

INSIDE & OUT »

INSTANT
HOT WATER

LOW-PROFILE
LEDS

REMOTE TRAILER
MOVER

TRICK
TRANSMISSIONS

TRAILER LIFE

FOLLOW THE ROAD TO ADVENTURE

MAY 2015



**DIRTY
DOZEN**
12 TOY-HAULING
TRAVEL TRAILERS

Light Fantastic

Aluminum F-150 and
Forest River Wildwood

GIVING
TRAILERS A
BRAKE

CUSTOM RV
INTERIORS

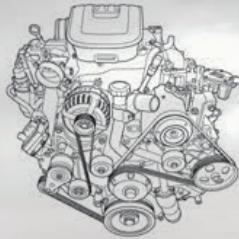
www.trailerlife.com

Sunny Delights

Delaware River • Wisconsin Dells • Central Oregon
Southeast Texas • Missouri Ozarks

NEW HEAVY LIFTING.

A PROVEN COMBINATION. The new Heavy Duty is our strongest Silverado ever. That's because the combined power of the available Duramax Diesel and Allison® transmission deliver an impressive 397 hp and 765 lb-ft of torque. They also deliver the proven reliability of over one million of these combinations on the road today with over 100 billion miles of experience.



**AVAILABLE DURAMAX
TURBO-DIESEL & ALLISON
6-SPEED TRANSMISSION
FOR BEST-IN-CLASS
CONVENTIONAL TOWING!**

KEEPING TRAILERS ON THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW. Another must-have combination is power and control. With Tow/Haul mode, press a button and the transmission stays in gear longer, optimizing power when you need to accelerate. No buttons are required for Trailer Sway Control. It applies both the vehicle and trailer brakes (when properly equipped) to help get trailers back in line when needed.

HILLS HAVE MET THEIR MATCH. Another automatic feature you'll appreciate (especially when you've got a 26-footer behind you) is Hill Start Assist. To help prevent rollback, it detects inclines of 5 percent or more and momentarily holds the brakes—giving you time to switch from brake pedal to accelerator. For downhills, the available Diesel Exhaust Brake System uses Silverado's own exhaust to decelerate—saving wear on conventional brakes.

The new Silverado HD: designed to work harder for you. Visit chevy.com/silverado to learn more about the newest member of the family of the most dependable, longest-lasting full-size pickups on the road.²



THE 2014 CHEVY SILVERADO HD WAS AWARDED
"HIGHEST RANKED LARGE HEAVY DUTY PICKUP IN INITIAL QUALITY."³

¹Requires 3500HD Crew Cab DRW 4WD with available Duramax 6.6L Turbo-Diesel V8 engine. Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailering, carefully review the trailering section of the Owner's Manual. The weight of passengers, cargo and options or accessories may reduce the amount you can tow. ²Dependability based on longevity: 1987-April 2013 Full-Size Pickup registrations. ³The Chevrolet Silverado HD received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among large heavy-duty pickups in the proprietary J.D. Power 2014 Initial Quality Study.SM Study based on responses from 86,118 new-vehicle owners, measuring 239 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2014. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ©2015 General Motors. All rights reserved. Chevrolet® Chevrolet emblem® Chevy™ Duramax® Silverado®

NEW HEAVY DUTY.

THE NEW 2015 SILVERADO HD. OUR STRONGEST EVER.



FIND **NEW** ROADS™

CHEVROLET 

Chevrolet Motor Division, Circle 110 on Reader Service Card



20



41



51

TRAVEL

20 Wisconsin Charmer

There's a more natural side to the Midwest's bustling Waterpark Capital, with magnificent riverside cliffs, rock formations, breathtaking parks and nature preserves

31 The Sunny Side of Oregon

From royal-blue Crater Lake to the outdoorsy yet cosmopolitan city of Bend, this high-desert playground is flanked by the captivating Three Sisters peaks and perennially unattached Mount Bachelor

