



# PROUD MOMENTS

THE PERIODICAL NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE PREVOST PROUDS, INC.

Volume 22 Number 2

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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Les Lagerquist, President



Les and Lana Lagerquist

Friends and fellow travelers,

It is difficult to start this message because sad news is harder to compose than happy news. With great sadness, I need to tell you of the passing of Nancy Johnson just a few weeks ago. Most of you have probably heard this news, but for those who have not, please send a note to Roy, our immediate past President and Nancy's husband of fifty-five years. We will all miss her tremendously.



Our year has quickly passed by with two very successful rallies. The most recent was during August in Breckenridge, Colorado at the beautiful Tiger Run Resort, and it was a well-attended, active event. Along with the usual tours, shopping, and golf, George Lanegraff organized in his masterful way the opportunity to overindulge at every meal with a wonderful assortment of cuisines.

If the altitude at Breckenridge [9300 feet] was not enough, a rather large group of us went higher. The term is Jeepin', or for some it was Hummin'. A caravan of twenty-seven 4-WD vehicles headed to the peaks at around 13,000 feet. It was quite a sight to see this long train of vehicles crawling up the mountain roads. Unfortunately, the weather was not very cooperative; with some showers and clouds, the scenery was somewhat obscured. Everyone had a good time and amazingly, the Jeeps did not have to pull the Hummers out of any tight places!

The entertainment at the rally was over the top. At our President's Dinner, George had scheduled The Nacho Men - an oldies band and group of entertainers very well known in the Denver area. George was anxious to get them going following dinner, but I had an important agenda item that made them wait. This rally marked the 10th anniversary for George with the Prevost Prouds. After all the varied activities George has devised for us, it was time for him to go on a scavenger



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hunt. With varied clues and a bag to collect barbeque tools, he had to visit all the past presidents in the room for a short "roast or toast" with each of them - Jack Schneiker, Wendell Mathis, Charlie Robertson, Rick Kent, and Roy Johnson. Finally, George got The Nacho Men started.

We finished out the rally on the last night with a visit from the country western group Highway 101. With wonderful music and interaction with the band, it seemed like one big happy family. Cactus Moser, the bandleader, had his family in the audience - Mo and Lin Moser, our members, were there to enjoy. Then, many of us stayed over at Tiger Run following the rally to enjoy the mountains.



Now to traveling on: Coming up in the spring of 2008, the Prouds will rally in the Phoenix, Arizona area at Canyon Vista RV Resort. Please be aware that the rally is in April and is not a pre-rally to the FMCA convention in Pomona. The Phoenix weather in April should be ideal and coming from other parts of the country will be a lot easier with the winter storms winding down.

Be sure to schedule time in your travels for the big celebration in Quebec, Canada. Next year is the 400th anniversary of Quebec City with a big rally scheduled in July to be hosted by the Prevost Prouds, Prevost Car, and the converters. All Prevost owners are invited. More information and applications have been sent separately. If you did not receive these, please contact the Prouds office.

***Be safe in your travels and have a great holiday season,  
Les***



## Message From Prevoist Car, Inc.

Well it sounds like Breckenridge was the place to be for the Prouds rally! Marlene and I are nature lovers ourselves and would have loved to attend. From what we have heard, there was lots of "hummin" & "jeepin" in the magnificent mountains of Colorado and we missed out on lots of fun. I have to give credit to all the wonderful volunteers who made sure that everything ran smoothly. Congratulations on another successful rally!

I did manage to escape and attend the FMCA convention in Redmond for one day. And what a day it was! Great weather, great environment and, best of all, great friends! We had a special guest with us this time, Mr. Jim Stottlemeyer from Volvo Powertrain. The purpose of his visit was to get acquainted with all of you and to see and hear from you what kind of engine application you need in your Prevoist. Jim and his wife enjoyed their stay and the chance to mingle with Prevoist owners at our VIP Customer Appreciation Party. The Eagle Crest Resort was gorgeous, with a stunning lake view. This year's theme was "Timberland Trail Adventure", and I personally enjoyed the lumberjack skill demonstrations that were held before the Prevoist dinner. I must admit that, although we have a long tradition of wood workers in Quebec, I was extremely impressed with the woodcarving on site. The axe throwing activity was exciting to say the least and the girls did great in the Jack'n Jill hot saw competition. Thanks to the American Lumberjack Association who showed us just how fast they can "chop, saw & roll". After all the action, it seemed only fitting that we feast on a sumptuous logger's camp meal with desserts to satisfy a lumberjack's sugar cravings. It all ended in one great moment of the evening: the wooden carved eagle. What a fabulous piece of art! The Master Chainsaw Sculptor, J. Chester 'Skip' Armstrong, gave expression and soul to his artwork. Congratulations to the lucky grand prizewinners, Tom and Una Bowman. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you who made the Prevoist dinner a success! This was a fantastic evening filled with friendship and smiles. In addition, two very special people gave us something to smile about. Greetings to Belle and Jack Schneiker who brightened up our day by their presence.



