

PROUD MOMENTS

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

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May 2006

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Roy Johnson, President



Roy & Nancy Johnson

At the Prevost Prouds Rally in Las Vegas, I experienced some of the most positive points for the future growth of our club that I have seen. I want to mention three of them.

First, many of the attending members commented about how much fun they had at the rally and how much they enjoyed the new and different activities: the Texas Hold'em tournament, the 4-wheel obstacle course, the Prevost tour bus driving course, the dancing contest, and the fine-dining experience at the Wynn. All these events were organized by our able rally master, George Lanegraff, who does an outstanding job!

Second, there were 24 first-timers attending the Las Vegas rally. For our club to continue to grow and thrive, we need to welcome and encourage our first-timers. We hope they will enjoy our friendliness and our fun activities, and will be active in the club for many years. Our future is in their hands.

Third, we had a very positive executive meeting with our converter members and Prevost Car, with a focus on increasing the number of Prevost owners and Prouds members. The result of that meeting is a reduced fee for the Charlotte rally and the offering of a "one-time guest participation" opportunity. You are encouraged to invite a guest to the August rally, even if they do not drive a Prevost. Perhaps they will see a coach they like at the rally and become a Prevost Prouds member!

The Charlotte Rally promises to be a great one. We will have full hook ups, we will be within walking distance of the FMCA convention at Lowe's Motor Speedway, and the fee is only \$495 for registrations paid before June 1st. Lets all invite someone who has never been to a Prevost Prouds rally - it is a good way to secure the future of our club. Nancy & I will look forward to seeing you in Charlotte, August 9-13, 2006.

Safe driving to each of you,
Roy

Message From Prevost Car, Inc.

by Gaeton Bolduc • President & CEO, Prevost Car, Inc.



Once again, Marlène and I had a fantastic time in Vegas. We had the chance to see old friends and make new ones. By the way, thank you all for your warm welcome at each and every Rally! You make us feel like home...far away from home. This is a great feeling.

As you may have noticed, I was accompanied by former Prevost Representatives, Mike Rochette and Guy Sirois. Although they are retired, for over 20 years they made it their priority to go the extra mile for Prevost. They still do....so we invited them to this rally in recognition of their hard work, dedication and support to our company, to this

industry, and to you all. I had the chance to talk to them after the Rally and they were very happy that they had a chance to meet their friends again. Special thanks to their lovely ladies, Johanne and Murielle, for being with us and for their active participation in our activities.

On a more serious note, I would like to respond to rumors that are circulating regarding lay offs at our factory. Last Spring 2005, we decided, based on good first Quarter volume, to increase production to fulfill market demands. Unfortunately, as you already know, some converters decided to pull out of the business leaving us with surplus inventory. Despite good efforts and actions

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Word From Your Retiring Editor



Bubbles, Bronco, and Preppy

As retiring Editor, I would like to personally and publicly thank all the contributing writers, photographers, graphic artists, club officers, committee chairpersons, Prevost Car, Inc. and commercial club members whom I have worked with over the past 14 years. Our staff writers and photographers, especially worked hard to meet my deadlines, again and again, issue after issue. They have been incredibly generous with their time and talents.

There has been a lot of change and growth in the Prevost Prouds and Proud Moments over these past years. I am certainly proud of the newsletter and our club.

Your new Editors are Prevost Prouds club members Graham and Mary Catherine Ricks. This transition issue has been a joint effort. I am pleased to announce that I feel my “students” have passed with flying colors. I am leaving the Proud Moments in very capable hands.



Graham & Mary Catherine

Graham and Mary Catherine are also the webmasters for the Prevost Prouds web site www.prevostprouds.com. Please check the web site periodically for club updates and announcements.

Last, but not least, I want to thank my husband Bronco for his tolerance and patience. Sometimes it was lonely being the Editor’s husband. At times I seemed to be married to the computer, telephone and fax machine.

It has been an honor to have served as your Editor. I am sure Graham and Mary Catherine will find working with such a fine club and staff to be very rewarding, as I have.

Good health and travels to all,

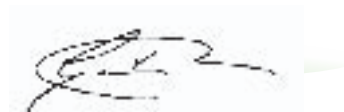
Bubbles

Message From Prevost Car (Continued from page 1)

from everyone, we came to the point, at the end of 2005 beginning of 2006, where we had to take more serious actions. We therefore decided to slow down production of shells for the next 4 months to readjust our inventory. As I am writing this article, we have started to recall production co-workers to accelerate the production line. In mid-June, we plan on having another production increase to meet increasing demands. At this point, we already foresee having to increase production even further this fall to meet customer demands. Our business is driven by market demands. When demand is high, production is increased, when demand is low, production has to lower. We just follow this cycle.