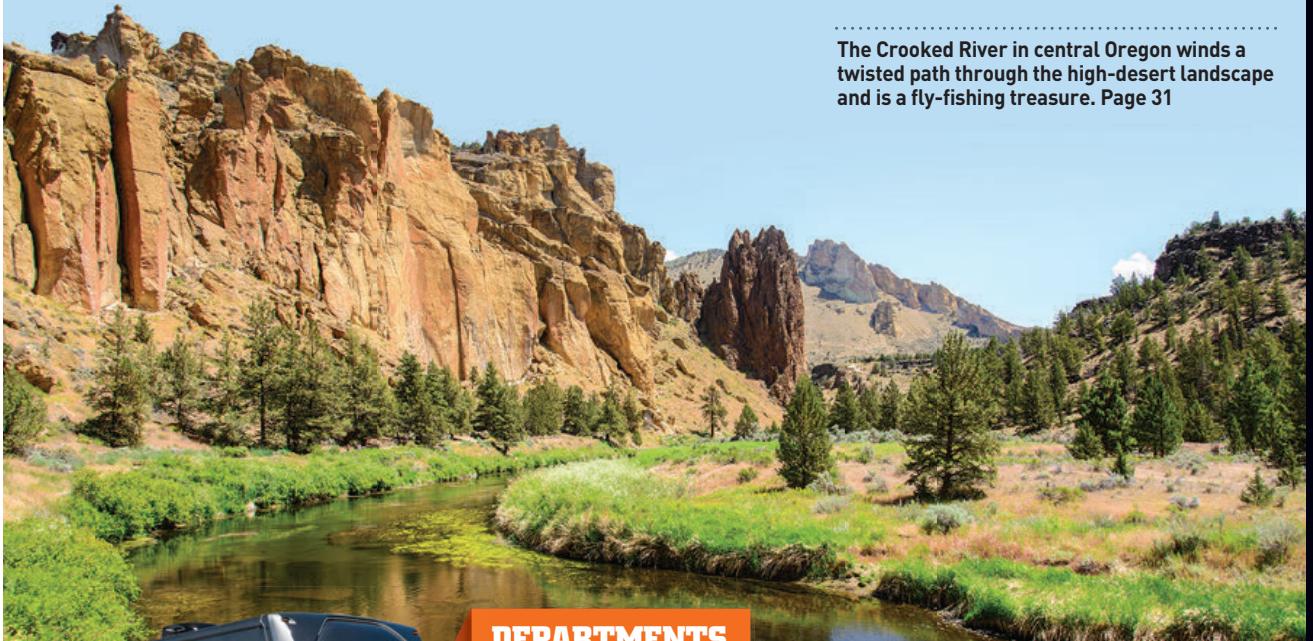
41 Wonders of the Delaware River

Soak up the fun along a scenic stretch of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey while hiking across forested mountains, marveling at cascading waterfalls and paddling through everything from tame pools to roaring rapids

51 Texas Independence Trail

Relive the era when the Lone Star State became a nation while visiting historic downtowns, legendary forts and heritage sites on a more-than-200-mile stretch from Galveston to San Antonio

The Crooked River in central Oregon winds a twisted path through the high-desert landscape and is a fly-fishing treasure. Page 31



DEPARTMENTS



8 Driver's Seat

RVs Are Natural Platforms for Change

11 Letters

Readers respond loud and clear

15 Around the Bend

News, events, places and trends

128 New Products

Goodies to improve the RV lifestyle

133 Performance Corner

Tech, accessories and news

138 Hands On

Command Electronics LED fixtures

141 RV Clinic

Answers from the *Trailer Life* tech team

152 10-Minute Tech

Now why didn't I think of that?

154 America's Outback

Ozark Zephyr, Branson, Missouri

Augusta RV's four-season Luxe offers residential furnishings and appliances. Page 16

On the cover: The 2015 Ford F-150 and Forest River Wildwood, surrounded by lush greenery from a recent rainfall in SoCal. Photo by Scott Hirko



PRIDE.

> Mr. & Mrs. Cundiff, SD

It drives the kind of loyalty that inspires our customers to send us their Highland Ridge moments.



Mr. & Mrs. Titley, FL

Mr. & Mrs. Oster, VA

Mr. & Mrs. Steyer

Mr. & Mrs. Skelley, MD



Highland
RIDGE RV

Own the Outdoors

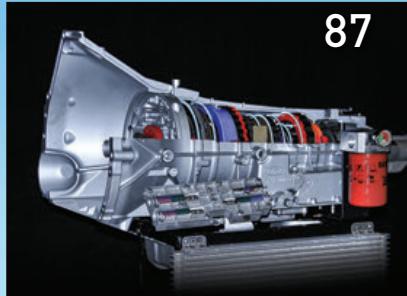
START YOUR JOURNEY AT HIGHLANDRIDGERV.COM

Highland Ridge RV, Inc., Circle 125 on Reader Service Card

CONTENTS



79



87



103

TRAILERS & TECHNICAL

63 Forest River Wildwood

The T26TBSS travel trailer, paired with the Ford F-150, makes it easy to enjoy the journey and the destination

68 Garage Brands

Why should fifth-wheels have all the fun? These conventional travel trailers haul your toys with the best of 'em

79 Elevation Sonoma

The CrossRoads fifth-wheel combines a touch of luxury with a cavernous garage capable of handling a four-seat ATV

87 Transmission Transformation

DieselSite uses products originally designed for racing to beef up transmissions in Ford trucks that tow heavy trailers

