

Spring 2011

Special points
of interest:

- 2010 Calgary Rally
- Membership Dues
- Open Positions

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Last Page

ClassyWheels



From the President's Desk

The new year, 2011, is here! We hope you all enjoyed ringing in the New Year. We certainly did, even though we were at home. Those of you that were on the road, I hope you were in a warm climate. Although, I suspect that most of you had a white Christmas, as we did in Georgia. The weather has been very unpredictable and unusual this season. We are again covered up in snow and ice, even as I write this. So here's hoping you all have a safe, warm place to wait out this winter weather.

Lets go back to July and our 2010 Calgary Rally hosted by Jim and Jo Mitchell, and Clint and Beverley Havens. The unforgettable event was held on the Havens' Ranch in Balzac, Alberta, Canada. There were 15 rigs in attendance. What a great time we were shown by our hosts. The Havens ran water and electricity for us on a portion of their property next to their beautiful house. They opened their home to us, using their huge garage for our dining, entertainment and meetings. The food was wonderful and the entertainment was outstanding. Also, if you



have never been to the Calgary Stampede, it is well worth the effort to go. We wish you all could have been there. The weather was rainy, windy, cool, sunny (all of them), but we couldn't have asked for more warmer hospitality than we received from our hosts. Many thanks Jim, Jo, Clint and Beverley. Job well done.

A warm welcome was given to new members and first time Rally attendees, Dixie and Sam Saunders, and Lionel Labelle. Lionel's wife had to work and was unable to attend. Perhaps she will be able to attend during 2011. We were also honored that Diana and Paul Mitchell brought Jared, one of their grandsons. Thanks Diana and Paul. Everyone, including Lizzie, enjoyed Jared so much.

During the Business meeting, Dottie Kappers was elected as member representa-

“Currently, positions open for nominations will be VP, Treasurer, and Member Representative.”

“Our next Rally will be held in Elk City, OK Sep5-10”.



Paul & Diana Reynolds grandson, Jared.

From the President (Continued)

tive to the Board of Directors for two years, Jack Birchall as Treasurer for 1 year to fulfill the rest of Beverly Winters term, Don Manthei as Vice President to complete Jack Birchall's remaining year, Sue Stevenson as Secretary for two years and Gene Richardson as President for two years. Jim Mitchell will serve as Parliamentarian. Joleen Hart was appointed as Web Master. Please send a photo of your rig to Joleen to be published on the Web. Joleen's email address is hart@vcn.com

This was our first trip into Canada with our new camper, and we were truly impressed. What a beautiful country. We would like to have been able to stay longer and visit the beautiful area, but we had other obligations with our Newmar group, first in Michigan with the Georgia group, and then in Indiana with the International group. We truly hope to return to Canada again in the near future.

We are sorry to say, because of health reasons, Stan and Bev Winters will not be able to host our 2011 rally in Cody, WY as planned. We wish them a speedy recovery. Our next Rally will be held in Elk City, Oklahoma at Elk Creek RV Park, September 5 to 10, 2011. Rally fee is yet to be determined. Campground rate for early arrival or late stay is \$23. Call Elk Creek at 1-888-478-6552 for your early arrival or late stay. At our meeting, we will elect a new Vice President, Treasurer, and Member Representative to the Board. Anyone desiring to volunteer for these positions, please contact Secretary Sue Stevenson via email at: sue58@earthlink.net. Very soon I will appoint a nominating committee. The committee will be contacting some of you to serve as an officer. Currently,

positions open for nominations will be VP, Treasurer, and Member Representative. **Make your club better, volunteer as an officer.** All of you are very capable of leading this group.

Once again, it is time for dues to have been paid. If you haven't already done so, please get your check in the mail to Jack Birchall, Treasurer. His address is 5131 Pine Branch Pt., Dunwoody, GA 30338.

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



Beth & Gene Richardson in Canmore, Alberta



Left to Right: Carol Little, Connie Manthei, Jo Mitchell, Joleen Hart, Beverley Havens at the Stampede Breakfast.

Treasurer

Jack has completed his task of setting up the books in a manner that will make it easy to provide an accounting to the members. A system is now in place 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 Jack as soon as possible.

All members are reminded not to forget to notify Jack if there is any change in your home or email address and telephone numbers.



Treasurer Jack Birchall & Gwen

Please call or email him with updated information. All information you provide is considered confidential and will not be released.



Some of those who volunteered to work at the Pancake Breakfast getting instructions from one of the Stampede Committee members.

2010 Calgary Rally

Our Rally Masters, Clint and Beverley Havens with the help of Jim & Jo Mitchell, went above and beyond in putting on a terrific rally. We all camped right on the Havens front lawn where we had water and electric hook-ups and a beautiful view of the surrounding countryside. They set up their garage with tables and that is where we met each morning for breakfast and where we also had some terrific dinners.

A member of the Calgary Chamber of Commerce came over one evening to meet us and welcome us to Calgary. She gave a short talk about Calgary and the Stampede and then we played a few games and enjoyed some laughter. She made each of us an "Official Calgarian" and presented each of us with a white cowboy hat. We all wore our new hats on the day we attended the Calgary Stampede as you can see in the picture. Our day at the Stampede was wonderful and I am sure everyone in attendance will cherish the memories. The Rodeo was first class all the way and the Chuck Wagon races were

really fast and exciting. The evening Grandstand Show was the best show I have ever seen.



Rally attendees ready to board the bus to go to the Stampede.



"Official Calgarians", aka Sportschassis Members, enjoying the Stampede. Good guys wear white hats!