Finally, I would like to restate our commitment to your lifestyle. Thank you for your valuable business and friendship! Thank you all for making this Rally a success. Please drive safely when you hit the road!

Okay, I have to say this: I am eager to see the Prevost Prouds Calendar Girls...



President and Chief Executive Officer

Calendar Of Events

DATES	EVENTS	RALLYMASTERS
August 9-13, 2006	Prouds Summer Rally Charlotte, NC	George Lanegraff National Rallymaster
August 14-17, 2006	FMCA 76th Summer Convention Lowe's Motor Speedway Charlotte, NC Caravans enter Saturday, August 12th	
March 13-16, 2007	Prouds Winter Rally Disney, Orlando, FL	George Lanegraff National Rallymaster
March 19-22, 2007	FMCA 77th Winter Convention Georgia National Fairgrounds Perry, GA Caravans enter Saturday, March 17th	
August 7-10, 2007	Prouds Summer Rally Site not set	George Lanegraff National Rallymaster
August 13-16, 2007	FMCA 78th Summer Convention Deschutes County Fairground Redmond, OR Caravans enter Saturday, August 11th	
February 25-28, 2008	FMCA 79th Winter Convention Los Angeles Fairplex Pomona, CA Caravans enter Saturday, February 23rd	
July 14-17, 2008	FMCA 80th Summer Convention Minnesota State Fairgrounds St. Paul, MN Caravans enter Saturday, July 12th	

Business Meeting Minutes Summary

Las Vegas, NV 2006 Rally

On March 16, 2006 President Roy Johnson called the meeting of the Prevost Prouds to order at 10:00 A.M. in Las Vegas, Nevada.

President Johnson introduced: First Vice-President Les Lagerquist; Second Vice-President Ken Urban; Treasurer Rick Kent; acting Secretary, Tommie Sanders and FMCA National Director Jack Schneiker.

A motion was made by Shari Robertson, seconded by Belle Schneiker and passed by the members to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting.

Rick Kent presented the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Report as presented.

Connie Kossen, First-Timers Chairperson acknowledged the 24 First-Timer families by asking them to stand and be recognized. She also asked people to volunteer as hosts for the rallies.

Connie Kossen, Sunshine Chairperson, presented the Sunshine Report. She also passed around cards to be signed by the members and mailed.

National Director Jack Schneiker reported FMCA had 3,000 families

registered for the 75th convention in Pomona, CA.

The following sites have been approved for conventions:

- August 2006 - Charlotte, NC;
- March 2007 - Perry, GA;
- August 2007 - Redmond, OR;
- February 2008 - Pomona, CA;
- July 2008 - St. Paul, MN.

Roy Johnson asked for nominations for members to the nominating committee. Wendell Mathis, John Strickland and Steve Sieger were nominated to present a slate of officers at the August meeting. Motion was made, seconded and carried to close the nominations.

At the rally in Charlotte, NC in August anyone may bring a guest. The converters, Prevost Car, and the Club will pay extra in order to lower the price for each coach. The rally fee will be \$475 if paid at the rally and \$495 if paid before June 1st.

Les Lagerquist announced plans to host the March 2007 Prevost Prouds rally in Disneyworld and the July 2008 rally in Quebec City.

Betty Stahlman and Wes Severson have lost spouses and are not traveling. They would like to remain members without coaches. A motion was made and passed to make Betty Stahlman and Wes Severson honorary members.

Connie Kossen suggested that area representatives from different regions be selected to help encourage attendance and membership. Roy Johnson stated a committee would be appointed to study this and would give a report in Charlotte.

Rick Kent reported that a defibrillator had been purchased by the club. It was recommended that a class to operate the defibrillator along with a CPR class be offered in Charlotte.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tommie D. Sanders,
Acting Secretary



Prevost Prouds' North Carolina

Need for Speed Rally

August 9-13, 2006

PREVOST
THE 'ULTIMATE' CLASS

Summer in North Carolina's lush Charlotte/Concord area features blue skies, green surroundings, a fabulous climate, and scores of historical sites all amidst a host of recreational fun things to do. However nothing compares to the "speed, torque, thrust and raw power" annually demonstrated at Lowe's Motor Speedway in the NASCAR competition! And, we're parked right across from the speedway!

This "Queen City" region, as it's called, is jammed with Southern charm and fun things to see and do; and that's exactly what we're about! Our "Need for Speed" Rally in August (9-13), is your invitation to have fun and desperately enjoy the Prevost lifestyle with old friends and new friends.

We have a bevy of exciting and "get involved" activities planned – some favorites with a twist and some new – so if you're looking to experience the Prevost Prouds lifestyle or would like to introduce your non-Prevost coach owning friends to a "North Carolina" sampling, here's a great opportunity. Use it and you won't lose it!

