

APRIL 2006, ISSUE 5

Edited by Dianne and Brett Wolfe

Two Club Members Are Real Stars

By *Kathe Letulle*

Bobby Vinton held everyone spellbound, including our club secretary, Beverly Marshall and club treasurer, Kathe Letulle, during his Thursday night performance at the 2006 Pomona FMCA Rally. Beverly was hugged by Bobbie and Kathe had the rare opportunity to sing along with the singing legend. The two starry eyed ladies had only these comments - **Beverly** - "his show was spectacular" and **Kathe** - "it was a wonderful experience that will last forever. He is one of my all time favorites". Bobby Vinton sang his way into the stands and had everyone in his back pocket. He shook hands, kissed, hugged and sang to many members of the audience including a number of club members. It was a very memorable night and our CAT RV Club "STARS" will shine for many years to come.



Rally Report - "California Here We Come"

The Caterpillar® RV Engine Owners Club held an outstanding rally at the Emerald Desert Golf & RV Resort in Palm Desert California March 6-10, 2006 just prior to the FMCA International Convention in Pomona. Rally masters Jim and Marcy Mannan hosted an educational and fun rally with great food, fun games, several seminars, exciting entertainment, lots of prizes, and terrific camaraderie. Jim and Marcy – Great rally!



Rally Highlights:

- Entertainment by Jon Destry and the Rivoli RV Revue
- CAT Maintenance seminar, SCA testing of all coaches, oil sample kits for everyone, general maintenance seminar, electronic engine diagnostics and re-flash, Fire and safety seminar, and Health and Wellness seminar
- Beanbag game, card games, over \$2,000 worth of prizes awarded
- 3 full breakfasts, 1 continental breakfast, 1 lunch, 2 dinners, and 1 potluck

President's Report

By Brett Wolfe, President

2006 has been a very busy year for the CAT RV Club and I have been working with Caterpillar on several key projects. First, Caterpillar has published a document called "Understanding Coach (RV) Performance" which should be of interest to each and every one of us. I worked closely with Tony Kapustka to insure that the document addresses the issues facing Caterpillar RV Engine Owners. I sincerely hope each of you will read it to determine the changes you as the driver can make to maximize fuel economy and engine efficiency. To download a copy, go to www.rv.cat.com and click on "Understanding Coach (RV) Performance."



Second, in 2006 Caterpillar announced the RV Service Centers, a network of service and repair facilities targeted to serve the RV market. There are currently 74 locations around the US and several in Canada. Each of these dealer locations is participating as a rally co-sponsor for the CAT RV Club in 2006 to the tune of



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\$200/location. So when you go in to have your engine serviced at one of the CAT RV Service Centers, be sure to say Thank You! It is this kind of co-sponsor money that is helping to keep rally fees low.

Third, in January, Caterpillar announced that they will pay for one year's membership for anyone buying a NEW coach with a Caterpillar engine. This offer applies to purchases of new coaches only and purchase date must be after January 1, 2006. If you are already a member of the Club and purchase a new CAT-powered coach, Caterpillar will pay your renewal dues for 1 year. To date CAT has not announced that this offer will extend beyond December 31, 2006 so if you or one of your friends is looking at new coaches, make that purchase before the end of the year and get Club membership as an added bonus.

My last topic deals with the explosive growth this Club has had over the past year. We added another 92 new coach members at pre-rallies and the Pomona FMCA bringing our total membership to approximately 850 families. Thanks to each of you for mentioning the club to others and encouraging your friends to join.

As we continue to grow, we need more and more help with all of the work that is required to operate this Club efficiently. In September I asked for help with Parliamentary procedure and Starr Saam stepped forward. Thanks, Starr! Now I am looking for a Rally Coordinator. This person will be responsible for researching and securing locations for future rallies and finding a Rally master to plan and run each rally. The Rally Coordinator does not have to be responsible for running each rally, but should be willing to make the necessary calls to locate and secure a facility acceptable for Club events. If you are willing to help with this important job, please contact me via e-mail at wolfe10@earthlink.net. Full-timers, many of you are extremely well suited for this role as you travel all over the country and know some of the best facilities and fun activities in each area.

