

Spring 2010

Special points
of interest:

- 2010 Calgary Rally
- Membership Dues
- Open Positions

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gene940@msn.com

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jbirchall@bellsouth.net

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ClassyWheels

From the President's Desk

Boy, what a Winter! Down South, we always get a few days of cold weather. Usually, about ten days during the year it will get below freezing, even down in the teens, but two weeks in secession!! I don't recall that ever. We even ran off to Tampa, FL, for a couple of weeks and it was cold there.

While in Tampa, we attended the Tampa RV Supershow and worked with the SportChassis display. Thanks to Southpoint SportChassis of Sarasota, FL, and owner Don Urfer for allowing us to represent SOAI at his booth. We handed out seven applications to SportChassis owners and prospective members of SOAI. Our friend, Fred Pozezniak, was on hand as a sales representative for Southpoint and Scott Farmer was on board representing SportChassis, Clinton, OK.

This Association is your Club. I am asking you, what do you expect from your club? What should your officers do for you?

I have had inquiries as to why we only have one rally, saying, "I live on the East coast. Why have a rally in the West? (and visa versa) That is too far to go."

So I ask you, would you like to have



Regions, having Regional Rallies? Even State Clubs with State Rallies? I personally would like to see more gatherings. Regardless of whether we establish Regional or State Chapters, we would still have our International Rally with the business meeting.

Would you volunteer to manage a Regional or State chapter? Of course, all members, regardless of where they are from, could attend any Regional or State Rally.

Please let us know your thoughts.

Recently I appointed three members, approved by the Board, to serve as a nominating committee to select candidates for President, Secretary, Treasurer and Member Representative to be elected during our annual business meeting, 2010, to be held at our Rally in Calgary in July. Appointees are Jim Mitchell, Bob Little and Steve Bates. When you are contacted, please step up and volunteer to one of the po-

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From the President (Continued)

sitions. If you are not contacted, but would like to serve, PLEASE, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the nominating committee. We need your support. Without it, our club can't survive.

Our annual Rally and Business meeting is approaching fast. It will be time to start traveling to the Ranch of Clint and Beverly Havens before we know it. I know that we are all looking forward the experience of seeing our friends again and attending the Calgary Stampede. Clint and Beverly have been working hard to give us a Rally that we will not soon forget. It is hard to wait.

Be sure to check your Passport to be sure it is up to date, and if you are planning to take pets, be sure their shots and papers are current and with you. Check with your insurer of your truck and trailer and your medical insurer, that you are covered. We surely want you covered, if, heaven forbid, coverage should be needed.

To help Clint and Beverley with door prizes, as you travel around, ask for items that could be used. If you stay at a campground you enjoy, ask for a couple of days for a door prize. Most campgrounds will gladly contribute. After all, it is good advertisement for them.

Speaking of Clint, he had a heart attack recently, but thanks to quick attention, he was taken care of and in his hospital room within three hours. The good news is, he is home and doing just great. It appears there is no permanent damage. He and Beverley assure us they are able and raring to host the Rally in July.

Stan Winters, the husband of our former Treasurer, Beverly Winters, has been diagnosed with cancer of the larynx. Stan had surgery on Feb. 3, followed by treatment to be sure all cells are removed.

We send out our prayers as well as wish for both a speedy and complete recovery.

We also pray that all our members are in good health and are enjoying SAFE travels. Looking forward to seeing YOU in Calgary.....



Editor Note: Some of the fantastic scenery in Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada. These photos were taken in May 2007 on our trip thru Canada to Alaska.



Photos by Carol J. Little

Treasurer

Gwen, with the help of Jack, has been hard at work getting the books set up in a manner they feel will make it easy for them to provide an accounting to the members. They have a system in place now that will make future transitions from one treasurer to another smooth and easy.

You are reminded that membership is on a calendar basis. Those of you who have not renewed are requested to fill out the Membership form found in the newsletter and remit with your check to Gwen as soon as possible.

It is also important that you send your 2010 Rally Registration form and check to Gwenn soon to be sure that your ticket to the Stampede is held for you. The Calgary Stampede is a major event attended by people from around the world. Our Rally Masters need to know the number of attendees so they can firm up the plans for the rally.

Don't forget to notify Gwen if there is any change in your home or email address and telephone numbers. All information you provide is considered confidential and will not be released. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



Gwen Birchall—Treasurer

2010 Calgary Rally

Our Rally Masters, Clint and Beverley Havens have been finalizing the plans for the Calgary Rally.