Here's a brief listing of things tentatively being planned; sign-up yourself and your friends for activities like:

- **"Super Motorcar Team Challenge"** – These robotic, energized, fast moving cars are "owned" by club member teams and compete head-to-head around one of the world's fastest obstacle courses!
- **"World Series 16" Softball Championship Series!** – Single elimination tourney pits celebrity players against legends of the game... unbelievable test of stamina, coordination and drive!
- **Chile & Chicken Cook Off!** – Culinary wizards vying for recognition and bragging rights assemble their crews to compete face-to-face for the title of "Best Chile & Chicken of the Year."
- **Ladies Fashion Show** – Ladies we're "putting the pedal to the metal on this one" to provide you a fashion show luncheon that's a "memory maker."
- **Prevost Converter Coaches Displays** – Everything is being done to highlight and draw attention to world's most attractive, most outstanding motorcoach ever built!
- **President's Dinner** – We'll enjoy dining elegance at this region's premier eatery; a spot consistent with our theme!
- **Entertainment** – We're jamming with local favorites like the "Nightbeats" and others.
- **Sights & Sounds** – The Richard Childress Racing Museum is a must stop! So is a tour of Lowe's Speedway but we're also seeking out historical locales, places of distinction and maybe a walking tour or two.

Register today for this great "buddy" rally; be part of the "Need for Speed" party and have a great time!

Get ready to join us! If you're into the Prevost lifestyle or coming to find out what the lifestyle has to offer, this North Carolina rally gives you the opportunity to have an enjoyable time. The club is parked right across the street from the speedway and we've got 50/30 amp electric along with water/sewer... and only 150 sites; so let us hear from you soon!

Need a rally registration form for yourself or for a non-Prevost friend? Download one from the Prouds website at www.prevostprouds.com or contact Rick and Barbara Kent, club treasurer/membership at 501-268-1335, rkent@cswnet.com or pprouds@cswnet.com. Fill it out and let's get you on the road to North Carolina in August.



Music of the Night Banquet

A Celebration of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber

by Barbara Kent



The Pacific Palms Resort in Pomona, California was the place to be on March 22, 2006. As usual, the semi-annual Prevost Dinner was top notch. The Cocktail Reception consisted of lamb, crab legs, caviar, and shrimp cocktail hors d'oeuvres, which was just the beginning of a wonderful meal. Lobster Bisque was served white glove style, and the stations of food were adorned with huge arrangements of red roses. The first station included a warm Radicchio Salad with blue cheese, candied walnuts, apples, and cider; Grilled Asparagus Salad with roasted peppers, fennel, and prosciutto; and Baby Spinach Salad with goat cheese, croutons, cranberries, and balsamic. The entrée station consisted of Beef Wellington with wild mushrooms and truffle sauce; Stuffed Veal Loin with spinach, sun dried tomatoes, Boursin and sage sauce with mashed potatoes; and Steamed Black Bass stuffed with crayfish mousse saffron broth, and pearls of spring vegetables in a potato nest. The dessert station offered a Banana and Strawberry Crepe Crescendo with whipped cream; premium chocolate espresso; vanilla ice cream drizzled with chocolate fudge; and a trio of tarts and cakes.

The entertainment for the evening was outstanding. Norman Large, Suzi Carr George and Melissa Fahn performed rock opera from Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's works. The music included Jesus Christ Superstar, Buenos Aires, Don't Cry for Me Argentina, The Addressing of Cats, Memory, Think of Me, Phantom of The Opera/Music of The Night, Phantom Finale and Masquerade. The performances were standing ovation quality.

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The Music of the Night

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Claude Picard, VP Marketing & VIP Bus Shell Sales for Prevost Car, Inc. introduced the Prevost team, and the following converters were recognized for all of their help and support: American Carriage, Buddy Gregg, Country Coach, Featherlite Luxury Coach, Legendary Coach, Liberty Coach, Marathon Coach, Millennium Coach, Parliament Coach, and Panterra Coach.

Each year Prevost Car, Inc. has a drawing for a different fantastic prize. Past gifts have included a diamond bracelet and a wireless flat screen TV. This year's prize was a wonderful, miniature Juke Box that will download and play MP3 files. It came already loaded with many songs. Bob Small was the lucky winner.

We thank Prevost Car, Inc. for such a wonderful evening, and especially for all of their help and support.



