 2018 pre-arrival packets will be distributed via email to registered attendees.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations will only be accepted PRIOR to MS Early Parking Day and are subject to a \$20 administration fee.

To cancel you must call 866-208-7411 or email jim.grossman@sbcglobal.net prior to 5/2/18.

Facilities

Elkhart County 4H Fairgrounds
17746-D CR 34
Goshen, Indiana 46528
GPS: N41.5807 W85.8007

- 7 nights parking starting 5/3/2017
- 30 & 50 Amp sites
- Water, sewer or one free septic truck pump
- Coach weighing/propane leak testing available
- Food vendor on site

Planned Activities

- Opening Session for MS - Friday, May 4 - 9:15 a.m.
- Limited activities 5/2 and 5/3
 - 6 Days of Seminars by Vendors, Suppliers, Club Members and REV Group.
 - RV Lifestyle and Family Sessions
 - Roundtable Discussions
 - Service Technicians available
 - REV Executives Session
 - Coach Displays, Vendors, & Suppliers
 - Socials, Daily Morning Hospitality, and Closing Dinner

PARKING

Your parking area will be based on the date your registration is postmarked.

Register EARLY!

To park together, you MUST register together AND arrive together.

Arrival Day parking (5/3) included. Early parking on 5/2 is an extra \$25.

Please do NOT arrive before May 2 (Early Parking Day) unless authorized. Arriving earlier could result in your having to pay the full fairground camping fee for those days and then have to move to your assigned location on Arrival Day.

HANDICAPPED SPACES

Only 19 handicapped spaces are available and will be assigned based on when registration is postmarked.

HRRVC assumes no responsibility or liability, nor is any Officer, National Director, or any other person authorized to assume any responsibility or liability for any personal injury or property damage suffered by its members and/or their family or guest in attendance at or on the road to or from this Maintenance Session or other HRRVC event.

HRRVC or XX#	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	Vehicle ID # (17 digit VIN)	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Names _____			
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____			
Phone: Home _____ Cell _____ Email _____			
Coach Make _____ Model _____ Yr. _____ Length _____ Engine Mfr. _____			
Registration Fees: (Payable to Ramblin' Pushers)		Volunteer! Indicate Him or Her or Both if you could help: (No check marks!)	
Coach with 2 persons	\$250 _____	First Aid _____	Audio/Visual _____ Engineering _____ Parking _____
Coach with 1 person	\$200 _____	Info/Trans _____	Coach Weigh _____ Round Table Moderator _____
Extra Person in Coach, add	\$70 _____	Seminar Host _____	Mentor _____ Tours Table _____
Non-Ramblin Pushers Member, add	\$20 _____	Book Exchange _____	Office _____ Registration _____
Early Parking Day – May 2, add	\$25 _____	Goody Bag Prep _____	Greeters _____ Evaluations _____
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID (US \$ only)	_____	First-Timer Guides _____	As Needed _____

Check if applicable:
 Handicapped _____
 (Limit of 19)
ATTACH COPY OF CURRENT HANDICAPPED PERMIT TO THIS REGISTRATION.

Are you a First Timer? _____
 If so, how did you hear about the MS?
 Club Member _____ Ramblings _____
 Other _____

For Office Use ID No _____
 Amt Paid _____
 Check # _____
 Postmarked _____

MANUFACTURER RELATIONS

We started our summer journeys at the REV Service Center in Decatur, IN. This was the first time we were able to use the new facility there and we were impressed. While having work done on the coach you're living in is never a fun experience; REV has done much to reduce the pain. The experience starts the first morning with meeting your service advisor and reviewing the list of work you want completed. After this list is created, a technician team picks you up at your site and drives you into the service bay. Because we have two Jack Russell Terriers, Paulette always elects to remain in the coach and they go out of their way to work with us. Once we were set up in the service bay, I was surprised to see the third member of their team arrive, the painter. Since the Diamond Shield had been omitted from the generator door on our coach, the repainting of the door was the most time consuming item we had on our list. The painter took the initiative to coordinate with the two other techs and start the prep work for the painting in the normal service bay. The rest of the day they all ran around working like busy little bees. I observed them working throughout the day and there could be no better group of professionals anywhere. By the end of the day all items on our list were completed except for painting the generator door and the Diamond Shield application. Day two we were picked up at 6 AM and driven to the paint building. As the paint job was small and we were not going to be in the paint booth, Paulette was able to remain in the coach with the dogs once again. This is another example of how the service team goes out of their way to make the customer comfortable. Due to the initiative and hard work of our service crew, all our work was completed in three days. The projection had been for five days to complete the work.