95 Whoa, Nelly!

Titan's disc brake conversion kit for trailers and fifth-wheels slows the horses down smoothly and with confidence

103 Interior Motives

From carpet to cabinets to furniture and more, your trailer's living space can be better than new

113 Big E-Go

Purple Line's European-inspired power trailer mover makes negotiating tight spots and hitching up as easy as pushing a button on a remote control

119 Hot Stuff

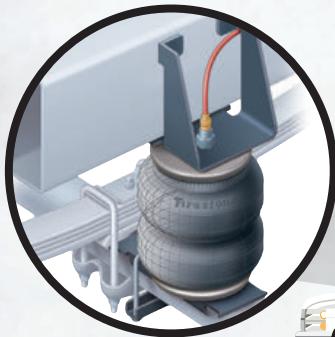
Truma introduces a powerful instant water heater with precision German engineering for American RVs

Carpe diem! See page 68 for a dozen sport-utility recreational vehicles designed to fuel your passion for adventure and the great outdoors.

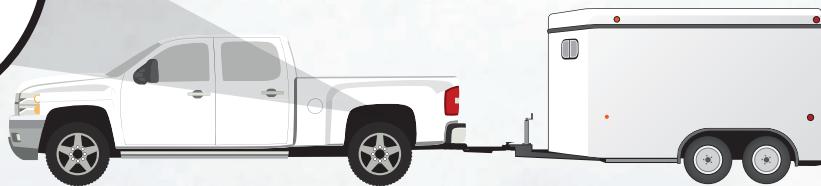


Eliminate Road-Wince

Road-Wince. It's the look you get when you're hauling a trailer full of cargo, and a bump, pothole or sharp turn is unavoidable. All you can think about is how it's going to affect you, your vehicle and your load. But **Ride-Rite™ Air Springs** provide the added support your suspension needs for you to haul with comfort, confidence and control. And noticeably less road-wince.



- + BETTER LOAD PROTECTION
- + MORE LEVEL LOADS
- + MORE COMFORTABLE RIDE
- + LESS BOTTOMING-OUT



EliminateRoadWince.com/TrailerLife or call 866-351-3890

Do not exceed the vehicle's recommended Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR).

RVs Are Natural Platforms for Change

Making improvements is personally satisfying, enhances the lifestyle and fuels bragging rights



Part of the fun of trailer or fifth-wheel ownership is making modifications to suit your individual tastes and lifestyle. For me, adding accessories and customizing systems that enhance the experience is a passion. My wife, Lynne, says it's an obsession. Must come from my fascination with cars as a young man.

I often joke about trailer and fifth-wheel suspensions. Nothing much has changed for years, but, fortunately, there are aftermarket suppliers that provide components to improve ride characteristics. There are even a number of builders incorporating some of these changes in an effort to raise the bar. Spend some time on rough roads in any part of the country and you'll quickly see that bare-bones leaf-spring suspensions don't cut it.

Braking is another area that really pushes my buttons. Electric drum brakes provide some stopping power, but the technology is tired. In the auto industry, disc brakes are standard, and for good reason — they work better. While some higher-end trailers can be ordered with a disc brake option, it's nice to see that suppliers are also making kits available for the rest of the field. We made the swap to disc brakes with a system from Titan, and the results were eye-opening (page 95).

Another product that really piques my interest is a trailer mover. Self-propelled trailers are popular in Europe for obvious reasons, and now a kit has been designed for use on U.S.-built trailers. We installed the remote-controlled Purple Mover E-Go (page 113) on a travel trailer, and it really takes the edge off maneuvering in tight spaces. Not only is the E-Go fun and practical, but with one, you can be the first in your campground to show off how a trailer moves "magically" without a tow vehicle.

Owners who keep their trailers looking sharp on the outside and meticulously maintain the underpinnings may end up with an interior that becomes dated. Making décor changes can be complex in an RV, and the guys at Dave and LJ's RV Interior Design in Woodland, Washington, have made a science out of RV remodeling. We spent time recording how it's done in a fifth-wheel (page 103).

In this case, the transformation was extensive and included new flooring, window coverings and furniture. Replacing the flooring is more complicated because of the slideouts, but Dave and LJ's has perfected a process that's seamless and professional. The end result is an interior that looks modern and fresh — and ready for many more years of RV service.

When it comes to RVs, change is always good. 🚐

— Bob Livingston, publisher

Connect with us...

facebook.com/TrailerLifeMagazine twitter.com/TrailerLifeMag

DID YOU KNOW?

According to a Recreation Vehicle Industry Association study, nearly one in 12 vehicle-owning households in the United States now has an RV — that's more than 8.9 million American families with a house on wheels.