24 First-Timers at the Las Vegas, NV Rally

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Tom & Becky Anderson | Newport Coast, CA | Bob & Judy Mixon | Sumrall, MS |
| Robert Barclay & Jo Ann Crane | Basking Ridge, NJ | Maurice & Diane Newton | Henderson, NV |
| Clayton & Kathi Bodge | Temecula, CA | Robert & Roberta Noland | Lake Charles, LA |
| Lee & Barbara Bornstein | Las Vegas, NV | James & Beverly Phelps | Kennesaw, GA |
| Russell & Roxanne Clemons | Pensacola, FL | Dale & Susan Pond | Mooresville, NC |
| Rick & Dana Day | Orange Beach, AL | David & Julie Ponkow | Buffalo, NY |
| Bob & Cly Ellis | Granbury, TX | Ron & Donna Presley | Woodstock, GA |
| Jerry & Jan Forster | Medford, OR | William & Carol Somers | Franklin, TN |
| Budgie & Gail Hamilton | Austin, TX | El & Terry Studebaker | Reno, NV |
| Andy & Kathy Leone | Hurst, TX | Jack & Linda Toledo | Visalia, CA |
| Charles & Kathy McDonald | Waco, TX | Tom & Linda West | Bend, OR |
| James & Margaret McNab | Palm Coast, FL | Terry & Nancy Williams | Oviego, FL |

Cast Venue: Las Vegas - Canegruff's Ventures

By George Lanegruff,
National Rallymaster

"What Happens in Vegas, Stays in Vegas" is probably a true statement for some club members; for most, though, it's a comment about a rally that's going to be talked about often!

It's a city that "never sleeps" and, even for the experienced adult travel worshipers (like those enjoying the Prevost lifestyle), it invariably offers something new; the quintessential playground for grown-ups, as they say.

Over 200 club members assembled at Outdoor Resorts Las Vegas, a delightfully attractive property just south and west of the Strip. A dozen and half superbly attired Prevost display coaches parked too, for a lively three-day activity schedule that involved club members doing things ranging from Texas Hold'Em poker play to ATV Olympics

Obstacle Team racing, and from dance competition to the ultimate Prevost lifestyle challenge – the Prevost Car Bus Rodeo Driving Competition! First-timers (a big bunch), emeritus rally-goers (an equally good number), and casino wizards (clubber's knowing this city's haunts well) were provided a menu of venues in which to relax, engage, watch and have fun with others.

Cool temps, blue skies and a mini-engine roar started the rally's first day just past 9 o'clock when Wayne Mullis led a group of bikers past the front gate for an all day high desert ride. Meanwhile the registration process was ably underway in the resort's spacious clubhouse. In "converter's row", with red, white and blue beads and poker playing cards in-hand, each converter began a personalized tour of respective display coaches for interested club members. (Gary & Viv Barnes captured the Party Run Poker Champs title.) Ben Mast met with the golfers and, by mid-afternoon, Connie Kossen, John Strickland and Eric Ball had convened the first-timers and their rally hosts for a friendly "meet and greet."

The traditional Converter's Welcome Social started in "converter's row" just past 4 o'clock with hosted libations by the acclaimed "Urban Tenders." After a period of "greeting and meeting", festivities continued inside the patriotic "red, white, and blue"

balloon decorated clubhouse; people renewed their friendships with club members they had not seen for a spell. Soon Roy Johnson, the Prevost Club President, officially thanked everyone for attending the rally. Carolyn Konigseder, the club's converter/dealer liaison, welcomed everyone and introduced each of the respective converter/dealers attending the rally.

Next was BBQ dinner fare. Now it was time for a bit of competitive fun! With the delightful sounds of the "Lot Boys & Girl" band emanating from the clubhouse stage, it was time for some 50 plus contestants to assemble on the clubhouse patio for a rousing Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament! When it was all said and done Viv Barnes captured first place (\$50), Martin Elshire was next (\$25), followed by Andy Leone (\$25). The evening ended in good spirits; the Marcus Cashburn-led band played great tunes (Connie Kossen even joined the band on stage for a number), more than once the spotlight focused on the newcomers, and Wendell Mathis led everyone in birthday greetings! Thanks converters for hosting an always enjoyable evening! And thanks Carolyn Konigseder for coordinating this and many other exciting Club/Converter activities including the Calendar Girls, the Jeopardy Game, the Showcase Tours, and the Club/Converter meeting.