Part of the success of our maintenance efforts was that long before we arrived they had the list of our issues and they were able to have the materials on hand to fix the problems. This resulted in having no long waits to receive the parts required. During the time the maintenance team was working, I was there on site to review the work and answer their questions so that the completed work actually met my expectations and fixed precisely what I needed to have resolved. Being available does not mean you're constantly looking over their shoulder but hanging out in the coach so they know you're there if they need to ask a question or review if

completed work meets your expectations. I have discovered over the years that folks are far more likely to go out of their way to satisfy me if I go out of my way to express my appreciation of their efforts.

Since the work was completed so quickly, I had the chance to go visit several of my REV friends and see what was new with our manufacturer. I hoped to find out what was happening with the Monaco line, but there was nothing new to report. I did, however, discover an interesting thing about REV. I already knew that most of the techs had been promoted from the production floor, but after conversations with our painter, I found that he had volunteered to assist in painting during production down time and was subsequently promoted into the paint shop. I also discovered that Don Gephart, Director of Marketing, had been promoted from the production floor after completing college. During the time I have been meeting with REV, I have observed that promotion from within seems to be the rule rather than the exception. This is an indicator of an extremely healthy company. Being able to advance from an entry level job to an executive position is a prime motivator for people to want to do a good job.

Hanging around a service center for a few days is very interesting. Everyone who arrives is there because something is wrong with their coach. Most of the coaches there were under warranty. What I noticed was the ones that arrived with a positive attitude, communicated with the techs directly, and remembered that "please" and "thank you" always go a long way had a far more positive experience. I have to say my first year with my REV built coach has been more trouble free than the first year with my Monaco built coach. I've had far fewer problems with this new coach than I had with the one I bought in 2008. And I'm a real fan of the Freightliner chassis.

Speaking of Freightliner, our next to last stop on our summer trip was Gaffney, NC where I visited the factory and the factory service center. In the morning, Hugh Skidmore and I signed in for the factory tour. They have one every morning Monday through Friday. We were met, given earphones so we could hear our guide, and safety glasses then briefed and escorted on our factory tour. There were

(Continued)

(Manufacturer Relations Cont.)

multiple production lines as they make more than diesel pusher chassis at the factory. We began with the engine assembly area where a base engine provided by Cummins is mated with all the necessary parts (belts, radiator, fans, etc.) to make it an assembly. This assembly upon completion is placed in the appropriate holding area to go the the specific chassis assembly line. One of the impressive things that starts in engine assembly area and goes through the entire assembly process, is that from the first bolt in the engine assembly to the last bolt in the chassis assembly line, all bolts are installed with a calibrated torque wrench.

The assembly process was impressive. The chassis starts upside down for easy installation of parts. About halfway down the line it's flipped over. Then the engine is installed and it continues down the line with the last thing being the front end alignment check. Anything that cannot be completed or needs repair is documented as it moves down the line and the unit is moved to a separate area for completion of the documented items. The day we were there the line was set for 24 coach chassis to be shipped to Newmar. A typical day is around 30 chassis. Currently, they make chassis for Newmar, Thor, Tiffin, Forest River, Nexus, and REV including the recently acquired Renegade.

After completing the factory tour, we met Bobby Wayne Scruggs who represented Freightliner service at the MS at the factory service center. He introduced us first to Pat Childers, Service

Administrator, the first contact for making your appointment and arriving at the service center. I then met Dave Shears, Service Manager, and Lew Crissone, Parts Manager. The other Parts Manager, Corry Johnson, was not there at the time. The service center was impressive though smaller than I expected. They are booked at least 90 days in advance and I've never heard a negative comment regarding their work. They have 50 amp electric in sites for you to use while you're there. Fresh water fill and sewer dump is available. You may not remain in your coach in the service area but they have a very nice lounge. This is also where they hold Camp Freightliner which is a classroom on your chassis. There is also an option which includes you accompanying your technician during your coach service with an explanation of each service item by the technician. I was very impressed with everything I saw at Freightliner and everyday I'm even happier I'm on a Freightliner chassis.

This has been a great summer trip for Paulette and me. We're home for a few weeks before we head out again for more adventures before we meet up with folks in Albuquerque for the Balloon Fiesta. Safe travels. Maybe we'll see you on the road.