I hope you are all getting your passports ready as I certainly look forward to welcoming you in Québec next July for the 400th anniversary of Québec City!

As many of you may already know, following a restructure within the Prevoist organization, Claude Picard, our Vice President of Marketing, has decided to leave the company to pursue other endeavors. I would like to personally thank Claude for his significant contribution to Prevoist Car and wish him every possible success with his future career path.

Sadly, I cannot conclude without mentioning the sudden loss of a dear friend to us here at Prevoist in the recent passing of Nancy Johnson. We had the chance to meet with Nancy & Roy at various Prevoist events and she was always such a kind and caring person. It was easy to see how supportive she was of Roy and we can only admire the special bond that they shared together. Nancy had grace and charm, she was a great lady, well loved by her family and friends. She loved life and loved living it with a cheerful spirit; she is an inspiration to us all. Thanks Nancy – we will miss you.

**Sincerely,**

Gaétan Bolduc, Eng.  
President and Chief Executive Officer

# A Word From Prevost

By Claude Picard

When you take the great mind of George Lanegraff and blend it with the high altitude of Colorado, you can come up with some very ingenious ways to entertain a crowd. That is exactly what George did at the Prouds rally held in glorious Breckenridge this summer. My wife, Johanne, and my daughters, Marie-Eve & Karine, thoroughly enjoyed themselves and never ran out of things to do: tea party, fashion show, tours, fabulous food and, of course, SHOPPING! With so many places to go and people to see, they have become experts at multitasking. For me, this business trip was a great opportunity to mix work and play together surrounded by the beauty of lakes, mountains and my favorite spot of all, the converter display. That is where I love to hang out, catch up with the converters and visit the incredible coach conversions that just always exceed my expectations, rally after rally.



While my family headed back home to Québec, I continued on to the FMCA convention in Redmond, Oregon. This year we had a new Prevost display concept to better accommodate our show needs and serve our customers. A reception area was made available to greet Prevost owners and register them for dinner. To mark this special occasion, all owners who came to the new Prevost booth to sign up for the dinner received a Prevost embroidered fleece blanket and were invited to the VIP Hospitality Tent where they could sit back and relax in the customer lounge area with a beverage or ice-cream.

Champagne, appetizers, drinks, coffee and dessert were served on Preview Evening, creating the perfect atmosphere to chat with fellow guests and staff. Our converter display vehicles were definitely the eye-catchers of the show. The beauty and quality of these coaches continue to charm the most fanatical of motorhome enthusiasts.

Now we could not have asked for better weather at the Customer Appreciation Dinner. A beautiful setting awaited us at the Eagle Crest Resort where the "Lumber-Jill" costumed greeters created a cozy ambience. Cocktails were served outdoors during the lumberjack activities where everyone worked up an appetite. Then we were merrily treated to Barbeque Tri Tip, Northwest Salmon, Spice Rub Pork, fresh hot biscuits, amazing veggies and slaw with roasted Oregon hazelnuts. The meal finished with the Chef's assortment of delicious fruit cobblers, brownies and cookies. In line with tradition, the Northfolk Pine living tree centerpieces were won by the individuals who could guess the name of a lumber tool. Judging from the sincere words of thanks we received for the Prevost party and souvenir blankets, we have concluded that Prevost was a hit at FMCA's 78th Convention!



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As we announced at the past conventions, in lieu of hosting a customer appreciation dinner at the next FMCA shows in Pomona and Minnesota, Prevost Car, the converters and the Prevost Prouds are preparing a unique experience to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Québec City. Québec Rally 2008 will be hosted July 7-10. Information is available through the three groups mentioned above and on the Prevost Car web site. Quebecers are known for their quick smile and warm welcome, so make sure your passports are ready and plan to come make history with us!