Publisher Bob Livingston
Editorial Director Eileen Hubbard
Editor Valerie Law
Managing Editor Donya Carlson
Technical Editor Chris Hemer
Senior Art Director Rick Damien
Production Director Bob Dawson
Production Manager Brenda Hutchinson
Sales Administrator Katey Purgatorio

Consulting Editors Wes Caughlan, Ken Freund, Jeff Johnston

Contributors Jack Ballard, Kristopher Bunker, Bob Carpenter, Kenneth W. Dahse, Emily Fagan, Bill Graves, Kevin Livingston, Paula Loefer, Pamela Selbert

Vice President National Sales Terry Thompson
847-229-6759

RV Marketplace/Classifieds Katey Purgatorio
847-229-6756, katey.purgatorio@goodsam.com

Southwest Sue Seidlitz
530-268-3005, sue.seidlitz@goodsam.com

Southeast Kim Whitaker
919-412-6325, kim.whitaker@goodsam.com

Northeast Lou Cicirelli
954-297-9234, lou.cicirelli@goodsam.com

Northwest Scott Oakes
847-229-6758, scott.oakes@goodsam.com

Detroit Scott Crompton, Crompton Holdings
334-546-7243, scottcrompton@mac.com

Chairman Emeritus Art Rouse
Publisher Emeritus Bill Estes

Customer Service

Subscriptions (print and digital)
800-825-6861
trailerlife@cdsfulfillment.com

Editorial
info-tl@goodsam.com
www.trailerlife.com

GS MEDIA & EVENTS

President Mark Boggess
Senior Vice President/Group Publisher Bob Livingston
Vice President/Advertising Sales Terry Thompson

The New Audit Bureau of Circulations

Trailer Life (ISSN 0041-0780) is published monthly by GS Media & Events (a division of Good Sam Enterprises, LLC), 2750 Park View Court, Suite 240, Oxnard, CA 93036. Periodicals postage paid at Oxnard, CA 93036, and additional mailing offices. The annual subscription rate is \$17.97 per year in the U.S. For Canadian and International subscriptions, add \$12 per year. U.S. funds only.

U.S. Postmaster Send address changes to *Trailer Life*, P.O. Box 5860, Harlan, IA 51593-1360.

Canadian Return Address GS Media & Events, 4960-2 Walker Road, Windsor, Ontario N9A 6J3. Publication Sales Agreement 40012332.

Printed in the United States

Trailer Life is a registered trademark of Affinity Group, Inc. Copyright 2015 by Affinity Group, Inc. All rights reserved.

Privacy Promise *Trailer Life* will never intentionally share subscribers' names, addresses or other personal information with other companies when requested not to do so. If you do want to opt out from receiving marketing offers in the mail from other reputable companies, or you opt out and subsequently desire to opt back in, contact *Trailer Life* by mail, phone or email:

Trailer Life Mail Preference Service
P.O. Box 5860, Harlan, IA 51593-1360
800-825-6861, trailerlife@cdsfulfillment.com

This policy applies to postal mail; *Trailer Life* will not send commercial emails to subscribers unless authorized to do so.

A DIVISION OF GOOD SAM ENTERPRISES, LLC

Chairman & CEO Marcus Lemonis **Executive VP** Tom Wolfe

#1 Selling
Fifth Wheel
Toy Hauler
in North America
According to
Recreation Industry...
2011-2014



CYCLONE **WARRIOR**

BY HEARTLAND



www.HEARTLANDRVs.com

The Heart of Family Recreation



Heartland Recreational Vehicles, LLC, Circle 121 on Reader Service Card

We worked far beyond what the eye can see.



LUXE

by AUGUSTA

Legend. Luxury. Lifestyle.

www.augusta-rv.com

Augusta RV LLC, Circle 102 on Reader Service Card



Now That's Italian!

"One Hot Italian" by Bill and Jenn Gehr in the March 2015 issue was a great article regarding the Italian SMEV stove. I am a frustrated chef and hate the stove in my RV. I thought, "I gotta get one of those!" But wait a minute, you can't! What was the point of the article when the product isn't available?

Jay Heitmann, Columbus, Montana

Jay, you'll need to have an RV dealer order the SMEV stove-and-oven combination (model CU43410730000US) directly from Dometic. — Editors

Tall Tale

I have to ask if there was a misprint in the March issue. Kris Bunker's "Living It Up" states that the new Forest River Cardinal 3800FL is 13 feet 9 inches tall. Today, as I entered the Pennsylvania Turnpike, I saw a big sign stating "Vehicles Over 13' 6" Prohibited." I suspect there are many other highways with similar restrictions.