John Jones

Manufacturer Relations Chair
Immediate Past President





IN THE NEWS

The following article appeared in the June 7, 2017 edition of *RV Business*, an online daily report of news about the RV industry, the companies that it comprises, and events that affect the industry overall.

According to the report, the RV segment of REV has continued to show an impressive pattern of growth in its financial performance in the second quarter of the fiscal year.



REV Group Reports a 13.6% Gain in 2Q Revenue*

REV Group Inc. today (June 7) reported a 13.6% increase in revenues for its second quarter, ended April 27, while net income declined 15%, weighed down by costs associated with the early extinguishment of debt.

Sales during the quarter were \$545.3 million compared with \$480.2 million a year ago. The increase was driven predominately by strong growth in the fire and emergency, and recreation segments. Year-to-date consolidated net sales were \$988.3 million representing an increase of 15.9% over the first six months of fiscal 2016.

The company's second quarter net income was \$6.8 million, or 10 cents per diluted share, compared with \$8 million, or 16 cents per diluted share, in the year prior. Results were impacted by a number of one-time items that included an \$11.9 million charge from the early extinguishment of debt following the company's initial public offering (IPO) and repayment of its senior secured notes, as well as its April 2017 debt refinancing. For the first six months, REV reported a loss of \$6.5 million, or a loss of 11 cents per diluted share, compared to a \$5 million gain, or 10 cents per diluted share, a year ago.

Adjusted EBITDA in the second quarter 2017 was \$37.6 million, representing growth of 16.1% over \$32.3 million in the second quarter 2016. The increase in adjusted EBITDA was driven by a number of factors including higher vehicle sales, strong aftermarket parts sales, impact of acquisitions, ongoing procurement and production cost optimization initiatives and strategic pricing actions for specific vehicle categories. Adjusted EBITDA for the six months was \$58.7 million, a 23.8% increase over the same period in fiscal 2016.

(Continued)

*Posted on *RV Business*, June 7, 2017, (no byline). Used with permission.

REV Group President and CEO Tim Sullivan said, “We are pleased to report continued growth in both our sales and profitability. Our second quarter 2017 results highlight our progress to leverage the scale of our now 29 market-leading specialty vehicle brands with the goal of generating consolidated Adjusted EBITDA margins in excess of 10%. Additionally, REV Group capitalized on our unique market position during the quarter by acquiring two highly regarded vehicle businesses in both Midwest Automotive Designs and Ferrara Fire Apparatus for our recreation and fire and emergency segments, respectively.

“As a result, REV Group strengthened its position to grow sales and drive higher profitability in 2017 and beyond. Both businesses are excellent fits with REV Group and broaden our product portfolios and market reach while also providing significant cost and revenue synergy opportunities.”

Sullivan added, “Through the first six months of our fiscal year, we are on track with our plan for earnings in fiscal 2017 and we are updating our guidance for the full year based on the impact of our recent acquisitions.”

REV’s recreation segment saw sales rise to \$166.3 million in the second quarter, representing growth of 31.6% over the prior year period. Segment sales growth was partially driven by the acquisition of Renegade RV which was completed on Dec. 30, 2016. Net sales growth excluding the acquisitions of Renegade and Midwest was also strong at 13.5% as the RV end markets continue to grow and the segment is benefiting from expansion of its Class C line of products, which were reintroduced in the middle of 2016.

Recreation net sales for the six months were \$293 million, an increase of 27.2% over net sales of \$230.4 million for the first six months of fiscal 2016. Recreation segment backlog at the end of the second quarter 2017 was \$112.7 million, which was up 40.1% from \$80.4 million at the end of fiscal year 2016.

Recreation segment adjusted EBITDA grew in the second quarter to \$7.3 million compared to \$2.8 million in the second quarter 2016. Adjusted EBITDA margin in the second quarter doubled to 4.4% of net sales compared to 2.2% in the second quarter 2016. The strong 220 basis point expansion in profitability is attributable to reduced discounting, a higher mix of Class A diesel and Class C units and benefits from our ongoing procurement, cost of quality and other operating initiatives. Year-to-date fiscal adjusted EBITDA in Recreation was \$10.1 million, an almost nine-fold increase versus the first six months of fiscal 2016.



