

Summer 2012

Special points of interest:

- Gene Resigns
- 2012 Rally
- Rally Registration

Officers**Acting President:**

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jpalmer48@frontier.com

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Organization Address: See Last Page

ClassyWheels

From the Former President's Desk

Editor's note: I received this input from Gene on Feb 17 2012. My apologies to Gene and the SOAI for being so delinquent and not getting out a Spring Newsletter.

Gene has since resigned as the President. As a result, Randy has moved up and will serve as "Acting" President until a new President can be elected. I did want the members to see Gene's input.

Can you believe it? The year 2011 has passed and 2012 is quickly passing us by. We hope you had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year celebration. Are you keeping your New Years resolutions?

It has been a beautiful winter in the South. However, the change went from summer to winter with no fall temps, then warmed up a bit and has been very pleasant. Our Ground Hog came out and saw his shadow, so we are looking for an early summer.

This means you should take this opportunity to service and inspect your truck and 5th wheel to be ready to take off when the bug bites. Unfortunately, the rear brakes on our truck seized and were completely replaced. We had to also completely replace brakes on the fiver, including two of the four rotors. So check them often, and carry fully charged fire extinguishers.

The bug bit us about Christmas and we left home the first week in January for



Tampa, FL and the Tampa RV Super Show. At the show, we parked by Neil and Dottie Kappers. We met SportChassis owners that were not members, and owners that had dropped their membership. We gave them membership applications and invited them to join or rejoin the club. We certainly hope they do.

Once again, I want to urge you to print an application or two and carry them in your rig and pass them out to prospective members as you travel. If you see a SportChassis parked somewhere, ask them if they are a member of our club. If they are not, tell them about the organization and invite them to join us. We need new members and new ideas. The club has to grow in order to survive.

Carol and Bob Little are working hard to give you a very interesting and enjoyable Rally in Gettysburg, PA. I have been to Gettysburg and the history is very interesting. Beth and I are looking forward to our Rally this Fall. Read more about the Rally in the Rally Masters column. .

Rally Master
needed for our
2013 Rally.

From the President (Cont)

In the last ClassyWheels I asked for volunteers for Rally Master for the 2013 Rally. I haven't had anyone step forward to take on the job. We missed our Rally in 2011 because of lack of participation. Let's not loose the 2013 rally because no one is willing to be the Rally Master. If no one wants to volunteer as a Rally Master or an officer, the club will be dead. It is your choice. I for one would miss seeing all our friends in the club.

One more time, Make plans to join your friends in Gettysburg for our annual Rally and Business meeting. Please send in your Rally application early to help Bob and Carol make final plans.

Hope you're all dodging the flu bug and are in good health. Stay warm----just a few short months until we'll be cranking up the AC, and wishing it were cooler.

See you in September, if not before--- somewhere on the road. Our travels will be taking us to Gillette, Wyoming and Cody, for Newmar Rallies in June/July.

So until we meet again, have safe travels.....

Gene

I received the following input from Gene on April 8, 2012

After much thought and serving almost four years as President of SportChassis Owners Association, I have elected to resign as President and allow the younger generation to lead our very fine club to new heights.

Please throw all of your support to the new leadership and assist when asked.

Gene Richardson

From the Acting President

I really didn't have much time to serve as the Vice President before having to move up to the role of Acting President. I was rather shocked at Gene's decision to resign but I can understand since he served in that position for four years. There have been a lot of changes over the past four years and the club owes Gene a debt for all the hard work that he put into the position. On behalf of the membership, THANK YOU GENE!

Both Jeri and I are excited about working to promote the association and it's membership. We are looking forward to being officers of SOAI. This will give us an opportunity to get to know more of the members and enable us to put names with faces. We have not been members very long but have enjoyed making such great new friends.

We were not able to go South this winter so we are anxious to hit the road. We are looking forward to this years rally. We're so excited about getting to see the area and being able to get together with the group once again. See you in September!