I would like to take a moment to tell you how deeply saddened Johanne and I were to hear the news of Nancy Johnson's passing. We will always remember her strong, positive presence and the cheerful manner in which she greeted and interacted with the Prouds family. The times we spent with her were very enjoyable and we feel privileged to have benefitted from her friendship.

On a final note, I would like to inform you that this is my last article in the Proud Moments, as I have chosen to leave Prevost Car after four years of service. I am grateful to have played a role in the development of the bus shell market; it is one of the most dynamic markets I have ever been in. I am saddened that I am leaving the company, but feel that it is the right time to embark on a new career path with its own unique challenges. I wish to thank my internal staff here at Prevost for their devotion and dedication over the years. They are not only excellent employees but have also become great friends and I could not have asked for a better team to work with. When I started out at Prevost, I really wondered what "Bus Shells" was all about. I was told that it was a very special business in a niche of its own. It was not until I met with our elite converters and attended my first Prouds rally that I realized the extent of that statement. I was dealing with this unique product, converted by the best in the field, and I had wonderful opportunities to interact and build close relationships with some of the most exciting and inspiring customers. Johanne, Karine, Marie-Eve and I want to thank you all for your warm hospitality extended at the various rallies. We wish you all the best. My journey has been rewarding and fulfilling, and you have all made my experience on the job a wonderful one. I will miss you all and I hope that our paths will cross again sometime in the future. You truly are in a class of your own, the "Ultimate" class.

***Claude Picard,  
Vice-President, Marketing & Bus Shell Sales***



## **CHEERS FOR OUR BRECKENRIDGE 2007 COMMERCIAL MEMBERS**

American Carriage  
1401 Goodrick Rd.  
Tehachapi, CA 93561  
800-631-0951

Country Coach, Inc.  
P.O. Box 400  
Junction City, OR 97448  
800-654-0223

Featherlite Luxury Coaches  
4441 Orange Blvd.  
Sanford, FL 32771  
888-VANTARE



Prevost Car, Inc.  
35 Gagnon Blvd.  
Sainte-Claire, Quebec, Canada  
GOR 2V0  
418-883-3391

Liberty Coach, Inc.  
1400 Morrow Ave.  
North Chicago, IL 60064  
800-332-9877

Marathon Coach, Inc.  
11623 Corporate Lake Blvd.  
San Antonio, FL 33576  
800-437-8295

Millennium Luxury Coaches  
1600 Bobby Lee Pt.  
Sanford, FL 32771  
407-328-0190

# TRAVEL SAFE, TRAVEL SMART



**By Bill Jensen**  
**Service Manager,**  
**VIP Bus Shell**  
**Division**



By now, the converters have begun receiving the new US2007 engines in their shells. This engine is certified to meet the exhaust emission standards required by law for engines manufactured after January 1, 2007. For the last three years we have had EGR (exhaust gas recirculation) as part of the system to reduce NOx (nitrogen oxide) emissions. Now the US2007 engines have to reduce the NOx and reduce the particulate matter that could come from the tailpipe. To do this they now use EGR at some percent whenever the engine is running. They also had to add a DPT (diesel particulate trap) which includes the muffler. Since this unit is expensive and has various sensors on it, Prevost decided to install it in the upper rear corner of the vehicle and have the exhaust exit at roof level. This has forced the converters to redesign the rear corner on the driver's side that was part of the rear closet in many conversions.

Because we are throwing more exhaust particles into the oil and we are putting more heat into the combustion process to eliminate the pollutants, the engine is made of harder metals and the pressure used on the injectors is much higher. There is now a new specification for the oil to be used in these engines. It is CJ-4. This oil is fully compatible with the earlier engines and is formulated to absorb the exhaust particles better.

The coolant requirements are the same as before: red (fuchsia) colored diesel formulation coolant with additives. Remember that you must use coolants for heavy duty diesel engines which can be purchased at truck dealers, truck stops and commercial parts supply facilities. You cannot get it at a car parts store or Wal-Mart.