HOLIDAY RAMBLER
REV GROUP



MONACO
REV GROUP



OEM RELATIONS

Two years ago then President John Jones decided to reset manufacturer relations. He took over direct relations with ARG, now REV Recreation Group, and Freightliner. We also began the task of solidifying our partnership with the OEMs, Original Equipment Manufacturers, who supply many of the major components on our coaches: Cummins, Allison, Atwood (including Fantastic Fans, now all part of Dometic), and Lippert (now LCI).

These efforts really began to pay off for our participants of the 2016 and 2017 MS. Besides the REV techs who completed a large number of complimentary service orders, our OEMs contributed a great deal to the event and our participants. While Cummins sponsored our First-Timers Gathering on Thursday evening, their technicians began working as early as Tuesday before early parking to be able to complete their long list of scheduled work. Both Atwood/Dometic and LCI had techs available during the days of their seminars mostly offering free service. LCI techs did a great job of addressing the step recalls at both the 2016 and 2017 MS. If you have not noticed, LCI has a refreshing new atmosphere of customer

service. We even received a note after the MS from their customer service manager asking if they had met our expectations. Compare that attitude to the old Power Gear (now an LCI subsidiary) that would not even talk to end-customers over the phone.

All of these OEMs gave generously of their time to present quality, informative seminars. Atwood/Dometic gave 6 hours of seminars, LCI 2 hours, and Cummins and Allison teamed up with 7 hours.

We would be remiss not to mention the work done by two of our after-market vendors who delivered popular seminars as well as routine maintenance of their products: Blue Ox and Roadmaster (tow bars and auxiliary brakes). This was the first time in recent memory that Roadmaster has participated in the MS.

Jim Grossman

President, Ramblin' Pushers



NHTSA RECALL NOTICE

27 July 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V477000
Manufacturer REV Recreation Group
Components EXTERIOR LIGHTING
Potential Number of Units Affected 219

Summary

REV Recreation Group (REV) is recalling certain 2017-2018 Fleetwood Discovery and Discovery LXE, and Holiday Rambler Endeavor, Endeavor XE, and Admiral XE motorhomes, as well as 2018 Monaco Diplomat, Fleetwood Pace Arrow, Bounder, Flair, and Storm motorhomes, and Holiday Rambler Navigator and Vacationer XE motorhomes. The affected vehicles may have been manufactured with headlights that do not have tempered glass lenses.

Remedy

REV will notify owners, and dealers will replace the defective headlamp lenses, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin September 8, 2017. Owners may contact REV customer service at 1-800-509-3417. REV's number for the recall is 170720REV.

Notes

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Associated Products (17)

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
HOLIDAY RAMBLER	VACATIONER XE	2018
FLEETWOOD	DISCOVERY LXE	2017-2018
FLEETWOOD	PACE ARROW	2018
FLEETWOOD	DISCOVERY	2017-2018
HOLIDAY RAMBLER	NAVIGATOR	2018
HOLIDAY RAMBLER	ENDEAVOR	2017-2018
HOLIDAY RAMBLER	ENDEAVOR XE	2017-2018
MONACO	DIPLOMAT	2018
HOLIDAY RAMBLER	ADMIRAL XE	2017-2018
FLEETWOOD	STORM	2018
FLEETWOOD	BOUNDER	2018
FLEETWOOD	FLAIR	2018

Associated Documents (2)

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Defect Notice 573 Report
 RCLRPT-17V477-6423.PDF 224.347KB
<https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/rcl/2017/RCLRPT-17V477-6423.PDF>

Recall Acknowledgement
 RCAF-17V477-2355.pdf 246.461KB
<https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/rcl/2017/RCAF-17V477-2355.pdf>

SPONSOR MEMBERS

Sponsor members are companies who are members of the Ramblin' Pushers and serve the RV market, either as dealers of new coaches with or without service facilities, or are companies who provide a range of maintenance and repair services. These companies have locations across the US and one in Canada.

In the course of our RV travels, Ramblin' Pushers members may have occasion to call upon one or more of these Sponsor Members for routine maintenance or repairs.

Sponsor memberships are renewed annually, and include a donation to the Ramblin' Pushers organization. In addition, some sponsor members support our annual Maintenance Session by providing a display in the dealer or vendor area.

We thank the Sponsor Members for their support of our club and offer the following information about them as a convenience to our members. The information provided does not constitute an endorsement of any product or firm by the Ramblin' Pushers organization.