Vice President's Message

By Lamar Keck, Vice President



Thanks to Caterpillar Corporation, Jim and Marcy Mannan (rally masters) and all the volunteers who helped out for another great Cat RV Club rally. The successful rally just ended at Emerald Desert RV Resort in Palm Desert, CA

From there Karen and I went to the FMCA National Convention in Pomona, CA to attend the CAT RV Club chapter fair and business meeting, where we met a lot of folks who were interested in joining our club. We also worked security for the FMCA.

It was great to see a lot of Cat club members at FMCA with their jackets and hats on; it makes great PR for Caterpillar and our club.

Karen and I were in charge of night time entertainment security where a Disney Band, Debbie Reynolds and Bobby Vinton entertained us. We also had one of our own as a celebrity in the Bobby Vinton Show. Kathe Letulle, our Treasurer and Membership Director was on the big screen with Bobby. It was nice to see Kathe made an honorary charter member, when she was given a Caterpillar RV Engine Owners Club jacket at the business meeting, for all the hard work she has done for the club. I'll tell you one thing, the group we had at our Cat RV club rally, The Rivoli's Revue were just as enjoyable. That's just my opinion, but I didn't see anyone leave during the show.

Let's give a BIG THANK YOU to Suzie Adcock from Caterpillar, and all her staff for all the support they give our club. Also a BIG THANK YOU to Brett Wolfe, our President. He is the one who does all the work on the communications between Caterpillar Corporation and our club to get us all the benefits we have that make our club what it is today, an excellent one. Now remember behind a hard working man there is a hard working woman, and that is his wife, Dianne.

Well I better put an end to this or they might not have room in the news letter for it, so remember if it's not a CAT it's a Dog. Have safe travels always, and please keep your Britches between those ditches. 10-4



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Kathe's Korner

By Kathe Letulle, Treasurer

And In This Korner: Membership

Last month all members were mailed a post card indicating their Cat RV Club membership status. Per our Club by-laws, membership dues become due and payable November 1 of each year for the following year. FMCA requires that members more than six months behind on dues or members who fail to renew their FMCA membership be dropped from "active" status. Only "active" members may participate in Club activities and receive Club mailings including Caterpillar discount coupons.

Renewal notices for 2007 dues will be mailed to all "active" members this fall. Renewal forms are also available on-line at www.catrvclub.org. If you have questions regarding your current membership status, please feel free to contact me.

derrel_kathe@yahoo.com (derrel_kathe)

At the recent FMCA Pomona Rally we added 92 new coach members to our CAT RV Club Family, and handed out many more new membership applications. For the first time, new member kits were handed out when initial dues were paid. Normally this process takes 8 weeks to fulfill when applications are received through the mail.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who worked on behalf of the Club at the FMCA Rally: **Chapter Fair** – Brett & Dianne Wolfe, Lamar Keck & Karen Rogers, Jim & Beverly Marshall, Derrel & Kathe Letulle, Don Tallman & Carolyn Bearden, Al & Bobbi Vormittag, George & Starr Saam, Tom James **Chapter Meeting** - Brett & Dianne Wolfe, Lamar Keck & Karen Rogers, Jim & Beverly Marshall, Derrel & Kathe Letulle, Don Tallman & Carolyn Bearden, Al & Bobbi Vormittag, George & Starr Saam, Sandy Baker **Caterpillar® Booth** - Art & Pricilla James, Frank & Betty Bolthouse, Jim & Carol Evans, Art Gray & Judy Pederson, Ray & Sandy Baker, Don & Bethany Goodman, Don & Bonnie Maus, Jim & Joanne Gillis, Marcy & Jim Mannan, Tom & Ramona Conner, Jane & Ernie Clashman, Dale & Veida Ely, Frank & Janice Koch, Ernie & Jeanette Mylymok (new members signed up at the Chapter fair), Derrel & Kathe Letulle. I would like to thank Al Vormittag for soliciting all the volunteers for the CAT Booth. If I missed anyone, please accept my apology. MANY THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!!! Job well done.