The DPT (diesel particulate trap) catches the exhaust particles in the catalytic section. These particles (soot) are trapped and burned off through the regeneration process. This section of the DPT will need to be replaced every 150,000 miles through an exchange program with Detroit Diesel.

Along with this is the change in the diesel fuel requirements. All diesel fuels must be ultra-low sulphur (15 parts per million). This should be the only fuel you find at the pumps and should be labeled as such. This fuel is compatible with all previous diesel engines, regardless of the manufacturer. Use of other than this fuel in the 2007 engines will cause the DPT to become clogged early and it violates the EPA standards for air quality.

As you can see, these changes to keep up with EPA standards are ongoing. The next step is in 2010 and there should not be a problem with Prevost meeting the standard. The technology for these changes has improved greatly from 2004 and we expect fewer problems with the newer engines.

For most of you who pull a car behind the motor home, the coach does not even know that the car is there. So braking and stopping distances remain as we have tested them! But for the people that tow the larger trailers, remember the basic physics of motion and stopping: your total combined vehicle weight is what you must stop. Once put into motion, the mass of the vehicles is such that you will not stop the units in a short distance. Engine brakes and retarders aid in this process, but it is still a combination of braking ability and distance to get the vehicle slowed down. Always leave yourself a good distance from the vehicle in front of you as a safety margin. Be safe!



# ROCKY MOUNTAIN RALLY

By George Lanegraff



A "high altitude" Rocky Mountain environs, mostly sunny August weather, a good size cadre of pristine-polished Jeeps, attractive display coaches, and a rousting group of Prevost Prouds club members culminated in another rally of enjoyable memories.



Parking at the Tiger Run RV Resort in Breckenridge, Colorado, just under a 100 families assembled, including 13 first-timers, along with a dozen converter display coaches under the careful coordination of the parking chair, Wendell Mathis. The resort's lodge, especially the front outside area where the display coaches were parked, became a trailhead for tour bus boarding, dog-walkers visiting, and, when not impeded by rain, socializing and jeep assembly.

A super volunteer rally registration corps, under the watchful eye of the Kent-Urban-Lagerquist trilogy, facilitated attendees efficiently getting their rally packet and signing up for a host of events. Rally activities started with the club's afternoon golf meeting (ably headed by Dave Pedersen) followed by a first-timer's "meet and greet" with the club management team and hosts (under the watchful eye of Betsy Reese). At 5pm, the Converter's Display Coach Social "took off" but, due to rain, things were moved into the resort's pavilion. Libations and a social followed with the testing of a new icebreaker game - "Colorado Name Bingo" - won by a highly competitive first-timer, Gimny Peleberg, who successfully secured signatures for all of the 24 slots on the bingo card. This activity included costumed characters from the town's historical association, a club member who has done on-line dating (Jack Schneider), someone who has their own web page, and many others. Throughout the social and dinner, "Welcome to Colorado" tunes were played by Jerry Brown & the CW Wranglers, a group from the Colorado Springs area. Following dinner Les Lagerquist, the Prouds president, and Carolyn Konigseder, the club's converter liaison, welcomed and introduced everyone.



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After breakfast in the pavilion, the rally's second day kicked-off at mid-morning with 27 Jeeps and Hummers and 66 enthusiasts departing the resort, under a bit of heavy moisture, for a fun 5-hour 4-wheeling sojourn. Soon thereafter scores of club members, under the well-versed eyes of Grayline guides Marianne Zahnle and Deanna Wilscam, boarded buses to Breckenridge for walking tours of the town's historical district. Summit County bus tours went all the way up to Hoosier Pass ("yeah, for the beautiful sunflowers and blue skies", one clubber wrote). Participants also enjoyed a tasty Victorian Tea in the historic Briggie House of Breckenridge. Some folks toured an interactive mine site, the Lomax Placer Gold Mine, did a bit of gold panning, and received a historical overview of the area. Comments indicated people enjoyed their experiences and found them interesting, informative and, in some cases, a great photo opportunity time!



front of the lodge enjoying a pre-dinner drink and social amongst the converters. It was a free evening, thereafter.