Kevin Morris, Wampum, Pennsylvania

Our mistake, Kevin. The exterior height of the Cardinal 3800FL is, in fact, 13 feet 6 inches. — Editors



Know What to Tow

In the March Letters, I noticed Tom Loesing's "Texas Train" photo. I was wondering if it's legal in Texas to tow a travel trailer with another trailer behind it. In Michigan you must have a recreational double "R" endorsement on your driver's license, and the second trailer must be pulled behind a fifth-wheel. The truck must be capable of pulling and stopping the load. Overall length is limited to 65 feet.

Robert Kelly, Ottawa Lake, Michigan

Traveling Through Time

My husband and I are on our third travel trailer, which we use at least once a month. After reading the March 2015 issue, the nostalgia set in.

Janet and Stuart Wilson's article on Pacific Northwest lighthouses, "Let There Be Light," really struck a chord with me, having gone to college in Bellingham, Washington. My parents lived on a tugboat during the '70s in Friday Harbor on San Juan Island, and my father had the distinction of raising and lowering the ramp when the ferry docked there.

Then I turned the page, and there was Al Swanson's article on the Great Smoky Mountains. More nostalgia! Cades Cove and the Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail are two of our favorite places to visit on trips to Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Good work, *Trailer Life!* I read the magazine from cover to cover every month.

Carol Cox, Miami, Florida



I just read "Texas Train" in the March *Trailer Life*. I was happy to see another person who pulls two trailers behind his truck. My wife and I have found that our desire to have our boat with us is best suited to having a fifth-wheel and towing the boat behind the trailer. Every state has different laws and size restrictions that make it difficult to know for sure if you can actually use this setup in a given place.

We are now retired and would love to explore our great country. I have a commercial driver's license with endorsements for double and triple towing on my license. How can I know if I can drive into a state and be allowed to continue on without legal difficulties? I don't know about you, but I would not like to leave my boat or camper along the side of a road somewhere.

George Warren, Griffin, Georgia

Doing an Internet search for "towing laws" will result in multiple sources of information about towing restrictions in different states and provinces. Robert: Triple towing (two trailers) is allowed in Texas with a maximum combined length of 65 feet. — Editors

Good Times in the Great Smokies

In Al Swanson's March article about the Great Smoky Mountains, the best route to get there was not mentioned. If you enjoy visiting every tourist trap and sitting through hours of traffic, go through Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg. However, if you want to avoid those things, there is another way into the national park, and a peaceful one at that. The little town of Townsend, Tennessee, has the least traffic of the three main entrances. We stayed at Lazy Daze Campground on the Little River, where you can go rafting right outside your campsite. We felt at home in this beautiful, quaint little town with easy access to the Smokies.

**Pete and Gloria Molin
Rough and Ready, California**

Keep Your Cool

I am commenting on "Bubble-Wrap Window Insulation," the March issue's 10-Minute Tech tip from Tim Bob. He used clear bubble-wrap to keep in heat in his RV. Here is how to adapt this method to keep out heat. Instead

LETTERS

of bubble-wrap, use water-heater insulation wrap, which is essentially the same thing with a reflective foil cover. It is extremely effective at keeping your RV cool. Cut the pieces a little snug so they can pop into window frames and pull out again when you want to see outside.

Lynn Bootes, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Beat the Heat

I have a 2003 GMC Sierra HD 2500 with a Duramax pulling a 2005 Cedar Creek fifth-wheel. I just read the March RV Clinic about Ken Peterson's experience with his 2006 Chevy Silverado diesel overheating and had to respond about our first RV camping experience.

We left home heading to Mount Rushmore for a family reunion. Two hours later, the transmission overheated on Snoqualmie Pass. At 3,022 feet, it's not a tough pass, and my truck can certainly handle it. After 30 minutes or so, I could baby the truck for a few miles, but it would overheat and go into limp mode — nice feature with

the Allison but frustrating.

We limped into Ellensburg, Washington, and found the local GMC dealership, University Auto Center. We spent the entire day there, as their mechanics tried different things. My wife was so furious, she told me to go out in the lot and buy a truck that could pull the trailer. They didn't have one that would work for us, so I had to forgo that once-in-a-lifetime OK from my wife to buy a new truck.

After a full eight hours, the mechanics asked if we could hook up the trailer and try to reproduce the problem, so I went out with one of them and took it for a drive. Just a few miles east of Ellensburg, I-82 splits off from I-90 and heads south over Manastash Pass. We didn't get halfway up the short pass before we reproduced the problem. It turns out, using the Tow/Haul mode and not using overdrive when hitched (as the owner's manual clearly states to do while pulling a trailer) was overheating the transmission and led the engine to work

harder and overheat more easily.

We learned from that one drive to use the Tow/Haul mode only when going up large hills and mountain passes, and to always leave it in overdrive. That was in 2005, and never again has the tranny or engine overheated.