And in this Korner: CAT RV Club Treasury Report

last audited 5/27/2005

Audited beginning balance **\$28,623.19**

Category Description 5/28/2005- 3/20/2006

INCOME

2005 DUES	\$105.00
2005 Peoria Rally Income	\$9,426.00
2006 California Rally Income	\$24,561.00
2006 DUES	\$7,200.00
2007 DUES	\$380.00
2008 DUES	\$110.00
2009 DUES	\$15.00
Club logo shirts income	\$680.00
Membership fees	\$7,600.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$50,077.00

EXPENSES

2005 Peoria Rally Expenses	\$23,331.06
2006 California Rally Expenses	\$24,749.80
2006 South Carolina Rally Expense	\$500.00
Badge Holders	\$795.30
Bank Charge	\$17.11
Board Meeting	\$182.00
Club logo shirts expense	\$2,863.36
Entertainment	\$39.96
FMCA - Minot - 2005	
Food	\$1,227.97
Other FMCA - Minot - 2005	\$422.38
TOTAL FMCA - Minot - 2005	\$1,650.35
FMCA - Perry - 2005	\$300.50
FMCA - Pomona - 2006	\$15.09
Awards	\$41.20
Historian	\$40.00
Mailing Fees	\$407.50
President	
Office supplies	\$19.26
Other President	\$99.63
TOTAL President	\$118.89
Victorville Rally Deposit	\$25.00
Treasurer	\$138.68
Website expenses	\$127.60
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$55,343.40

Ending Balance as of 3/20/06 **\$23,356.79**



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And in this korner – shopping

Logo Shirts: 1 for \$20 2 for \$30

The club has a LIMITED number of club logo shirts available. When they are sold – that is all folks! They are white, 50/50 cotton/polyester blend with embroidered club logo, no pocket. These shirts run large. They are men's sizes so ladies may need to order a smaller size. First come first serve – check with me to ensure your size is available before sending money. www.derrel_kathe@yahoo.com (derrel_kathe)

Sizes available are: **10** Small **8** Medium **4** Large **5** X-Large **1** XXX-Large **Remember – going – going – gone!!!**

CAT Merchandise:

Several of you have asked about ordering Caterpillar logo merchandise. Click on <http://www.shopcaterpillar.com/caterpillar/default.asp> and shop to your heart's content.

Pomona FMCA Business Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 21, 2005
Pomona California

By Beverly Marshall, Secretary



Immediately prior to the meeting, President Brett Wolfe introduced Jay Blumenthal, FMCA International Area VP who discussed the upcoming International Area Rally in Gillette, WY. Also in attendance and introduced was Barbara Higgins Vice President International Area.

Club President Brett Wolfe called the meeting to order at approx 4:40 P.M. Kathe Letulle gave the benediction. Don Tallman led the salute to the flag.

Club President Brett Wolfe introduced the club officers: Lamar Keck Vice President, Kathe Letulle Treasurer, Beverly Marshall Secretary, Don Tallman National Director & Club Founder, Al Vormittag Alternate National Director, George Saam Nominating Committee, and Starr Saam Parliamentarian.

Brett then introduced CAT employees: Karl Vandermyde, Jeff Headean, Tony Kupustka, Suzie Adcock, Jackie Cothren, Tad Petrie, and Jim Booth.

Brett Wolfe gave a brief recap of the Cat Rally at Palm Desert and announced that all food left over from the Rally was donated to a local charity.

The minutes of the August 16, 2005 business meeting were posted for members to review as they arrived. Tom James made a motion to accept the minutes as posted. The motion was seconded and passed.

Kathe Letulle gave a financial report with copies posted for review. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as posted. The motion passed.