About 4:30pm, under soon-to-be sunny skies, Carolyn hosted a "Ladies Swap & Sip" social in the lodge's lounge where "favorite appetizers" were brought along with the recipe (which could be copied onto cards put out at each table). These delicious "tasteables" were a big hit! One special highlight was the jewelry display by Breckenridge Jewelers, coordinated by Lin Moser. The men, on the other hand, were just outside the



Day three, breakfast preceded the club's official business meeting under the auspices of club president, Les Lagerquist. Frisco, a small town a few miles north of the resort, was next on the agenda for the ladies while the gents "stayed put" at the resort for the Prevost Car Tech-Talk. With "rain clouds" looming on the horizon, the ladies visited a Frisco eatery, The Ore House, and were welcomed by a host of merchants representing clothes, pottery, fabric, and coffee. After a short and fun lunch and "fashion experience" (which featured club member model Patty Urban and Prevost Car's Gisele Roy), everyone dispersed along Frisco's Main Street in search of fashion, fabric and coffee. However, things were soon abbreviated due to seasonal "monsoon" rains; it got wet fast!

It was late afternoon, the rain clouds were gone, and it was time to board the buses for the President's Dinner at Beaver Run Conference Center and enjoy a fun evening with friends. Dinner was billed as "Denim & Diamonds" and the evening's featured entertainment was The Nacho Men - a high energy band with a taste for interactive rock and roll. They opened with "Old Time Rock & Roll" and "Love Shack" and ended the night with "YMCA", filling the 24'x24' dance floor. It was a dancing and listening good time. Viewing the "wedding" of club member Kay Strickland and Elvis was particularly memorable!







Announcements preceded the dancing with Les Lagerquist recognizing the past club presidents and their wives and the current slate of officers. Les then switched gears and sent the club's rally master, George Lanegraff, on a creative 10th anniversary Scavenger Hunt, requiring him to scurry around the room locating the past presidents for clues. After a bit of "roasting", tokens of appreciation were graciously given to George by the club and by Claude Picard of Prevost Car.

The rally's final day was "Chamber of Commerce" perfect; delicious sunny skies against mountain peaks, the morning friendship, walkers walking, and golfers ingesting breakfast fare in anticipation of 18 holes of enjoyable playtime. After the golfers departed, Carolyn (of Liberty) and Phil (of Marathon) convened a small group of folks in the pavilion as part of an informal "Prevost Lifestyle Clips" sharing campgrounds and resorts in Michigan and Oregon that nicely accommodate the Prevost coach and offer a variety of fun things to do. Soon thereafter, walking tours of Breckenridge, gold mine tours, the Summit County bus tour and Victorian Tea sign-ups were boarded and departed the resort. Mid-afternoon found a host of things underway in the pavilion in readiness for an evening of listening pleasure. Colorful Jeeps were positioned against the stage to form an attractive backdrop, tables were rearranged to enhance listening and viewing, banquet serving lines were moved outdoors to facilitate a fast flow, and a professional sound system was set up to underscore the musical act to follow.



At 5 o'clock, it was "social" time and soon thereafter dinner followed. It was close to 7 o'clock and anticipation was building; it was but a short time before the legendary, award winning Highway 101 band took the stage and presented a fantastic array of their award winning hits. Highway 101 has been awarded "Vocal Group of the Year" four times, amongst many other prestigious awards, and definitely provided outstanding entertainment this evening.

In hindsight, Colorado reflects people enjoying the friendship of others, getting "in tune" with the local venue and attractions, and participating enthusiastically in the unique Prevost lifestyle.





We had an active group of first-timers in Breckenridge. After the welcoming meeting and picture taking, the new folks were busy getting the Bingo cards completed at the opening dinner. The game was won by Ginny Peleberg. Several first-timers also participated in the jeep trip, which, according to rumors, took considerable courage.

Our best wishes go to the Pelebergs (Ginny & Pete) who had to leave early due to illness. In addition, we hope that the Ottos will join us for a future rally. They were in Breckenridge early and had to return to Texas before the rally started. Unfortunately, one couple had to cancel because their coach caught on fire but we hope they will make the next rally.

Several couples assured us they will be at future rallies. This is a great group to work with and a wonderful addition to the Prouds.