Stampede Committee Members Clint & Beverley Havens. Beverley took a break from organizing the workers to enjoy her breakfast.



Rodeo Grounds at the World Famous Calgary Stampede

SOA Website



Joleen Hart agreed to take on the position of Webmaster.

Joleen has been busy trying to get her new restaurant running smoothly but when she has some free time, she has been learning how to handle our website.

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. Please email pictures of your rigs to Joleen to post on the web-



HAPPY EASTER TO EVERYONE



Recommended Restaurants, Campgrounds or Service Cen-

Beverly Havens came up with a terrific idea that she put into action at the Rally. In order to be eligible to win one of the Rally door prizes, each individual had to write out a paper with information on a favorite campground or restaurant. So, thanks to Beverly, I will have input for this section in the next several editions of our newsletter. However, I still encourage you to submit your input. Don't forget, you can also send input on places other members should avoid. I feel sure other SOAI members would appreciate your views. I'm using the space this month to show more pictures of our 2011 Calgary Rally.



Beverly Havens giving out door prizes.



Jo Mitchell giving out door prizes.



Randy & Jerri Palmer, Joleen & Darren Hart listening to entertainers.



Jim & Jo Mitchell (front), Bob Little, Rob & Sharon Renner.

From the Editor

They say the older you get, the faster times flies. I guess I am really getting old fast. It seems like just last week that I was getting out an edition of the newsletter but in reality it was about this time last year! I do owe all the members an apology. I am sorry that it has taken me so long to get out a newsletter. We had a fantastic time at our Calgary Rally and then went on to do more travelling spending a good bit of time in Montana visiting family, seeing more of the state, and attending both the Northern Cheyenne and Crow Powwows. We also got to visit three more of our National Parks, Theodore Roosevelt, Rocky Mountain and Great Sand Dunes. We were consistently busy and I didn't find time to work on the newsletter. We returned home in October and got caught up with helping Bob's parents. His father had surgery for cancer and then was undergoing radiation treatments. I am happy to report that we took him to the doctor today (April 1st) and the doctor said that he is doing wonderful and he doesn't have to see him until October. That was good news for him and for the entire family. I know that I am not alone in having to deal with health and family issues so I hope that you can understand. It is just not always easy to find time to do everything you need or want to do. I did open the newsletter file many times but nothing came into my mind. Those of you who know me know that I am rarely at a loss for words. So, for me to sit at the computer and not be able to think of anything to say is almost unbelievable. Gene sent me his column but I couldn't seem to think of anything else to include in the issue. Gene has been pushing me to get something out to you members. I have made up my mind that I will, as Larry the Cable Guy says, "Get 'er done" tonight!

Bob and I don't know how much longer we will be able to keep travelling around the country. This could be our last year since we may have to be more involved in caring for his parents. There are some places we would like to visit and things that we would like to do this year that will preclude our being at the Elk City Rally. We have attended the last five rallies making many friends who we will certainly miss seeing in Elk City. Have Fun!

Get Well Get well wishes are extended to any and all members who might be "under the weather". Stan Winters continues to recuperate from his cancer related problems. Jack Birchall continues to be plagued with health issues but I am happy to report that his attitude is wonderful. Please keep both of them in your prayers.

Even if we have to stay closer to home after this summer, we still plan on having the 2012 Rally.

Now that we have a little more time and the weather is finally starting to seem more like spring here in Maryland, we will be scouting out campgrounds where we can hold our 2012 rally. I am still planning on holding the rally in southern Pennsylvania in the mid-September timeframe. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending. Both Bob and I are looking forward to showing you around our part of the country. We live about 25 miles from the Pennsylvania line and for years we have enjoyed riding motorcycles and camping in York and Lancaster counties. It is a beautiful area with many points of interests so I 'm hopeful that I can come up with an agenda to please most of you and that you will enjoy yourselves. September is usually a nice time of year in this area. The heat and humidity of summer should be gone; children are back in school so the number of tourists is down from the peak of summer; and any time is a good time to get together again with SOAI friends.

Please contact Gene Richardson if you would be interested in taking over the position of Newsletter Editor.



Ferry Crossing on our way to visit the Drumheller Royal Tyrell Museum



Members being granted "Official Calgarian" status!



Members lined up with their trucks on the Havens Ranch.



Chuck Wagon Races



Farewell - See you next year!

SportChassis Owners Association International, Inc

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

ALL APPLICANTS:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Spouse Name: _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

RENEWALS:

One Calendar Year \$25.00 USD

Three Calendar Years \$70.00 USD

Note: All renewals expire on December 31. No Prorating

Remember that all renewals must be paid on or before January 31.

NEW APPLICANTS ONLY:

Membership in the *SportChassis Owners Association International, Inc.*, is limited to owners of tow vehicles manufactured by Freightliner Specialty Vehicles, Inc., Clinton, OK, or by Cabriolet, Constantine, MI. I am the owner of the following SportChassis/Cabriolet tow vehicle.

Year: _____ Model: _____ VIN: _____

January-May \$35.00 USD Expires December 31 of Current Year

June-September \$30.00 USD Expires December 31 of Current Year

October-December \$40.00 USD Expires December 31 of Following Year

Note: All first year dues include \$10.00 USD one time processing fee.

Please make checks or money orders payable in USD to SOAI.

Please send checks/money orders and completed forms to:

SOAI

c/o: Jack Birchall

5131 Pine Branch Point

Dunwoody, GA 30338

SportChassis Owner's Association
C/O Jack Birchall
5131 Pine Branch Pt.