They have 50 tickets for the Stampede so if you have not sent in your registration form and check, you better get it in the mail to our Treasurer. We wouldn't want you to miss all the fun. Don't forget that you will need a Passport and it does take some time to get the paperwork processed. I hope you have your passport and have checked to be sure you understand current laws governing travel out of the US and into Canada. Our Rally will run from July 12 to July 18 but the Stampede runs from July 9 to July 18. There are two websites you should check out: 1- Department of State website: <http://travel.state.gov>. There are several tabs on the site with important information and I suggest that you spend some time checking out the helpful tips. We want to see you prepared. The 2nd

website will provide you with information on the Province of Alberta and it is: www.travelalberta.com. Another good website which is specifically about the stampede is: <http://cs.calgarystampede.com/>



Athabasca Falls in Jasper National Park just south of the town of Jasper. To view the falls, it is just a short walk off Ice Field Parkway in Alberta, Canada.



Crossing the Border at Coutts, Alberta



This could be your truck/camper in a beautiful campground with a view of the fantastic Canadian Rockies. [Get your reservation in for the Calgary Rally.](#) Our rig in a campground near Banff National Park.

Photos by Carol J. Little

SOA Website



I have been rather busy with family and actions at home and I have not had time to work on our Photo Gallery section of the website. We really need someone to step up to the plate and volunteer to be our Webmaster. If you have sent me a picture of your rig and it is not yet showing on the site, please accept my apologies. I will try to work on the site before we leave for Calgary. There are a few pictures there of member rigs so check them out. If you have any suggestions for improvements to the site, please enter a comment under the "General" section.

The position of Webmaster is vacant. Please contact the President if you are interested in the position. The position does not require that you be an "expert" computer guru. Working knowledge of computer and internet will suffice. We are very fortunate in that we have Hiren Patel, an outstanding Information Technology representative, at SportChassis who will assist our Webmaster.

Recommended Restaurants, Campgrounds or Service Centers

I would like to continue this section of the newsletter but I really do need some input from members. I still think it is a great idea to share with other members places that we would recommend to friends. It could be restaurants, campgrounds, or places to get service on our trucks or campers. In addition, we can also use this section to tell our friends about places that should be avoided. I cannot understand why no one has provided any input for this section of our newsletter. I have heard many of you talk about great campgrounds and restaurants you have encountered while travelling. I know that a lot of you spend a lot of time travelling our beautiful country. Please take a little of your time and send me some input for this column. If you have a place to recommend or one to avoid, please send me an e-mail or give me a telephone call with the information. I feel sure other SOAI members would appreciate your views.

Nominating Committee

Our SOAI President, Gene Richardson, appointed a committee consisting of Steve Bates, Bob Little and Jim Mitchell to identify members to be placed on the election ballot. The Annual Business Meeting for the Association is always held in conjunction with our Annual National Rally and it is when the various elected positions of the Association are filled. The ballot for this year will cover the positions of: President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Representative #1.

The committee members have had a few telephone conferences discussing various members who they thought might be interested in having their names on the ballot. They have also had telephone conversations with several individuals who have declined to be listed on the ballot.

One in particular being none other than Bob Little. It seems my husband feels one in the family devoting time to the Association is enough. He helps by cooking meals and doing other domestic chores for me while I am busy at the computer working on the newsletter or talking to members on the phone. I can't say that I disagree with his decision not to run for office because I just don't have the time to be our editor and also handle business related to another office of the Association! Most of you women will understand what I mean. It just seems that husbands always need help getting things done! Now don't you guys get bent out of shape, I say that with a smile on my face. 😊

Getting serious once again, a lot of work to help improve the operations of our Association has taken place over the past few years. One of the major efforts was the complete revision of the By-Laws. Several people on that committee spent untold hours in revising the By-Laws which were approved at last year's Annual Meeting in Clinton, OK. Our former Treasurer, Bev Winters, spent time revising the manner in which the financial records are managed and that effort has been continued by Gwen Birchall. Their goal has been to establish a system that could easily be taken over by anyone succeeding them in the Treasurer position.

So, it is my opinion, that the groundwork has been accomplished so that the business of SOAI will run smoothly. I would like to encourage you to get involved with our Association. It really can be fun! Like most retirees, I have so many projects going that it is sometimes hard for me to find the time to write the newsletter and Bob has to hear me moan and groan. However, being the Editor has enabled me to get to know so many of our members. I have met many of you at the last four Annual Rallies and also gotten to know several of you by our phone conversations and emails. My work with the Association has resulted in some wonderful friendships.

I sincerely hope you will consider getting your name on the ballot. If you have not been contacted, please send me an email or give me a call and I will give your name to the Nominating Committee.

Rain and Driving

The following information was provided by SOAI Member Barbara Bullinger.

GOOD VISION IN A DOWNPOUR

#1: How to easily achieve good vision while driving during a heavy downpour...

We are not sure why it is so effective; just try this when it rains heavily. This method was told by a Police friend who had experienced and confirmed it.