~ Betsy Reese



- Bill &Carolynn Beard ..... Modesto, CA
- Dick & Peggy Darouse..... Jonesboro, AR
- Jerry & Cec Henslin..... Scottsdale, AZ
- John & Bren Jackson..... Quanah, TX
- Lee & Peggy Mackey ..... Alva, OK
- Jim & Nancy Mathews ..... Wagley, GA
- Bob & Elaine Matranga ..... Anaheim Hills, CA
- Pete & Ginny Peleberg ..... Decatur, TX
- Joe & Kay Rosenthal..... St. Petersburg, FL
- Charles & Linda Sanford..... Greenwood Village, CO
- John & Tammy Siemon ..... Las Vegas, NV
- Jerry & Lois Worlock ..... The Villages, FL
- Ralph & Sandra Young ..... Florence, AL





# SUMMARY OF BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES



The Prevost Prouds business meeting was called to order on August 7, 2007 by the president, Les Lagerquist. Club officers, former Prouds presidents, Prevost Car representatives, and the converters were introduced.

Treasurer Rick Kent gave the financial report. There are currently 767 members in the club. Rick also led a discussion about the use of the defibrillator.

The Sunshine Report was given by Toni Small, the First-Timer Report was given by Betsy Reese, and Jack Schneiker gave the FMCA report. Claude Picard of Prevost Car invited everyone to Prevost's hospitality booth and dinner at Redmond.

The next Prouds rally will be held April 1-4, 2008 in Phoenix, Arizona at Canyon Vistas. The summer 2008 rally will be held in Quebec, Canada, July 7-10. It will be held in conjunction with the 400th anniversary of Quebec City.

There were short discussions about the following items:

- A request that the membership be informed earlier about the rally activities.
- A question about the spring rally date in relation to FMCA's convention, and the availability of a campground in that area.
- A request that life members be listed by number in the directory.
- A discussion of California's 65-foot law and FMCA's decision not to lobby for a change.

The current club officers were re-elected for another year. Before adjourning, President Les Lagerquist recognized and thanked the volunteers working at the Breckenridge rally.

*Elaine Yates,*  
**Secretary**

# Calendar of Events

Visit the Prouds' website at [www.PrevostProuds.com](http://www.PrevostProuds.com)  
for more information on these events.

## 2008 DATES

## 2008 EVENTS

January 27	<b>Naples Prevost Dinner</b> - The Club at the Strand - Naples, Florida
February 25-28	FMCA Winter Convention - Los Angeles Fairplex - Pomona, California
April 1-5	<b>Prouds Spring Rally</b> - Canyon Vistas RV Resort - Phoenix, Arizona
July 7-10	<b>Prouds Summer Rally</b> - Expo Cite - Quebec City, Canada
July 14-17	FMCA Summer Convention - Minnesota State Fairgrounds - St. Paul, MN

## 2009 DATES

## 2009 EVENTS

March 16-19	FMCA Winter Convention - Georgia National Fairgrounds - Perry, Georgia
July 20-23	FMCA Summer Convention - Wood County Fairgrounds - Bowling Green, Ohio

# New Members

We extend a Big Welcome to the following new members of our Proud family of Prevost coach owners.

Anderson, Eric & Mary Barbara	..... Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Lambert, Rob & Kelli	..... San Clemente, CA
Beaird, Jerry & Judy	..... Eufaula, OK	Lonsbary, Ed & Patty	..... Whitehouse, TX
Bowlin, Donald & Marilyn	..... Plainfield, NJ	Mathews, Jim & Nancy	..... Wadley, GA
Cassata, Bob & Joyce N	..... Palm Beach, FL	Moore, Morris & Linda	..... Austin, TX
Cheney, Niles & Sherril Bover	..... La Grange, KY	Morgan, Dan & Gloria	..... Madison, MS
Christiansen, Dee & Kathy	..... Kerrville, TX	Oliver, Frank & Joyce	..... Palatka, FL
Clark, Mike & Dee	..... Modesto, CA	Otto, Harold & Debra Newman	..... Marble Falls, TX
Dale, Jimmy A. & Morea S.	..... Ormond Beach, FL	Pearce, John & Jeanette	..... Polk City, FL
Fleury, Rejean & Sabine	..... Alma, PQ	Poole, Steve & Joy	..... Bethlehem, GA
Fowler, Mark & Lisa	..... Paragould, AR	Potter, Howard & Cory	..... Sodus Pt. NY
Friedman, Sam & Edwina	..... Natchitoches, LA	Press, Wayne & Toby	..... Naples, FL
Garner, Wilbur & Carole	..... Southern Pines, NC	Revels, William & Connie	..... Flagler Beach, FL
Gibson, Jimmy & Tammy	..... Morristown, TN	Richardson, George & Carol	..... Wellborn, FL
Grant, Jim	..... Boise, ID	Rydstrom, Donald & Linda	..... Rapid City, SD
Habicht, John & Mary	..... Ellicott City, MD	Sheehy, James	..... Waterloo, WI
Hagan, Scott & Deana	..... Charleston, SC	Smith, James & Cheryl	..... Redmond, OR
Henslin, Jerry & Cec	..... Scottsdale, AZ	Starnes, Scott & Debbie	..... Arlington, TX
Hoadley, Jack & Donna	..... Hanover, MA	Tornberg, Don & Barbara	..... Novato, CA
Hoffman, Gordon & Lois	..... Sioux Falls, SD	Tuck, Bill & Gail	..... Ocala, FL
Jenney, Richard & Patricia	..... Lake Wales, FL	Williams, Gary & Patricia	..... Las Vegas, NV
Klingbe, Sean & Nikki Harris	..... Washington, IN	Winters, Ron & Anne	..... Cordova, AK
Kyle, Tom & Margaret	..... Galax, VA		