Randy



Randy Palmer

ClassyWheels

Treasurer

I would like to thank both Jack and Gwen Birchall for making the transition of records and accounts to me as the new Treasurer such a smooth action. I also want to thank them for all their hard work in cleaning up the records of the club. I'm sure all their hard work will make the job so much easier for me. I'm looking forward to the challenge of the position and the opportunity it will afford me to meet more of you.

Both Randy and I are looking forward to our visit to the Mid-Atlantic region of our country this fall to attend the Gettysburg Rally. We have never been to that region and we are anxious to see the area Bob and Carol call their home stomping grounds.

Feel free to give me a call if I can be of assistance. I hope to meet more of you at the Rally. Please be sure to get your registrations forms to me before the deadline.

Please let me know if your mailing address or email address changes.

Wishing you all good health and safe travels.

Jerri



Secretary



Sue Steverson

Electronic Board Meeting

The meeting was convened March 26, 4:00 pm EDT, by President Gene Richardson. Members participating via e-mail, Sue Steverson, Marv Oetjen, Jeri and Randy Palmer and Dottie Kappers.

Marv made a motion for SOAI to assume the cost of the scheduled bus tour. Sue seconded

After some discussion it was determined the cost of the tour was not available at this time. Therefore Marv withdrew his motion March 27, 2012. Sue withdrew her second March 28, 2012.

March 28, 2012-Sue made a motion for SOAI to pay a portion of the rally fee, amount to be determined by the SOAI Board. Jeri seconded. Motion carried.

March 29, 2012-Dottie made a motion to waive the dues for all SOAI Officers including the Historian, the Classy Wheels Editor and the Web Master. The waivers will begin with the newly elected officers at the 2012 rally. The waiver will apply for as long as the person maintains their position. The positions to be filled at the 2012 rally are the Secretary, President and Member Representative 1. The officers elected at the 2013 rally, Treasurer, Vice President and Member Representative 2 will have their dues waived as long as they maintain the position. Jeri seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Gene made the following appointments:

Randy to seek volunteer wagon masters for the 2013 and 2014 rallies. One of these rallies should be held in Clinton, Oklahoma.

Jeri was asked to obtain a volunteer for Editor of the Classy Wheels.

Sue and Marv were asked get another member to form a nomination committee. Offices to be filled, Secretary, President and Member Representative 1.

Gene Richardson tendered his resignation effective at the close of the Electronic Board Meeting.

Marv moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sue. Meeting adjourned March 29, 2012, 9:57pm EDT



SOA Website



Lee Steverson is now serving as our Web Manager. Check out the site for updates and be sure to leave some notes for Lee and other members. Members are encouraged to use this resource provided to us by Sportchassis.



Get well wishes are extended to any and all members who might be “under the weather”. Jack Birchall continues to have health issues. As a result, he made a hard decision and has sold both his truck and camper. I have not been advised of anyone else with any current health concerns and that is certainly good news.

View of the back of the Rec Hall and a few of the sites reserved for our rally at Gettysburg Campground.



Cottages available to rent at Gettysburg Campground.



From the Editor

It seems that I am always in the awkward position of apologizing to you members. Once again, I must apologize for not preparing a Spring edition of the newsletter.

I received notice of the death of a gentleman named Raymond Laythrop. Mr. Laythrop passed away in late May or early June of this year and was thought to have been living in the state of Washington. I am not sure if he was a member of SOAI because the name is not familiar to me. He may have been a member of the Freightliner club but we wanted to pass the information along to our members in the event you knew him or his wife. Unfortunately I do not have any other information.

The big news is that Gene Richardson has resigned from the position of President. As a result, Randy is now acting in the position until a replacement is found. Gene and I became friends the first time we met which was at the rally in Concord, NC. Our friendship has grown over the years and it surely helped in dealing with SOAI business. I will miss talking SOAI business with Gene but our friendship will continue. I personally want to thank Gene for his four years of service to our club. I think Gene worked tirelessly and did a fantastic job. In my opinion, his shoes will be hard to fill.