Mark Johnson, Monroe, Washington

Quality Time

I was reading Bob Livingston's March Driver's Seat column, "New Models Create a Buzz," and it would seem the RV industry has fully recovered from the recession. I'm glad the manufacturers are doing well; however, there seems to be one area that still needs improvement — build quality.

I go to shows and see crooked screws, mismatched moldings and other initial build flaws across most brands. I work for a major supplier to the automotive industry. Poor quality in automotive components is simply unacceptable these days. We have standard work procedures, process controls,

PROTECT ALL

PROTECT YOUR RV INVESTMENT

SERVING THE RV INDUSTRY FOR OVER 25 YEARS

MOTORHOME READERS CHOICE AWARDS

TRAILER READERS CHOICE AWARDS

RUBBER ROOF CLEANER & RUBBER ROOF TREATMENT
REDUCES RUBBER ROOF MAINTENANCE BY 75%

OXIDATION REMOVER
ONE-STEP APPLICATION
CLEANS, POLISHES & SEALS

PROTECT ALL
5 PRODUCTS IN 1
CLEANS, POLISHES, WAXES, SHINES, PROTECTS

BLACK STREAK CLEANER
REMOVES GREY STREAKS, GREASE, BUGS
CLEANS FIBERGLASS, AWNINGS,
TIRES, WHEELS & MORE

SLIDE OUT DRY LUBE & RUBBER SEAL
LUBRICATES & PREVENTS RUST
ON METAL SLIDES, EXTENDS SEAL
LIFE

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

WWW.PROTECTALL.COM

peer-to-peer audits and many other safeguards. The RV industry has a need for these types of procedures.

Dewey Caruthers Jr.
Kernersville, North Carolina

Misadventures in History

Concerning Kathy Cabrera's "Adventures in History" article in the March magazine, Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote her Little House stories while living in Mansfield, Missouri, not De Smet, South Dakota, although the books covered some of the time she lived in De Smet. For anyone interested in learning a lot more about the author's life, there's a free class offered at Missouri State University in my hometown of Springfield.

Bill Shireman, Springfield, Missouri

In the "Adventures in History" article, you noted Black Bart's on the list of Arizona RV parks. We stayed there in September 2014, and a good number of sites had permanent guests and were unbecoming. On a good note, Whistler

Gulch RV Park, which you listed in South Dakota, is a great place to stay.

Bill Wallingford, Box Elder, South Dakota

Campsite Confusion

In the March article about visiting Puget Sound lighthouses, "Let There Be Light," Lakeside RV Park in Everett was noted as having 70 RV campsites. We have 150 sites.

Lakeside RV Park Management
Everett, Washington

It's a Wonderful Life

I really enjoy Bill Graves' America's Outback column. Must be a great life getting to see all the sights in our beautiful country. Safe travels!

Keith Engelmeier
Rockville, Maryland 🇺🇸

TALK TO US! Write to: *Trailer Life*,
2750 Park View Court,
Suite 240, Oxnard, California 93036 or
email info@trailerlife.com. Please include
your full name and location.

SWIVEL WHEEL.COM



Fast Master Products
866-794-8357

500-1200 LB. CAPACITY, TORSION SUSPENSION
CANNOT JACKKNIFE OR FISHTAIL

SwivelWheel



281-391-6750

Fast Master Products, Circle 116 on Reader Service Card

"The View From My Office Window"

Highway I-94 in North Dakota
Taken by Classic Transport driver, Linda Reynolds, Blairsville, GA

If you'd like to clock in behind a steering wheel instead of a desk...

Exchange inter-office memos for road maps...

Get paid for what other RVers only do on vacation...

Call Classic Transport.

As an RVer, you already have the skills needed to deliver RVs for Classic Transport; and with us, you have unequalled **freedom & flexibility**: YOU choose where to drive, when, and how often – starting from your very first trip.

Check out the video of other RVers who made the move at www.ClassicTransport.com and find out how you, too, can **get paid to live the dream**.