# Buses Brake For Bears



What has black skin and weighs about a pound at birth, but then grows snow white hair and reaches a weight around 1500 pounds? Polar Bears! In October, a group of Prevost owners journeyed to Churchill (a small town on the Hudson Bay in Manitoba, Canada) to view these magnificent creatures. The trip was full of sightseeing events and opportunities to make new friends. Stops were enjoyed at quaint Canadian towns where we were offered friendly hospitality and an insight into their history and everyday lives.

We drove our motorhomes to the end of the road at Thompson, Manitoba. There we secured our coaches, boarded our pets, and headed for the train station to make the last leg of our journey to polar bear country. Everyone was excited and, as soon as we were on the train, the exploring began. Many of us had never traveled on a train and we found that in addition to the three different sleeping accommodations, there was a luxury dining car and a two-level passenger car with a glass dome roof. Most of us eventually rendezvoused in this last car, to visit and to speculate on how many bears we would be seeing. Some of us wondered if the rocking of the train would put us to sleep or keep us awake!



Morning dawned and we headed to the dining car to experience a meal on the tracks. The rest of our time on the train was spent viewing the scenery, searching for wildlife, reading books, doing needlework, listening to music, playing games and visiting with friends. We arrived in Churchill in the early afternoon and were transferred by bus to our hotel.

Churchill is a most interesting town. The population is around 900. During the months of October and November, it is not unusual to find a polar bear wandering through town. Most house and car doors are not locked because, if one encounters a bear, the best thing to do is to get inside and call the bear police. The bear police arrive with tranquilizer darts. After securing the bear, it is hauled to the polar bear jail, outside of town. There it is quarantined for around a month, having no food or access to humans. Then the bear is transported by helicopter about 35 miles out of town to be released.

It is not safe for tourists to meet bears around town and, fortunately, none of us did. Instead, we opted for a ride on the "tundra buggy". This allowed us to view the bears from a safe environment. And yes, we saw bears. What a treat to become one of the few humans to see these breathtaking animals up close, in the wild. We all agreed this is the stuff that dreams are made of.





# THE SUNSHINE REPORT

by *Connie Kossen, Sunshine Lady*

### Deaths:

**Bob Horn** of Eagle River, Wisconsin, died on May 12, 2007

**Jimmie Williams** of Corpus Christi, Texas, died suddenly with a heart attack just prior to the July rally.

**J.R. Potter** of Virginia Beach, Virginia died in September of a brain tumor.

**Nancy Johnson**, Clarksville, Arkansas, died in September of a rare brain disease, CJD. She was ill only 47 days.

**Jerry White**, Las Vegas, Nevada, died in October as a result of a small plane crash.

### Illness:

**Chriss Crawford**, Dayton, Montana, had major kidney surgery in June. There was a cancerous tumor in the kidney, but there was no indication that the cancer had spread. Chriss is recovering at home.