The rally's second day, typically busy, was just that and more. It

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Las Vegas Rally

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began with breakfast in the clubhouse, a bit early in order to accommodate the Ben Mast golf troupe on their way to Aliante Golf Club in northern Las Vegas. By 9 o'clock the converter display opened and 60-minutes later the "Calendar Girl" project was underway. By 4 o'clock over 60 ladies had had their photos taken with sparkling converter display coaches to culminate in a highly attractive, if not distinctive, Prouds 2006-07 Lifestyle Calendar! There's more. It's mid-morning, smack in the middle of "converters row", and four teams are preparing to vie for the title of "ATV Olympic Obstacle Champs." After the rules are explained the "Bankers", led by a world-class strategic thinker Wendell Mathis, face off against the "Bikers", a swaggering team of tough wranglers led by Montana native Chriss Crawford. The race starts and each team's ATV charges down the pavement under the watchful eye of three of the world's most discerning judges (Bob Chalk, Bob Johnson, Betsy Reese), weaving around cones, turning on 3 wheels (sometimes only 2), stopping to toss oversized Frisbees, and delicately handling raw eggs . . . all in pursuit of the fastest time with the fewest deductions. Next up were the "Cowboys", a fiercely competitive team of aggressive men and women led by Louie Bob Davis, and the "Newbees", a newly formed band of merrymakers with Eric Ball, their proven champion. In the end, notwithstanding the valiant efforts of all the teams and a

scorecard, the "Cowboys" comprised of Al Wawak, Mario LaPoma, Clarence Clanton, Les Lagerquist, Terry White, Arlene Rose, Susan Ball, Leon Smith, Bob Clark, Jan Forster, Kathy Leone, John Strickland, and Rick Kent were the clear winners!

After a quick lunch break and a great many "back pats", it was back to "converter row" and the start of the infamous Prevost Car Bus Rodeo Driving Competition. Bill Jensen and Kevin Laughlin, specialists in driving competition course design, put in place an exacting, if not demanding, course for both ladies and gents. Judging is clear, said Bill, "less faults and less time" wins!

The ladies went first; six completed the course and when the dust settled Betsy Reese, with an elapsed time of 6:49, finished first! Now the men; after sixteen contestants and two plus hours, Allen Wawak emerged victorious with an elapsed time of 3:07.

By mid-day music drifted over to "converters row". Two professional dance instructors, Kim Sakren and Marcus Bugler, were in the clubhouse with music-in-hand and dance lessons in tow, in preparation for tonight's fabulous musical entertainment. The Drifters were first and then it was "Dance with the Stars Night" . . . Prouds Style! Kim and Marcus gathered their group and took everyone through the Country Western 2-step, Jitterbug/Swing,

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Ballroom/Waltz and Latin (Salsa/Merengue); it was a hoot and a great indicator of the fun to come later that evening.

With an ORLV libation or two (Outdoor Resorts Las Vegas sponsored tonight's cocktail hour before and after the show) and a fabulous seat, the 5 o'clock Drifters performance was ready to go! The performance of this Rock and Roll Hall of Fame group was fantastic! Singing a medley of old favorites in such a personable, up-close and off-the-stage way was smashing; a definite memory maker! The Drifters set a wonderful tone that got everyone in a great mood for the rest of night and, for that matter, the rally. Dinner was served immediately after the group left and soon it was time for dancing.

Dance we did! A "Congo Line" got things underway, a dramatic opening set the scene, demo's by the professionals and four types of dancing fun – country western, jitterbug/swing, ballroom/waltz, and Latin – offered something for everyone! For each type of dance there was a bit of "all in fun" competition hosted by three of the most honored and revered judges in Proudsland, Carolyn & Bud McCollum and Barry Gerson. Using two telephone "call-in" numbers for the "public vote", the judges unmistakably selected outstanding dance winners in each of the four categories . . . it was fun to watch all the dancers, it was fun to watch the professionals strut their stuff, it was fun watching the votes tally up as

the judges cell phone usage increased . . . it was simply an enjoyable evening.

The next day saw the Texas Prevosts raise their 9 o'clock morning meeting flag under the stellar leadership of Patty & Ken Urban. Immediately following was the Prouds official business meeting which features reports and updates.

Thereafter the ladies boarded buses destined for a luncheon fashion show at none other than Neiman Marcus. Escorted to the second floor Mariposa Restaurant, the ladies succumbed to a delightful lunch with wine and a collection of fashions "to die for." After the formal presentation there was bit of time for the ladies to do some browsing which, for a few, resulted in some memorable "Las Vegas items?" Meanwhile, back at the clubhouse, the men enjoyed a deli lunch and an updated version of the Prevost Car Techtalk seminar now titled "News to Use." Taught by the esteemed Prevost Car tech guru's, Robert Buchwalter and Robert Hitt, the session featured "Ten Things Every Prevost Owner Should Know".

Mid-afternoon it was quiet in the "city that never sleeps", but by 6 o'clock club members were off-loading at Wynn Las Vegas Resort and, after a modest walk, assembling in the new and elegantly appointed Margaux Ballroom for the President's Dinner gala. The ballroom was spacious as was the veranda which overlooked the Wynn's new golf course and the 18th hole waterfall; the setting was very comfortable. After socializing, the evening got underway with Roy Johnson, the club president, again thanking people for their attendance, the contribution of volunteers, and the support by Prevost Car, Inc. Roy

then introduced Gaeton Bolduc, President and CEO of Prevost Car, Inc., who took the opportunity to accentuate his company's support of the Prouds and recognized staff in attendance at the rally, including the incomparable Gisele Roy, infallible Steve Zeigler, and two gracious and distinguished "Prevost Car Legends" Mike Rochette and Guy Sirois.