DEALER SPONSORS

- Service Codes**
1. Service & Repairs 2. Collision Repair 3. Supplies/Accessories 4. Disposal Station 5. LP Gas
 6. Chassis/Engine Service 7. Overnight Parking 8. 10% Discount on Store Items 9. RV Storage
 10. RV Wash Service

ALLIANCE COACH, INC.

4505 Monaco Way
Wildwood, FL 34785
352-330-3800

Website:	www.alliancecoach.com	
Sales:	Tom Peterson	352-330-3800
	tom.peterson@alliancecoach.com	
Service:	Mike Hawkins	352-330-3800
	mike.hawkins@alliancecoach.com	
Services:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10	
Models:	All HR Diesel Models	

2016

DAY BROS.
AUTO & RV SALES, LLC

3054 Laurel Road
London, KY 40744
606-877-1530

Website:	www.daybrosrvsales.com	
Email:	ken.day@hotmail.com	
Contact:	Kenny Day	606-877-1530
Sales:	Jerry Lowe	606-877-1530
Service:	George Day	606-877-1530
Services:	1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10	
Models:	All HR Diesel Models	

2016

DEALER SPONSORS (CONT.)

GENERAL RV
 13396 E. US Hwy 92
 Dover, FL 33527
 813-305-2500

Website: www.generalrv.com
 Contact: Jason Cohen 813-305-2500
 jcohen@generalrv.com
 Sales: Steve Ratcliff 813-305-2500
 Service: Steve Scrape 813-305-2500
 Services: **1, 2, 3**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

GENERAL RV
 14000 Automall Drive
 Huntley, IL 60142
 847-669-5570

Website: www.generalrv.com
 Contact: Tim Mann 847-669-5570
 Tmann@generalrv.com
 Sales: Chris Stevens 847-669-5570
 Cstevens@generalrv.com
 Service: Scott Rosselein 847-669-5570
 Srosselein@generalrv.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

GENERAL RV
 25000 Assembly Park Drive
 Wixom, MI 48393
 248-349-0900

Website: www.generalrv.com
 Contact: Jason Quillen 248-349-0900
 Jquillen@generalrv.com
 Sales: Chris Cole 248-349-0900
 Ccole@generalrv.com
 Service: Dave Carlisle 248-349-0900
 Dcarlisle@generalrv.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

GENERAL RV
 14295 Minuteman Road
 Draper, UT 84020
 801-307-1070

Website: www.generalrv.com
 Contact: Paxton Jensen 801-307-1070
 pjensen@generalrv.com
 Sales: Robbie Jensen 801-307-1070
 rjensen@generalrv.com
 Zac Anderson 801-307-1070
 zanderson@generalrv.com
 Service: Bret Folkman 801-307-1070
 bfolkman@generalrv.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 5, 8**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

GIANT RV—MONTCLAIR, CA
 9150 Benson Ave.
 Montclair, CA 91763
 888-636-1732

Website: www.giantrv.com
 Email: sales@giantrv.com
 Contact: Dick Torres 888-646-1732
 dicktorges@giant.com
 Service: Paul Nunez 888-646-1732
 Services: **1, 2, 3**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

3Q2017

MOTOR HOME SPECIALIST
 100 O'Banion Way*
 Alvarado, TX 76009
 817-790-7771
 800-335-6054

Website: www.mhsrv.com
 Sales: Mark Griffith 817-790-7771
 markg@mhsrv.com
 Service: Terry Humphries 817-790-7771
 service@mhsrv.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

*GPS may prefer 5411 South I-35W
 2016

DEALER SPONSORS (CONT.)

PAUL EVERT'S RV COUNTRY
 2155 Highway 95
 Bullhead City, AZ 86442
 928-704-5080

Website: **www.rvcountry.com**
 Email: *sales@rvcountry.com*
 Sales: Bill Coverdale 928-704-5080
 bcoverdale@rvcountry.com
 Service: Krystal Leslie 928-704-5080
 kleslie@rvcountry.com
 Services: **1**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

PAUL EVERT'S RV COUNTRY
 3633 South Maple
 Fresno, CA 93725
 559-486-1000

Website: **www.rvcountry.com**
 Email: *sales@rvcountry.com*
 Contact: Curt Curtis 559-779-1725
 curt@rvcountry.com
 Sales: Shawn Williams 559-486-1000
 Service: Hank Dudley 559-486-1000
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