Unfortunately, I have not been having a very good year. I have been suffering with a lot of pain in my left shoulder since last October. I have had problems with my left shoulder in past years and the pain and inability to move my arm has always abated after a period of time. Not true this time around. The pain continued and in January I finally decided I needed to make that visit to the orthopedic doctor. He diagnosed the problem as inflamed rotator cuff, gave me a cortisone shot and ordered physical therapy. At first it seemed that therapy was helping. But then the last two weeks of therapy were almost unbearable. Back to the doctor, another cortisone shot and directions to stop weight lifting but continue with stretch exercises. The pain just seemed to get worse and Bob decided I needed another opinion. The new shoulder specialist thought the problem was more than the rotator cuff and ordered an MRI on my shoulder and another MRI on my neck. The shoulder MRI confirmed a tear in the rotator cuff with

tenosynovitis and osteoarthritis. The neck MRI confirmed degenerative disc disease mostly at the C4-C5, C5-C6 and C6-C7 levels with disc protrusion at C5-C6. As the doctor said, I had good reason for all the pain! I had my first neck injection on 25 May and another one on 15 June and also had some special therapy targeted to the neck. The pills, shots and therapy seem to be helping and the pain is now bearable.

I also had several visits to other doctors relative to my carotid artery condition but the decision was made that surgery is not needed at this time. Thank goodness!

Like many of you, Bob and I have also had to deal with the health issues of Bob's parents. His Dad, who is 89, had surgery to remove another cancer growth, this time on his left arm. The surgeries and treatments have certainly taken their toll and he needs more help from us.

Like most people in our age bracket, we have health and family issues that limit what we can do. We are no different.

I didn't mean to ramble on so much but I want you to understand why I have not been able to keep up with the business of SOAI. I have had several conversations with Gene over the past year about giving up the position. To date, no one has come forward to volunteer to take on the job. So I guess that means you are willing to accept the fact that I cannot always get a newsletter out in a timely manner. If you think you would be interested in taking on the job of Editor, please give me or Randy a phone call. I use Publisher to prepare the newsletter and I would be happy to assist you in getting started. Or, you are free to use any program you wish.

Bob and I wish each of you good health, a wonderful summer, and safe travels.

Fondly,

Carol

2012 Rally

There are 20 sites reserved for our rally. The 19 sites (minus one for me and Bob) will be assigned on a first-come and paid basis. I know that Gene Richardson sent out some messages encouraging members to attend the rally this year. I must say that I have been very discouraged with the messages that I have received from many of you saying you will not be attending. Having an annual rally is a way for members to stay in touch with friends met at previous rallies, meet new members, and see different parts of our beautiful country. Bob and I have attended every rally since we joined the club. We thought our record would end last year because we were unable to travel. However, your lack of interest resulted in the cancellation of the planned rally in Oklahoma so our record stands. We will **NOT** cancel this year's rally. I would love to fill the 20 sites but if we don't fill them, so be it. Those of us that do attend will be sure to have a wonderful time. If you would like to come early, or stay beyond our reservation dates, you will have to make your reservations directly with the campground. The campground will offer a 10% discount for the portion of your stay outside the dates of the rally if you are a AAA or Good Sam Member. Also, if for some reason you cannot drive your rig, cabins are available to rent. The campground website is:
www.gettysburgcampground.com