Following dinner things picked up and Mario was asked if he's still hoping to find his pocket knife; Stu Carlson and Bob Clark were recognized for their "flying the friendly skies" heritage; Carolyn and Bud's cell phone number was given out again for people to call; Ben Mast, Andy Leone and Brian Griffith were recognized as the winning golf trio; and then it was time for "Converter Jeopardy Trivia", a series of challenging questions posed to each "table team." After answering questions like "this company's owner often rides his bicycle to work" and "the owners of this company can be found playing in the sand on their dirt bikes" and "the owner of this company relaxes at about 110 mph riding motorcycles on the track", answers were graded and scores tallied resulting in a winning "table team" comprised of Dottie & John Harris, Rayford & Betsy Reese, Paul & Patty Marianetti and Rick & Jane Mueller. After a bit of laughter it was time to call it a night. People left the property having an enjoyable time.

This rally ended the following day with a "free day and evening" following breakfast. Rumor has it that for some it was jam packed with interesting activity options, it afforded plenty of time to interact with friends, and the mood was upbeat and fun; the kind of thing you'd want to attend again.



PREVOST RIDING THE RAILS

February was an exciting month for twenty-one families who own Prevosts - they spent two weeks exploring the northeast area of Mexico, including five days with the coaches aboard flat-bed rail cars.

The piggyback Copper Canyon caravan had been a dream for many Prevost owners, but concerns about the logistics of loading a 50,000 pound bus on a rail car had prevented most of them from taking the trip. But, in early November, a rare opportunity was presented by Fantasy RV Tours. Fantasy was confident that they could escort a caravan of buses on their piggyback excursion. After many questions, the trip was scheduled, and within a few weeks the caravan was fully booked.

The group assembled in El Paso, crossed the border, and headed to Mexico's modern city of Chihuahua, where they visited Pancho Villa's home and the legislative building. Next, they spent a day in a Mennonite community, where they toured a school, church and home. The Mennonite ladies even fixed several meals for the visitors.

Then came the exciting day when all the coaches were driven onto the rail cars. All were loaded within a half day and the remaining part of that day was spent celebrating and socializing. Early the next morning the rail cars were connected, and they were on their way. Some of the couples sat in lounge chairs in front of their coach on the rail car and watched the amazing scenery go by. For five days they saw the awesome mountains and canyons of Mexico from the luxury of their coach. For many of the guys, it was the first time that they left the driving to someone else!



The final Mexican destination was San Carlos, where the group spent several days in a luxury RV campground. It was truly "the trip of a lifetime"!



Travel Safe & Smart

by Bill Jensen, Service Manager,
VIP Bus Shell Division

With summer weather and travel just around the corner, it is time to check over your motorhome and prepare. Normal service to the vehicle should be done before any long trips. Check the air pressure in your tires as this is one of the many things that can be forgotten when getting out on the highway. It affects your fuel mileage and definitely affects your tire wear.

When you travel down the road, the vehicle generally should ride level. That is the way it is set. If the vehicle rides nose up or rear down it is not properly set.

When you stop for the night and level the vehicle remember that the system's name is "level-low". Ideally you lower the vehicle only as much as is necessary to attain level. The vehicle also goes down further and more easily than trying to raise it. When you get ready to leave and put the system into "drive", you can raise the tag axle via its lever to allow the front to rise more quickly. When it is up, reset the tag lift lever to its normal position. Also we do not make the tag axle to rise off the ground on the 45 foot vehicles when it is activated.

Remember that we don't make the steering on the vehicle able to turn the front wheels without some forward or rearward movement. This is due to the greater weight carried on the front axle in all the newer vehicles.

When you are out on your trips, remember that the motor coach portion of your motorhome conversion is a heavy duty vehicle. Because of this you cannot find the correct fluids at a Wal-Mart or an automotive parts store. You need the formulations for heavy duty diesel engines, both in the coolant that is used and the type oil put in. These should be available at any truck stop.

Check your spare parts kit for a complete set of spare belts. Check to see if they are the correct

ones for your vehicle. Finding the right belt on the road is a challenge.

When you took delivery of your vehicle you should have received an owner's manual and a set of electrical diagrams, in addition to a maintenance manual and a parts manual. The owner's manual and the electrical diagrams give you the information you need while operating the motor coach to help with problems. If you have a problem on the road, most technicians will need the electrical diagrams to troubleshoot the problem. The owner's manual has the information needed to operate the vehicle properly and the guidelines for finding the problem. Find them and keep them in a place that is available to you.