PAUL EVERT'S RV COUNTRY
 83407 Highway 111
 Indio, CA 92201
 760-972-4122

Website: **www.rvcountry.com**
 Email: *sales@rvcountry.com*
 Contact: Kevin True 760-972-4122
 ktrue@rvcountry.com
 Sales: Kevin True 760-972-4122
 Service: Kevin True 760-972-4122
 Services: **1, 2, 7, 10**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

PAUL EVERT'S RV COUNTRY
 90915 Roberts Road
 Coburg, OR 97408
 541-686-6044

Website: **www.rvcountry.com**
 Email: *sales@rvcountry.com*
 Contact: Jim Hardy
 gentlemanjimhardy@gmail.com
 Sales: Winnie Anderson 541-686-6044
 Service: Randy Ferguson 541-686-6044
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

PAUL EVERT'S RV COUNTRY
 5111 20th Street E
 Fife, WA 98424
 253-926-6000

Website: **www.rvcountry.com**
 Email: *sales@rvcountry.com*
 Sales: Gary Fisher 253-926-6000
 gfisher@rvcountry.com
 Service: jeffg@rvcountry.com 541-636-6041
 Services: **1, 3, 6, 7**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

PREMIER MOTOR COACH SERVICES
 4340 East Tennessee Street
 Tucson, AZ 85714
 520-624-2024
 877-624-2024

Website: **premiermcs.com**
 Email: *eolstrom@premiermcs.com*
 Sales: Joe Cartwright 520-624-2024
 jcwright@premiermcs.com
 Service: Eric Olstrom 520-624-2024
 eolstrom@premiermcs.com
 Other: Debbie Watts 520-624-2024
 dwatts@premiermcs.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 10**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

DEALER SPONSORS (CONT.)

SICARD RV
 7526 Regional Road #20
 West Lincoln, ON, LOR 2A0 CANADA
 905-957-3344
 800-688-2210

Website: **www.sicardrv.com**
 Email: Gary Sicard 905-957-3344
 gsicard@sicardrv.com
 Contact: Blair Sicard 905-957-3344
 bsicard@sicardrv.com
 Sales: Roger Sicard 905-957-3344
 rsicard@sicardrv.com
 Service: Terry Sicard 905-957-3344
 service@sicardrv.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

VEURINKS' RV CENTER
 7144 Division Ave. S
 Grand Rapids, MI 49348
 800-822-5292

Website: **www.veurinksrv.com**
 Email: rvsales@veurinksrv.com
 Contact: Tim Veurink 616-965-9608
 tveurink@veurinksrv.com
 Sales: Matt Veurink 616-965-9606
 matt@veurinksrv.com
 Service: Tom Woods 616-965-9631
 tom@veurinksrv.com
 Services: **1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10**
 Models: All HR Diesel Models

2016

SERVICE SPONSORS

Service Codes

1. Service & Repairs 2. Collision Repair 3. Supplies/Accessories 4. Disposal Station 5. LP Gas
 6. Chassis/Engine Service 7. Overnight Parking 8. 10% Discount on Store Items 9. RV Storage
 10. RV Wash Service

APALACHEE RV CENTER
 1364 Duncan Lane
 Auburn, GA 30011
 770-868-0999

Website: **www.myarv.com**
 Email: service@myarv.com
 Contact: Joe Morillo ext. 309
 service@myarv.com
 Service: Tracy Fulkerson ext. 301
 tracy@myarv.com
 Other: Dave Kobos
 dave@myarv.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10**

2017

COACH SUPPLY DIRECT
 69039 Elkhart Road
 Edwardsburg, MI 49120
 800-589-7251

Website: **www.coachsupplydirect.com**
 Email: info@coachsupplydirect.com
 Contact: Joshua Leach 800-589-7251
 josh@coachsupplydirect.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9**

2017

SERVICE SPONSORS (CONT.)