**John Sanders**, Purdon, Texas, has had chemo treatment for prostate cancer.

**Gary Lee**, Sarasota, Florida, is also having a similar chemo treatment for prostate cancer.

**Pat Kenney**, Cincinnati, Ohio, had yet another stint in his heart.

At the same time, his bride, **Claudette** discovered a pinched nerve in her neck, causing problems with her foot.

She is having Physical Therapy and both of them are progressing.

**Belle Schneiker**, Tucson, Arizona, is pleased to be back "on the road again" after a long recuperation with a broken hip.

**Ginny Wawak**, Wayne, Illinois, has had rotator cuff surgery

**Debbie Newman**, Marble Falls, Texas, a new member, is experiencing heart problems.

**Sue Johnson**, Kerrville, Texas, has had back surgery.

**Bill Boyce**, Ellenton, Florida, was hospitalized recently with pneumonia.

**Morris Yates**, Magee, Mississippi, has been a bit "under the weather".

### Others:

**Bob Mixon**, Sumrall, Mississippi, lost his father.

**Carla Meaux**, Beaumont, Texas, lost her grandmother.

**Trish Gallaher**, Germantown, Tennessee, lost her mother.

**Sir Richard Prince-Smith**, husband of Lady Ann Prince-Smith and former Prouds member, died in June.

They divided their time between Rancho Mirage, California and England.

Please, keep in touch. If you know about illnesses or other problems within our Prevost Prouds family, send it to: [ckossen@kossenequipment.com](mailto:ckossen@kossenequipment.com).

## 14th Annual Naples Prevost Dinner

Sunday - January 27, 2008 - 5:30 PM



Entertainment by  
Recording Star "Tommy O"



*The Club at the Strand*

5840 Strand Boulevard - Naples, Florida

See the Prevost Prouds website for details on the menu  
and more information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Select: Filet & Sea Bass \_\_\_ -or- Chicken & Scampi \_\_\_

Make check payable to: Naples Prevost Dinner (\$65/person)

Mail to: Kathy Lazor, 506 Centennial Dr, Vienna, Ohio 44473



# National Director's Corner

by Jack Schneiker, FMCA National Director

FMCA's 78th International Convention, dubbed "Rediscover Redmond", took place August 13-16, 2007 at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond, Oregon. The location gave us a beautiful view of the snow capped "Three Sister's Mountains" about 35 miles from our campsite.



Perhaps the most frequently asked question at the FMCA Convention is, "How many coaches are here?" The magical figure for this year's Redmond convention is 3,474 coaches. This number includes 2,640 family coaches and 834 commercial coaches. FMCA currently has 492 active chapters.

A close second question asked of me was, "Hey Jack, what happened to your Prevost Prouds caravan from Breckenridge?" We had almost 100 coaches at our Breckenridge rally, but only five raised their hands when President Les asked for a show of hands on who was going to the FMCA convention. There were a number of empty display booths, as some of our commercial members cancelled after they found out that the over-all attendance was going to be low. On the national level, we have been asked for input from our chapter members on what can be done to increase the attendance at our national conventions.

## FUTURE FMCA CONVENTION SITES

- February 25-28, 2008 • Los Angeles Fairplex, Pomona, CA
- July 14-17, 2008 • Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN
- March 16-19, 2009 • Perry, Georgia
- July 20-23, 2009 • Bowling Green, Ohio

FMCA assigned the membership number F391235 on July 1, 2007, but dues paying membership on that date was 118,360 families. Many dealers give buyers a one-year free membership to FMCA, but a very high



percentage never renews their membership. Membership retention is one of our main problems. Based on statistics, members of chapters are less likely to drop out of FMCA than those who are not members of chapters. To help FMCA grow, Belle and I have made an extra effort to help organize new chapters.

*Personal note from Belle: I wish to thank our fellow Prouds members for the many cards, letters and e-mails that I received during my recent illness, and for the warm welcome I received at the Breckenridge Rally.*

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## **Rally Committees**

**August, 2007 • Tiger Run in Breckenridge, Colorado**

### **Golf Tournament**

Dave Pedersen

### **Converters/Dealers Liaison**

Carolyn Konigseder

### **First-Timers**

Betsy Reese

### **Parking**

Wendell Mathis and the  
Parking Committee

### **Bar Service**

Ken Urban

### **On-Site Registration**

Barbara Kent, Patty Urban  
Lana Lagerquist and Volunteers