And finally, keep an entrance door dead bolt key somewhere outside the vehicle. While the system is reliable, it can fail and lock you out of your motorhome. As this dead bolt is a security lock, you cannot just get a locksmith to cut a new key. A set of keys would be best outside the vehicle, but accessible to you if needed.

As always drive safely and enjoy the long, open roads of this continent!!!!



MEMBERSHIP REPORT • LAS VEGAS, NV • 2006 Rally

Anderson, Thomas & Rebecca . . .Newport Coast, CA
Bailey, Clyde & AudreySanford, FL
Barclay, R. Francis & JoAnnBasking Ridge, NJ
Beard, William & CarolynnModesto, CA
Bodge, Clayton & KathiTemecula, CA
Bornstein, Lee & BarbaraLas Vegas, NV
Clemons, Russell & RoxannePensacola, FL
Ellis, Bob & Clydene CarterGranbury, TX
Erickson, James & JorjaClarion, IA
Farmer, Leon & BeatriceMoore Haven, FL
Forster, Jerome & JanetMedford, OR
Frye, Glenn & SueBozeman, MT
Gilchrist, Frank & BarbaraHouston, TX
Haas, David & LindaFt. Myers, FL
Hamilton, Budgie & GailAustin, TX
Hill, Merle & JayneMedina, WA
Johnson, Gary & BernadetteSebring, FL
Johnson, MelvinBoaz, AL
LaFave, Earl & RosemarySouth Lyon, MI
Lambert, Thomas & LauraPalm City, FL
Laye, Ken & MitziColleyville, TX
Leone, Andy & KathyHurst, TX
Linebarger, Dale & LibbyAustin, TX

Lohman, Larry & DeanNaples, FL
Makin, RobertAngola, IN
McDonald, Charles & KathyWaco, TX
McNab, Jim & MargaretPalm Coast, FL
Merritt, Jack & SharonHuntington Beach, CA
Nale, Jim & BarbaraSan Marcos, CA
Newton, Maurice & DianeHenderson, NV
Omdoll, James & JackyPalmyra, WI
Orlandi, Paolo & CynthiaIndio, CA
Phelps, James & BeverlyKennesaw, GA
Schaible, Raymond & JanetCleves, OH
Scheidleman, John & KarenColumbia City, IN
Self, Tom & JaneSouth Daytona, FL
Smith, Elliott & DianeSt. Augustine, FL
Smith, H. John & EvelynNoble, OK
Somers, William & CarolFranklin, TN
Studebaker, Elwin & TerryReno, NV
Swedenburg, Rex & PattieColumbus, MS
Tolley, George & NaomiStuart, FL
Van Voorhis, Kenneth & BarbaraBrandon, FL
Volberding, Ron & LaurelElgin, IL
West, Tom & LindaBend, OR
Wilkins, Steve & MarybethVacaville, CA

In the past eight months from August, 2005 through March, 2006 forty-six new members have joined our club. We wish to extend all these new members a **BIG WELCOME** into our proud family of Prevost coach owners.

A Word From Prevost

by Claude Picard, Vice-President,
Marketing and VIP Bus Shell Sales



It was with disappointment that I missed the last Prouds Rally in Vegas. I was looking forward to seeing all of you again and sharing some fun moments. It was even more disappointing after I heard how much fun it was. It seems to me that we are seeing new levels of enthusiasm among the members, which is great for all of us.

But fortunately, I was able to attend the Prevost Customer Appreciation Dinner in Pomona the following week. It was good to see good friends even though it was for a short while.

As some of you know, the reason I could not make it to Vegas was that I was invited to attend an event called "The Volvo Group Dialogue". Along with 80 other Volvo managers from all over the world, I had the opportunity to hear Volvo's Chairman, Mr. Leif Johansson, share his vision of the future. Then we had a chance to share our views of the challenges ahead.

For me, this was a very insightful experience. It made me appreciate even more the strength and depth of our parent company as a world leader in heavy vehicles and equipment. Volvo has positioned itself over the last 10 years to become the best in every market they have targeted. Like Prevost, Volvo is not an "everything to everybody" type of company.

They have targeted specific markets that are demanding and that require the highest quality standards from their products and services.

That is when I realized how well the Prevost values fit with those of Volvo, and this translates in a very bright future for Prevost and Prevost motorhome enthusiasts. It gives us access to all the technology this company has to offer from high tech engines, hybrid drives, state-of-the-art electronics, and telematic solutions. This is great!

But to come back to the Prevost Prouds, it is very exciting to see how things are shaping up for Charlotte next August. The "buddy concept" is a great way to bring in good friends to experience the Prevost lifestyle. As Prevost Prouds members, we all have a responsibility to do something to make each event successful. I encourage everyone to participate in the rally and to make every effort to bring potential new members to our club.