Note: It is useful, even when driving at night. Most of the motorists would turn on HIGH or FASTEST SPEED of the wipers during heavy downpour, yet the visibility in front of the windshield is still bad... Don't do it. Listen:

In the event you face such a situation, just try your SUNGLASSES (any model will do), and miracle of miracles occurs! All of a sudden, your visibility in front of your windshield is perfectly clear, as if there is no rain.

Make sure you always have a pair of SUNGLASSES in your car, as you are not only helping yourself to drive safely with good vision, but also might save your friend's life by giving him this idea. Try it yourself and share it with your friends!

Amazingly you still see the drops on the windshield, but not the sheet of rain falling!

You can actually see where the rain bounces off the road. It works to eliminate the blindness from passing semi's spraying you too. Or the "kick-up" if you are following a semi or car in the rain.

They ought to teach that "little" tip in driver's training... It really does work!

#2:

This warning is another good one! I wonder how many people know about this.

A 36 year old female had an accident several weeks ago and totaled her car. A resident of Kilgore, TX and she was traveling between Gladewater & Kilgore.

It was raining, though not excessively, when her car suddenly began to hydro-plane and literally flew through the air. She was not seriously injured but very stunned at the sudden occurrence!

When she explained to the highway patrolman what had happened he told her something that every driver should know - NEVER DRIVE IN THE RAIN WITH YOUR CRUISE CONTROL ON. She thought she was being cautious by setting the cruise control and maintaining a safe consistent speed in the rain.

But the highway patrolman told her that if the cruise control is on when your car begins to hydro-plane and your tires lose contact with the pavement, your car will accelerate to a higher rate of speed making you take off like an airplane. She told the patrolman that was exactly what had occurred.

The patrolman said this warning should be listed, on the driver's seat sun-visor -NEVER USE THE CRUISE CONTROL WHEN THE PAVEMENT IS WET OR ICY, along with the airbag warning. We tell our teenagers to set the cruise control and drive a safe speed - but we don't tell them to use the cruise control only when the pavement is dry.

The only person the accident victim found, who knew this (besides the patrolman), was a man who had a similar accident, totaled his car and sustained severe injuries.

Some vehicles, like the Toyota Sienna Limited XLE, will not allow you to set the cruise control when the windshield wipers are on. Good for Toyota. Other car manufacturers should integrate this life-saving feature.

Editor Note: Barbara sent me this information in an email and I could not verify a source or it's accuracy.

Get Well

Get well wishes are extended to any and all members who might be "under the weather". I am happy to report that Rob Renner is doing well and we will see him and Sharon in Calgary. Special wishes and prayers go out to Stan Winters and to Clint Havens.



Favorite Recipes



Photographer: [m_bartosch](#)

Food photos from
FreeDigitalPhotos.net



Photographer: [Suat Eman](#)

**Please send me
some of your
favorite recipes!
I would like to
put in some
recipes that are
unique to your
part of the
country.**

Ham 'n Cheese Omelet Bake

Ingredients:

1 box (10 oz) Green Giant® frozen broccoli & cheese flavored sauce
1 can (10.2 oz) Pillsbury® Grands!® Flaky Layers refrigerated original biscuits
10 Eggland's Best eggs
1 1/2 cups milk
1 teaspoon ground mustard
Salt and pepper, if desired
2 cups diced cooked ham
1/3 cup chopped onion
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (4 oz)
1 cup shredded Swiss cheese (4 oz)
1 jar (4.5 oz) Green Giant® sliced mushrooms, drained

Preparation:

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Cut small slit in center of broccoli & cheese sauce pouch.

Microwave on High 3 to 4 minutes, rotating pouch 1/4 turn once halfway through microwaving. Set aside to cool slightly.

2. Meanwhile, spray bottom only of 13x9-inch (3-quart) glass baking dish with CRISCO® Original No-Stick Cooking Spray. Separate dough into 5 biscuits. Cut each biscuit into 8 pieces; arrange evenly in dish.

3. In large bowl, beat eggs, milk, mustard, salt and pepper with wire whisk until well blended. Stir in ham, onion, cheeses, mushrooms and cooked broccoli & cheese sauce. Pour mixture over biscuit pieces in dish. Press down with back of spoon, making sure all biscuit pieces are covered with egg mixture.

4. Bake 40 to 50 minutes or until edges are deep golden brown and center is set. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Cut into squares.

5. High Altitude (3500-6500 ft): Heat oven to 375°F.

6. Yield—8 servings.

Busy Day Barbeque Chicken

Ingredients:

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts cut into strips
1/2 cup ketchup
1 (4 ounce) can tomato sauce
1 tablespoon brown sugar
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon onion powder
1 teaspoon dried mustard
1 teaspoon hot pepper sauce
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

Preparation:

1. Place chicken pieces in bottom of Crock Pot cooker.

2. Combine remaining ingredients and pour oven chicken.

3. Cover and cook on low for 8 to 10 hours.

4. When almost finished, chicken can be shredded for serving on buns.

Southern Deep Dish Cobbler

Ingredients:

1 stick of butter
1 Cup of Sugar
1 Cup of Milk
1 Cup flour
1 Large can of peaches

Preparation:

Mix all the ingredients up in an oven-safe deep dish (like a 3 liter corning ware dish) and then pour the can of peaches in the middle.