You'll be surprised at how easy it is to get started!

www.ClassicTransport.com
866-724-1606



CLASSIC TRANSPORT INC.
WITH YOU FOR THE LONG HAUL

Classic Transport, Circle 111 on Reader Service Card

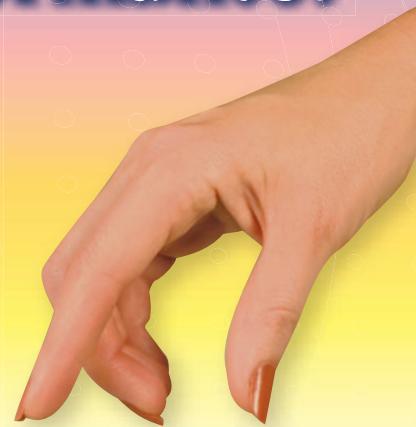
NEW

**Two fresh NEW scents –
Same Great Performance!**

THETFORD Aqua- KEM®

HOLDING TANK DEODORANT

- Powerful odor control & superior waste digestion
- Liquefies waste fast to prevent clogs
- 100% biodegradable



Garden Mist

Morning Sky



12 - 1.5-oz. Toss-Ins™ Packets

32-oz.
Liquid



6-Pack of
8-oz. Bottles

64-oz.
Liquid



12 - 1.5-oz. Toss-Ins™ Packets

Theford Corporation, Circle 154 on Reader Service Card

THETFORD
Going Places

From the RV Sanitation Expert

www.thetford.com

Little Rock's Greek Food Festival

Sample distinctive home-made food and culinary traditions, folk music and family entertainment in Arkansas' capital. *Opa!*

article by Pamela Selbert

You might not think of Little Rock, Arkansas, as a likely place to find authentic Greek cuisine or other Hellenic culture. But that would be only if you have never been to the International Greek Food Festival, a popular annual event since 1984, held at the city's Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church.

The festival, which fills the church's 4-acre property, started small, as a single booth at another Little Rock event, says Gus Vratsinas, cochairman and one of the founders. Now on its own, the food festival attracts more than 40,000 visitors over three days who come to dine and see entertainment (music and folk dancing from half a dozen countries), a fascinating Old World Market, a "grocery" where Greek specialty foods are available, a children's area with a climbing wall and other activities, and even tours of the church, led by the pastor, Dr. Nicholas Verdaris. But, of course, food is the focus — there's even a drive-through — and visitors line up for every traditional Greek dish you can think of: baklava and other pastries, spanakopita, loukanika, souvlaki and gyros.

Vratsinas explains that, for several months prior to the event, men and



(Above) A troupe of dancers in traditional costumes performs a complex line dance, popular in Greek culture. (Right) One of the many vendors at the festival prepares a tray of tasty souvlaki — skewered, grilled chunks of meat that's usually lamb.

women of the church prepare and freeze food, and throughout the festival, the church kitchen bustles with activity. However, because the congregation is made up of 18 different nationalities (all orthodox groups), food served at the festival also represents this diversity and includes Middle Eastern fare (tabbouleh, falafel and hummus), as well as Indian dishes (pilaf, masala, and chicken and vegetable curry).

The Old World Market is particularly popular. Dozens of people set up booths to sell an array of unusual imported items: Mediterranean silver jewelry, dance scarves, stained-glass lamps, Russian nesting dolls, handmade toys, European art and much more. Religious icons, other artwork and books are available at the church bookstore.

Vratsinas reports that the parish was founded in Little Rock by Greek immigrants in 1913 and moved to its current location 70 years later. The church building, new in 1983, now has a congregation of more than 200 families, he says. Proceeds from the festival benefit seven charities, including Easter Seals Arkansas, Arkansas Children's Hospital and



Harmony Health Clinic, a free medical and dental clinic in Little Rock.

The International Greek Food Festival will celebrate its 31st anniversary, May 15 to 17, 2015, at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 1100 Napa Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72211. Admission and parking are free.

For more information on the festival, call 501-221-5300 or visit www.greekfoodfest.com.

RV Parks

Burns Park Campground and RV Park, North Little Rock

Campground in a large municipal park with 30/50-amp electric hookups and a fenced dog area. Rates from \$18 to \$20. 501-771-0702, www.northlittlerock.org

Maumelle Recreation Area and Campground, Little Rock

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers campground with more than 100 RV sites with electric and water hookups, including some sites along the Arkansas River. Rates from \$22 to \$26. 501-868-9477, www.recreation.gov



Luxe-urious Residential Fifth-Wheel

Augusta RV has designed what it calls a “fully residential fifth-wheel” from the ground up. The four-season Luxe is available in four floorplans (38, 39, 40 and 42 feet) with three interior design choices that include white cabinetry and light vinyl plank flooring (Beachfront), light brown décor (Countryside) and dark brown (Manhattan). Unique to the Luxe is an optional residential oven with four burners (standard is a two-burner electric induction cooktop) and soft touch side walls. Soft touch is an insulator and noise barrier with a contemporary appearance, and although it has been used previously on RV ceilings in the industry, Augusta claims that the Luxe is the first to use the material in a side wall. Outside, the Luxe gets custom body paint in Twilight or Eclipse.