I wish you all a lot of happy miles.

See you in Charlotte!



THE SUNSHINE REPORT

by *Connie Kossen, Sunshine Lady*

Prevost Prouds lost three wonderful members since the last rally. They were regulars at our rallies, and they will really be missed.

Al Wetter of Scottsdale, AZ died in November, 2005
Bob Stahlman of New Braunfels, TX died in January, 2006
Walt Kee of Lake Havasu City, AZ, died in February, 2006

Several members have had hospital stays since we last met:

Shirley Mathis, Abilene, TX, has a new pacemaker
Bill Woody, Burnet, TX, has had by-pass surgery
George Hutton, North Palm Beach, FL, has had by-pass surgery
Bob Small, Charlotte, MI, has had hernia surgery
Linda Watson, Treasure Island, FL, has had a heart "scare"
Tom Kossen, Edwards, MS, has had shoulder surgery
Dave Beck, Columbus, OH, has had by-pass surgery

Currently, **Linda Banthrall** is having chemo treatment for lung cancer.

If you have been sick and you are not on this list, we didn't know. So, don't go hide in the hospital! Let us know so we can keep in touch. E-mail me at ckossen@kossenequipment.com.

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Fax: 418-883-4157 (Administration)

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**CHEERS FOR OUR
LAS VEGAS, NV 2006
COMMERCIAL
MEMBERS!**



Jack & Belle Schneiker

National Director's Corner

by Jack Schneiker, FMCA National Director

FMCA's 75th International Convention, dubbed "Celebrating Family", took place March 19-23, 2006 at the Fairplex in Pomona, CA. Our theme for this Convention was "Celebrating Family." The family and commercial events were set-up and designed to provide you with many memorable moments with our FMCA Families.

To compliment the great display of the latest motorhomes, there were many educational seminars as well as craft classes, tours of local attractions and outstanding evening entertainment. Prevost Car, Inc., with their many converters and dealers, as always received an A+ rating. In addition, many of our Prevost owners asked that we extend an extra 'Thank You' from all of us for the Prevost Car Banquet. The Prevost Prouds are looking forward to another "Factory Rally" in Canada in July, 2008!!!

Our Winter Convention at the California Fairplex drew 4,258 registered motorhomes, which included 2,883 Family coaches and 1,375 Commercial coaches. Nationally we have issued over 375,000 Goose Eggs and currently we have 485 active Chapters.

THANKS VOLUNTEERS!!! FMCA Conventions would not be possible without the help of many volunteers. An extra word of thanks from you to the greeters, parking crew members, tram operators, etc, is always greatly appreciated.

Remember... "Recruiting has its Rewards". When you spread the word about FMCA and all the great reasons for belonging to the world's largest and finest motorhome owner's organization, your motorhoming friends reap the benefits; plus, YOU receive some FREE STUFF,

too. The rewards keep coming as you keep recruiting. By recruiting a new member you can get a FREE U.S. ATLAS -- FREE \$10 Coupon -- FREE Years Membership in FMCA for every 5 New Families you recruit (2 per calendar year) and -- FREE Lapel Pins. Once you reach the 100-Member Level, you can join the Exclusive 100 Plus FMCA Membership Chapter and receive FREE His & Her FMCA watches!

Call Membership Services at 800-543-3622 for a Recruitment Tool Kit & Application Brochures to help you introduce other motorhome owners to FMCA and the Prevost Prouds.

LOOK AHEAD!!! Be sure to REGISTER early for the Prevost Prouds Rally and for the FMCA Convention at the Lowe's Motor Speedway, August 14-17, 2006 just outside of Charlotte, NC. Call Rick Kent at 501-268-1335 today for full information and registration.

FMCA APPROVED CONVENTION SITES

FMCA's 76th Summer International Convention
August 14-17, 2006 Lowe's Motor Speedway Charlotte, NC
Caravans enter Saturday August 12th

FMCA's 77th Winter International Convention
March 19-22, 2007 Georgia National Fairgrounds Perry, GA
Caravans enter Saturday March 17th

FMCA's 78th Summer International Convention
August 13-16, 2007 Deschutes Co. Fairgrounds Redmond, OR
Caravans Enter Saturday August 11th

FMCA's 79th Winter International Convention
February 25-28, 2008 Los Angeles Fairplex Pomona, CA
Caravans enter Saturday February 23rd

FMCA's 80th Summer International Convention
July 14-17, 2008 Minnesota State Fairgrounds St. Paul, MN
Caravans enter Saturday July 12th

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Les Lagerquist

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March 2006

Las Vegas, NV Rally

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SUNSHINE

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