Cook at 350 degrees until the crust is golden brown.

The mixture will cover the peaches as it cooks.

Top with vanilla ice cream and enjoy. Serves 4 to 6

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

SportChassis Owners Association International, Inc.

NEW MEMBERS ONLY

If You Join In ...	Pay This Amount	Pays You Through...
☐ January - May	\$35.00*	December 31 of Current Year
☐ June - September	\$30.00*	December 31 of Current Year
☐ October - December	\$40.00*	December of Following Year

*Includes a First Year Start-Up Fee of \$10.00

RENEWALS ONLY

Renewal	\$25.00	One Calendar Year
Renewal	\$70.00	Three Calendar Years

Please Remember Regarding Annual and Three Year Dues
When you renew, whether at the beginning of the Annual Year
or during the year, the dues remain the same.
All Dues Must be Paid On or Before January 31

Check or Money Order enclosed for \$

Enclose Your Check or Money Order and Mail To:

SOAI
C/O Gwen Birchall
5131 Pine Branch Pt.
Dunwoody, GA 30338

Application for Membership or Renewal:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone: Home _____ Cell _____
Spouse Cell _____
E-Mail Address _____
Birthdate _____ Anniversary _____
Spouse Birthdate _____ Name _____

Membership in the SportChassis Owners Association International is limited to owners of tow vehicles manufactured by Freightliner Specialty Vehicles, Inc. in Clinton, Oklahoma or made by Cabriolet in Consta Michigan. I am the owner of the following SportChassis/Cabriolet tow vehicle

Year _____ Model _____ VIN # _____

Would you be interested in being an Officer? _____

SPORTCHASSIS OWNER'S ASSOCIATION

8th ANNUAL RALLY

JULY 12th - JULY 18th 2010

Rally Masters: Clint & Beverley Havens – ckhavens@efirehose.net

Clint's phone 403-226-0937 Beverley's phone 403-554-0937

Canada Phone Numbers

Location:

Balzac, Alberta

Canada, T0M 0E0

RESERVATION DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2010

COST:

Rig & 2 People - \$600.00

Rig & 1 Person - \$300.00

Extra Person - \$300.00

The Rally will be held on Clint and Beverley's ranch. Water and electric will be available but no sewer hookups. Arrangements will be made to have a truck come and pump holding tanks, if necessary. Early arrival and extended stay will not be a problem, just let Clint and Beverley know your plans.

Fee Includes: Excellent tickets to the Calgary Stampede Rodeo, Chuck-Wagon Dinner and Grandstand Show. 6 nights with water and electric hook-up. Three dinners, three breakfasts, one night of special entertainment at the ranch, and Door Prizes. We will also be selling 50/50 chances.

Note: Only 50 tickets for the Stampede activities have been purchased so get your reservations in early. Additional tickets can be purchased by Beverley but they will not be as good and will not be with our group.

RETURN REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

SportChassis Owner's Association International

Attn: Rally Registration

C/O Gwen Birchall

5131 Pine Branch Pt.

Dunwoody, GA 30334

2010 RALLY REGISTRATION FORM

PRINT OR TYPE

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

TRUCK VIN # _____ MODEL _____ YEAR _____

(For SportChassis Information)

OTHER ATTENDEES:

NAME: _____ NAME: _____

NAME: _____ NAME: _____

NUMBER IN PARTY: ADULTS _____ CHILDREN _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ CHECK # _____

****Volunteer to Help _____** Please call Clint or Beverley Havens—403-226-0937 (Canada #) or Email them at: ckhavens@efirehose.net

Handicap Consideration Required _____ (Yes or No)

I understand that neither Freightliner Specialty Vehicles, Inc., The SportChassis Owners Association International, or its Club Officers assumes responsibility directly or indirectly for use or operation of vehicle or RV going to, or from, or during the rally; for losses involving personal belongings, vehicle or RV due to any cause whatsoever, or for injury to persons within or without the rally; or for damage of any kind.

NOTE: *All adult members & their guests must sign and in doing so, assume ALL responsibility for all minors in their care.*

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Mail Completed Form to:

SOA

C/O Gwen Birchall

5131 Pine Branch Pt.

Dunwoody, GA 30338

SportChassis Owner's Association
C/O Gwen Birchall
5131 Pine Branch Pt.
Dunwoody, GA 30338