Brett Wolfe introduced the Club's National Director Don Tallman who reported that he is the link between the CAT RV Club and the national office of FMCA. He sits on the Governing Board of FMCA. The last meeting was held in Minot ND on August 15, 2005 and the next meeting will be in Charlotte, NC. on August 14th, 2006
The following were approved by the board for future International Conventions:

August 14-17, 2006.....Charlotte NC
March 19-22, 2007.....Perry, GA
August 13-16, 2007Redmond, OR
February 25-28, 2008.....Pomona, CA
July 14-17, 2008.....St. Paul, MN

Don Tallman made a motion to award "Honorary Charter Member" status to Kathe and Derrel Letulle. They sought to become charter members at the FMCA Buffalo Convention in July 2003 when the Cat RV Club was first announced, but were unable to attend the Albuquerque FMCA Convention where the club was actually



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formed. Because of the many hours Kathe spent as Treasurer and the tireless efforts both she and Derrel devoted to build the Club including recruitment of new members they were presented Charter Member jackets. The motion was seconded and approved by the members. Kathe and Darrell Letulle were awarded Charter Member CAT RV Club jackets.

Brett Wolfe then announced that the next Cat RV Club Rally would be July 31-August 4, 2006 in Charleston SC at a cost of \$275.00. The Rally Registration form will be in upcoming Newsletter and 3 days later posted on the Club web site (www.catrvclub.org).

George Saam described the selection process for 2006/7 Officers. Applicants should send their resume to the three members of the nominating committee (addresses in the upcoming Newsletter) with the election at the summer business meeting in Charlotte. George said that in addition to the VP slot, the club needs 2 more members of the Nominating Committee and a Rally Coordinator. Brett announced that Club VP Lamar Kleck was not seeking re-election as he is running for president of another Club.

Brett Wolfe then presented an award to Caterpillar employee Tad Petrie on behalf of the Cat RV Club for his hard work and dedication to the club and its technical web site.

Suzie Adcock recognized Jim and Marcy Mannan for their work as Rally Masters for the Palm Desert Cat RV Club Rally and awarded them gifts.

Suzie then thanked the CAT RV Club and introduced Karl Vandermyde who thanked the Officers and Brett Wolfe for their work in the CAT RV Club.

Brett Wolfe discussed the Co-sponsorship by the 71 Cat RV Dealers and their combined contribution of over \$12,000 to this year's Cat RV Club Rally budget. 2 numbers for \$100.00 gift certificates from Cat RV Centers were drawn and awarded to Ken Wilmon and Col. & Mrs. Erret Porter, III.

Brett Wolfe asked for a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Tom James made the motion which was seconded and approved by members.

The meeting was adjourned and pizza and refreshments served.

Nominating Committee Report

By George Saam



Hello from the Nominating Committee. Due to the continued growth of our Club, the Nominating Committee needs more help. The Executive Board would like this committee to grow from 3 to 5 members. At this point we have members from both coasts and the middle of the US. Ideally, if another member from the east and west would join this committee we would have excellent representation.

Secondly, the Club will be holding elections at the Charlotte FMCA Convention. Those members interested in helping run the Club are encouraged to send their resumes to the Nominating Committee. Please designate the office you are seeking, and e-mail resumes to the following committee members:

Rich Shamory – amore@beanstalk.net

George Saam – gmsaam@earthlink.net

Bill Halberstadt – Halberstadt@mindspring.com

Lamar Keck announced at the pre-rally in Palm Desert that he will not be seeking re-election as Vice President as he is running for President of another FMCA chapter. We are actively seeking a Vice Presidential candidate.

Thank you and Happy Trails.