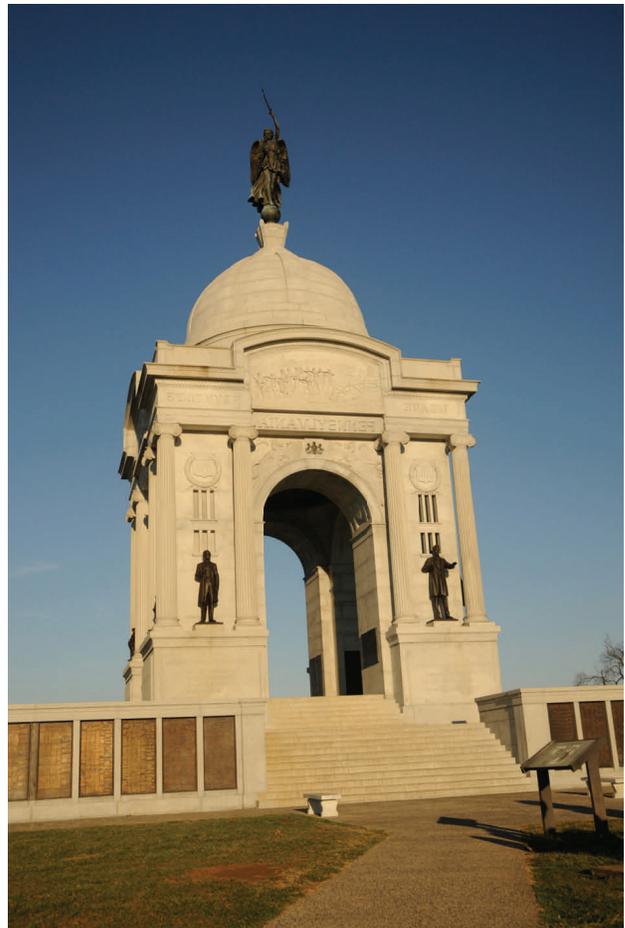
Your rally fee includes a special guided tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield and a bus tour to Washington, DC. In addition, you won't have to cook dinner on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday! We have intentionally left Thursday as an open day because we thought many of you might like to take off on your own and see other sites in the area. Or, you might just like to spend the day in Gettysburg or visiting with other members at the campground.

Plan on seeing this beautiful area of the USA and relive some of the history of our nation. Please plan to attend our rally. We think we can guarantee you a good time. We are looking forward to seeing old friends once again and also hope we see some new faces.

See you in September!



Split Rail Fence in Gettysburg



Pennsylvania State Monument in Gettysburg National Park

SPORTCHASSIS OWNER'S ASSOCIATION, International

10th ANNUAL RALLY

September 24th - September 28th 2012

Rally Masters: Carol and Bob Little

Carol's Cell Phones: AT&T: 443-910-3131 Verizon: 443-987-1774

Location:

Gettysburg Campground

2030 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Phone: 717-334-3304

Reservations Only Phone: 888-879-2241

RESERVATION DEADLINE: August 24, 2012

COST:

Rig & 2 People - \$300.00

Rig & 1 Person - \$250.00

Extra Person - \$100.00

Arrive on 24 Sep and Depart on 28 Sep 2012. Make reservations directly with the campground if you want to come early or stay late. Campground will offer a 10% discount to AAA or Good Sam Members.

Fee Includes: Four nights camping with full hook-ups. Sightseeing day in Gettysburg which includes the Gettysburg National Military Park Visitor Center; 2-hour Battlefield tour with a Licensed Guide; Diorama Museum. Charter Coach transport for a Washington DC Sightseeing Day with Guide Service and a buffet dinner on return to campground. Catered Dinner at Campground. Grilled dinner prepared by Carol and Bob (and anyone who wants to volunteer to help). Coffee and donuts each morning. Ice Cream Social. GREAT COMPANY!

RETURN REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

SportChassis Owner's Association International

Attn: Rally Registration

C/O Jeri Palmer

113 N. 5th

Marion, IL 62959-4708

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: _____

- | | | |
|---|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> January-May | \$35.00 USD | Expires December 31 of Current Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> June-September | \$30.00 USD | Expires December 31 of Current Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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: Jeri Palmer
113 N. 5th
Marion, IL 62959-4708

2012 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 Carol Little —443-910-3131 or Email her at:

soaeditor@live.com

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 Jeri Palmer

113 N. 5th

Marion, IL 62959-4708

SportChassis Owner's Association
C/O Jeri Palmer
113 N. 5th
Marion, IL 62959-4708