CUMMINS ONAN OF ELKHART
 5125 Beck Drive
 Elkhart, IN 46516
 574-361-1060

Website: **www.cummins.com**
 Email: *Kent.A.Hollopeter@cummins.com*
 Contact: Kent Hollopeter 574-361-1068

Services: **1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8**

2017

CUMMINS SALES & SERVICE
 3415 W. Coliseum Blvd.
 Fort Wayne, IN 46808
 260-482-3691

Website: **www.salesandservice.cummins.com**
 Email: *cd575@cummins.com*
 Contact: Carrie Buisman 260-482-3691
 Sales: Steve Gregg 260-918-2422
 bell3@cummins.com
 Service: Eric Schott 260-918-2409
 di144@cummins.com
 Services: **1, 3, 6, 7, 8**

2017

DUNCAN RV REPAIR
 29393 Old US 33 West
 Elkhart, IN 46516
 574-296-7555

Website: **www.duncanrvrepair.com**
 Email: *pam@duncanrvrepair.com*
 Contact: Pam Duncan ext. 2134
 pam@duncanrvrepair.com
 Service: Joe Rose 574-296-7555
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10**

2017

EAGLE'S PRIDE RV, INC.
 108C Plantation Drive
 Titusville, FL 32780
 800-552-3555
 321-383-0288

Website: **www.eaglespriderv.com**
 Email: *eaglespride@yahoo.com*
 Contact: Mike & Joshua Thibeau 321-383-0288
 Sales: Carrie Wilmer 321-383-4495
 Service: Joshua Thibeau 321-383-0288
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 6**

201

ELKHART SALES & SERVICE, INC.
 27895 CR 10, Ste. B
 Elkhart, IN 46514
 574-262-9499

Website: **www.elkhartssi.com**
 Email: *mmiller@elkhartssi.com*
 Contact: Marvin Miller, Pres. 574-238-1124
 Service: Tom Bumpus, GM 574-215-1441
 tom@elkhartssi.com
 Service: Eric Bumpus 574-215-1441
 Services: **1, 2, 3**

2017

GLEN'S TIRE INC.
 609 E. Waterford St.
 Wakarusa, IN 46573
 574-862-1159

Website: **www.glenstire.net**
 Email: *pitstop@glenstire.net*
 Contact: Glen Zimmerman 574-862-1159
 glen@glenstire.net
 Services: **1**

2016

SERVICE SPONSORS (CONT.)

HYDRONIC HEATING SPECIALISTS
(AQUA HOT)
23624 Greenwood Blvd.
Elkhart, IN 46516
574-612-4826

Website: www.hydronicheatingspecialist.com
Contact: Darin Hathaway 574-612-4826
dhathaway77@gmail.com

Services: **1 (Aqua Hot, Hydro Hot, Webasto)**

2017

INTEGRITY RV SERVICE CENTER
4411 Bankhead Hwy
Douglasville, GA 30134
770-693-1186

Website: www.integrityrvservice.com
Contact: Dean Woodruff 770-693-1186
dean.irvsc@gmail.com

Service: Dean Woodruff 770-693-1186
dean.irvsc@gmail.com

Parts: Eddie Adams 770-693-1186
irvsc.parts@gmail.com

Services: **1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9**

2017

LEE SMITH, INC.
2600 8th Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37407
432-622-4161

Website: www.lee-smith.com
Contact: Taylor Vinson 423-622-6267
tvinson@lee-smith.com

Service: Mike Suggs 423-622-4161
msuggs@lee-smith.com

Parts: Steve Harper 423-622-4161
sharper@lee-smith.com

Services: **1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7**

2017

LLOYD DEGERALD SERVICES
(AQUAHOT)
16754 Smithers Road
Paron, AR 72122
501-258-8426

Email: lloyd.degerald@gmail.com
Contact: Lloyd DeGerald 501-258-8426

Services: **1 (AquaHot)**

2017

M&M RV ELECTRONICS
(RV ELECTRICAL)
205 North Main Street
Ohio City, OH 45874
419-965-2662

Website: www.mmrvelectronics.com
Email: mmrvelectronics@yahoo.com

Contact: Mark Bayus 419-965-2662

Services: **1**

2017

PGA AUTO, RV, BOAT COLLISION
32393 Lakepoint Street
New Baltimore, MI 48047
586-725-1863
888-773-9387

Website: www.pgacollision.com
Email: pgacollision@comcast.net
Contact: Gary Patchak 586-725-1863
Sales: Jesse Krasnicki 586-718-4726

Service:
Services: **2, 10**
Models: All HR Diesel Models

2017

SERVICE SPONSORS (CONT.)