CAT® RV Club Newsletter

We are on the Web

- Official Cat RV Club Website: <http://www.catrvclub.org/> You will find information about the CAT RV Club, membership applications, rally information, events, pictures & more. Our Webmaster, Rudy Morris, is doing a great job.
- Cat Club Website for technical discussions: <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/CATRVCLUB/> This is a discussion group for people with an interest in Caterpillar® diesels engines. To access, simply obtain a Yahoo ID at yahoo.com and then access the site referenced above and click "Join This Group." No advertisements, for sales, or off topic post are allowed.
- Caterpillar Corp RV Website: rv.cat.com
- Understanding Coach (RV) Performance: Go to : rv.cat.com, then click on the PDF File
- Cat® RV Centers Provide Enhanced Service for Recreational Vehicles: Go to: rv.cat.com and click on "Cat RV Centers"
- General RV Information: <http://www.rv.net/forum/>
- Caterpillar RV Call Center: toll-free 877 777-3126

Update your personal information on-line

Our Webmaster, Rudy Morris has developed an easy method for you to keep the Club records current. If your address, phone number, or e-mail address changes, you can now use the website to update this information.

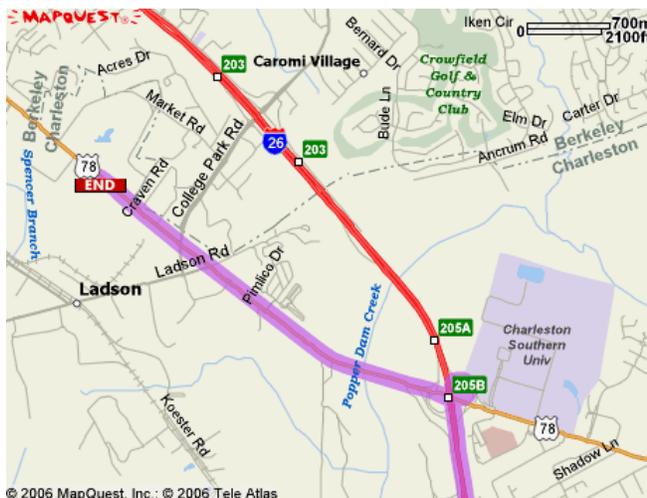
Go to the club website www.catrvclub.org

Click on "Membership." Click "Update Club Records." Fill in your **Name** and **FMCA #** in the blanks provided and enter the address, phone number and/or e-mail address you want used in the "**Comment**" block

Click "**Submit**" and your updated information will be e-mailed to Caterpillar

"Doin' the Charleston Rally", July 31-August 4, 2006

The next CAT RV Club Rally will be held at Exchange Park, 9850 Highway 78, Ladson, SC 29456. This is a very nice fairgrounds facility with 50-amp, full hookups at each site and an air conditioned room for all of our meetings, meals and activities. Ladson is approximately 20 miles northwest of Charleston. This gives us good access to activities and shopping in Charleston with plenty of power and air conditioning at the campground. This is the same facility where Country Coach will be holding their pre-rally the following week.



Driving Directions to Exchange Park from Charleston, South Carolina:

- Northwest on Hwy 26 to exit 205 (US-78 West)
Approx 15 miles NW of Charleston
- West 2.4 miles on Hwy 78
- Exchange Park is located at
9850 Highway 78, Ladson, SC 29456

Dianne and Brett Wolfe and Derrel and Kathe Letulle are co-rally masters for this event. They have planned some exciting activities, meals and entertainment. Don't miss this one.

A Registration Form and tentative Agenda are included with this newsletter. In addition, the Registration Form may be downloaded from the club website, printed and mailed to the Letulles. Driving

directions to Exchange Park and the Rally Agenda will also be posted on www.catrvclub.org. So keep an eye on the website for additional details. We have 100 sites reserved for this rally, so register today.

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CAT® RV Club Newsletter



“Doin’ the Charleston”

CAT RV Club Pre-Charlotte Rally Agenda

Exchange Park, 9850 Hwy 78, Ladson, SC 29456

(approx 20 miles NW of Charleston, SC)



Monday, 7/31/2006

- am-pm Arrival, set up, meet other Club members and relax
 - 1:00 pm Round One – Big CAT Bean Bag Tournament
 - 5:00 pm Depart by bus for Charleston, Joseph P. Riley Jr. Park Baseball Park
 - 6:00 pm Dinner & Baseball Game – The River Dogs are the 1-A affiliate of the NY Yankees
- Evening Entertainment – River Dogs vs. Lexington Legends**

Tuesday, 8/1/2006 – CAT DAY

- 8:00 am Full Breakfast
 - 9:00 am Caterpillar Maintenance seminar
 - 9:00 am Ladies Game Day – win prize money!
 - 1:00 – 3:00 pm Craft Class - make a set of placemats and coasters to fit your coach
 - 4:00 pm Social Hour - The Club will provide wine and soft drinks
 - 6:00 pm Catered Dinner
- Evening Entertainment**

Wednesday, 8/2/2006

- 8:00 am Full Breakfast
 - 9:00 am General RV Maintenance Seminar
 - 1:00 pm "SC Culinary Traditions," a Lowcountry Culinary Seminar presented by Amanda Manning, Culinary FoodPros, Charleston, SC
 - 4:00 pm Social Hour - The Club will provide wine and soft drinks
 - 6:00 pm Catered Dinner
- Evening Entertainment – Tim Lowry, Storyteller**

Thursday, 8/3/2006

- 8:00 am Full Breakfast
 - 10:00 am Finals of the Big CAT Beanbag Tournament
 - 10:00 am More ladies games – win prize money!
 - 10:00 am Golf Outing – \$40
 - 4:00 pm Social Hour - The Club will provide wine and soft drinks
 - 5:00 pm Awards ceremony
 - 6:00 pm Catered Dinner
- Evening Entertainment**

Friday, 8/4/2006

- 8:00 am Continental Breakfast (fried biscuits – don't miss 'em)
- Departure Day



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“Doin’ the Charleston”

Rally Registration Form

July 31 – August 4, 2006

Exchange Park, Ladson, SC (near Charleston)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 15, 2006 (100 Coach Limit)

Please print names as you want them to appear on rally name badges

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Guest: Last name: _____ First name: _____

Email address: _____ FMCA#: _____

Address: _____

Street Address

City

State

ZIP

Phone: Cell: _____

Home: _____

Handicapped: Yes No (circle one)

Emergency contact: _____

Name and phone #

Coach-make: _____ Length: _____

Cost BEFORE 6/15/06: \$275 for 2 people per coach, each additional person \$125. Singles \$225

Cost AFTER 6/15/06: \$325 for 2 people per coach, each additional person \$125. Singles \$275

Total sent with registration: \$_____ (100% refund if cancelled by 6/15/06)

Cost of rally includes: 4 nights camping – 50 amp full hookups; 3 full breakfasts, 1 continental breakfast, 4 dinners, entertainment, prizes & lots of fun. The meeting room is air conditioned.

There will be an optional Golf outing – 18-hole championship course. The fee for this activity is \$40. Please indicate if you will participate: Yes No (circle one) Fee to be paid at the golf course.

Fill out form, make check payable to FMCA CAT RV Club & mail to:

Kathe Letulle

P.O. Box 8761

Hot Springs, AR 71910-8761

Cell – 501-984-3148

Early arrivals should see Dianne/Brett Wolfe or Derrel/Kathe Letulle upon arrival to pay additional camping fees of \$22/night. **Please do not arrive before Sunday, July 30, 2006.**



CAT® RV Club Newsletter

Cat News

As a member of the Cat RV Engine Owners Club we promised that you would be the first to receive any new Cat information. We're pleased to announce that sometime in June club members will be the first to receive our new on-line email magazine entitled *RV Power*. This will be sent to the email address we have on file for you. This magazine is written for the Cat-power owner and will contain Cat news and other articles of interest to the RV lifestyle. Please feel free to email this new on-line magazine to others that would have an interest.

Look for this in your in-box sometime in June. Happy and safe travels to all of you!

Caterpillar RV Engine Owners Club
An FMCA Chapter
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Overland Park, KS 66282-2900

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