PRO CUSTOM INC.
 29079 CR 20 (Mishewaka Road)
 Elkhart, IN 46517
 574-217-0399

Website: **www.procustominc.com**
 Email: service@procustom.com
 Contact: Don Walder 574-217-0399
 Sales: PJ McGann 574-217-0399
 pjmccgann@procustominc.com
 Service: Don Walder 574-217-0399
 dwalder@procustominc.com
 Services: **1, 2, 3, 2, 7, 10**

2017

RV SATELLITE & ENTERTAINMENT SOLUTIONS
 236 East Main Street No. 216
 Sevierville, TN 37862
 619-571-3393

Website: **rvsatelliteentertainmentsolutions.com**
 Email: johanam@me.com
 Contact: Geoff Matthews 619-571-3393
 Other: Johana Matthews 619-571-3592
 johana@me.com
 Services: **1**

202017

RV SYSTEMS, INC.
 537 Sandy Creek Dr.
 Brandon, FL 33511
 813-770-7590

Email: plancy2001@yahoo.com
 Contact: Paul Lancy 813-770-7590
 Service: Paul Lancy 813-770-7590
 Services: **1 (AquaHot)**

2017

THE LAST WORD

At the time of this writing, 103 coaches have already registered for MS 2018. Among that group are 15 First-Timers. We're off to a good start and on track to match or improve our attendance over last year. We should all be encouraged and motivated to distribute those MS invitation packets to other REV diesel coach owners, including Renegade Super-Cs, whom we meet in our travels. And don't forget to get your own registration in soon. Parking assignments are made in the order of registrations received. The premium parking goes to the earliest registrants, so don't delay.

As we all have observed, the RV marketplace, like all other markets, is changing. Most of us reading this *Newsletter* remember their first camping trips as visits to state or national parks close to home. We had a tent for shelter, a gasoline stove for cooking, an ice chest for food storage, and Coleman lanterns for lighting. We were young and life was good. As our enjoyment of the outdoors increased, many moved from tents to pop-up "campers," and on to travel trailers, then larger travel trailers pulled by pick-up trucks, to 5th wheel trailers pulled by diesel trucks, to motor homes and finally to the diesel powered behemoths we so much enjoy these days.

Throughout that time, from post-WWII to the present, camper companies have sprung up to meet a growing market. Those that changed their mix of products as the preferences of the market changed did well and are in business today. The companies that flourished were the ones that saw the changes coming and anticipated them. They led the market with products that satisfied desires their customers never knew they had until they saw that luxurious new trailer or motor home at the RV show. The ones that did not change did not survive intact. Some closed their doors, others, like the original Holiday Rambler, were absorbed into other companies. The point is that no organization can survive in the long run without constantly assessing its market and its place in it. A visit to the RV Hall of Fame in Elkhart presents the story of the industry as an interesting stroll down a path that meanders through displays of period vehicles. It's definitely worth a visit for any RV enthusiast.

As markets evolve, so must the companies and support organizations that serve them. We, the Ramblin' Pushers, are no different from the others in that we must move with the market. Two larger RV-related clubs have observed that their membership numbers are steadily decreasing—a clear sign that something must be done. Their

mutual response has been to increase their access to today's RV market by expanding their pool of potential members.

As Jim Grossman mentioned in the President's Corner, the HRRVC board announced at the EIR that two major changes to the membership eligibility requirements for HRRVC would be effective September 1, 2017. The one that affects us most is the opening of HRRVC to all REV brands. After that time all of coaches that attend the MS will be able to join HRRVC, to vote in elections, and to hold various offices in the HRRVC organization.

A second major change is that towable units produced by any manufacturer will be welcome as members of HRRVC. Since the discontinuance of travel trailer production, the only towable RVs eligible for membership in HRRVC were HR trailers already in service. As each one reached the end of its service life, there was one potential new HRRVC member fewer. The opening of membership to the towable segment might be a good response.

The other major RV club to take steps in the direction of market expansion to include towables is FMCA. Many of us are members of both clubs, and are aware that this has been the topic of ongoing discussion throughout that organization for the last several months. At about the same time the Eastern International Rally was being held in Amana, the directors of FMCA made the same decision regarding towables at their event in Indianapolis.

Whether or not these changes will reverse the recent trend of declining membership is uncertain; only time will tell, but both organizations are correct in believing that doing nothing will result, sooner or later, in their demise.

It is good to see that the decisions made by the Ramblin' Pushers leadership team in the last few years have been effective ones. Unlike most RV events and rallies, MS attendance is rising steadily, albeit slowly. Let's hope that HRRVC is able to achieve the same result.

As always,

Safe Travels!

Ramblin' Pushers Ch. 419
 413 Walnut Street # 5294
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-3443

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