Manhattan décor

Premium knotty alder wood and dovetail drawers are used throughout, and all of the furniture is residential. In the galley is plenty of storage space, and the stove’s tile backsplash is hand-laid and grouted. LG-brand appliances and products are standard, including the stainless-steel 21-cubic-foot refrigerator and convection microwave. The trailer’s LED lighting is controlled by color-coded multiplex panels. Two LED TVs with Blu-ray players make their home in the Luxe — a 50-inch HDTV with a sound bar in the living room and a 40-inch HDTV in the bedroom. Some floorplans include an outside entertainment system with an LED HDTV.

Standard in all models is an 85-inch sleeper sofa, plus a choice of 72-inch theater seating or rocker recliners. Several models include a buffet table with chairs. Sleeping arrangements in the Luxe are designed for couples to be comfortable with a palatial king-size bed. The bathroom boasts a vessel sink and a one-piece colored-to-match fiberglass shower with glass doors and an adjustable showerhead.

Mechanically speaking, the Luxe features a standard one-touch Equalizer Systems Auto-Level hydraulic system with oversize landing legs, MOR/ryde pinbox and independent suspension, Goodyear H-rated tires and disc brakes.

MSRP: \$129,000 to \$150,000

Augusta RV, 574-848-0200, www.augusta-rv.com



LF-40RE with Countryside interior



LF-39FB with Beachfront décor



Behind the Scenes at Kentucky Playhouse

Here’s a good summer deal: Volunteer at the Pioneer Playhouse in Danville, Kentucky, and stay at the campground for free. The playhouse is the state’s oldest outdoor theater and opens on June 5, 2015, for its 65th season. Five professional plays and a special stand-up comedy weekend are scheduled Tuesday through Saturday nights through August 22.

Colonel Eben Henson started the playhouse “to bring Broadway to the Bluegrass,” and 65 years later, playgoers have seen more than 3,000 aspiring actors perform there, including John Travolta, Jim Varney, Bo Hopkins, Lee Majors, Kim Darby and Johnny Crawford.

A great deal of the playhouse’s success is attributed to the dedicated efforts of the many volunteers. Volunteers help in the box office, pass out programs, usher, work in the concession stand, answer phones and take reservations, serve drinks to guests, paint and build sets, sew and alter costumes, do landscaping and distribute posters.

The Pioneer Playhouse’s box office was originally built as the train station for the 1950’s epic movie *Raintree Country*, starring Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Clift. On exhibit are iconic photos of the movie filming.

The campground has 35 sites with water and electric hookups, bathhouses and a dump station. In addition to a free stay in the campground, volunteers receive free meals during the time of their service.

For information about volunteering, contact Pioneer Playhouse at 866-597-5297, email pioneerplayhouse@att.net or visit www.pioneerplayhouse.com.

Colorado's Targets & Treasures

For young ones and those young at heart, Trinidad State Junior College in Colorado is offering a unique geocaching event on May 23, 2015. If a scavenger hunt combined with target shooting is your style, 40 two-person teams will be chosen to spend a day competing with targets placed up to 100 yards away. The event takes place in the ranchland and forested town of Trinidad, known for its Victorian architecture and spiritual myths of Native Americans and Spanish explorers.

In between shooting stops, contestants will be given coordinates to geocache locations and can expect to travel more than 50 miles. For the Targets & Treasures event, the \$75-per-team entry fee includes ammo and use of firearms. Shooters must be 13 or older. Admission for non-shooters is free. **Targets & Treasures, www.targetsandtreasures.com**



2014 Draws Record-Breaking Crowds to National Parks

The number of recreational visits to America's 405 national parks in 2014 was 292.8 million, breaking the record set in 1987 of 287.2 million visits.

"As the National Park Service (NPS) strives to share a more inclusive and well-rounded version of the American story through the places we care for, it is gratifying to see more people than ever coming to their national parks to enjoy nature, learn about history and spend time with their families," said NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. "Visitor spending in the communities near national parks supports hundreds of thousands of mostly local jobs in America year after year," Jarvis said. "With this record visitation, we should see something on the order of \$15 billion in visitor spending, 250,000 or more jobs and a \$28 billion effect on the U.S. economy."

Joshua Tree, Rocky Mountain, Grand Teton and Glacier national parks all saw record-breaking visitation last year, and the reopening of the Washington Monument after it was repaired following an earthquake, also added to the 2014 numbers. The NPS will celebrate its centennial in 2016 and plans to encourage even more visitation.

Most-Visited National Parks in 2014

Great Smoky Mountains ..	10,099,276
Grand Canyon	4,756,771
Yosemite	3,882,642
Yellowstone	3,513,484
Rocky Mountain	3,434,751
Olympic	3,243,872
Zion	3,189,696
Grand Teton	2,791,392
Acadia	2,563,129
Glacier	2,338,528



Yosemite National Park

NEWSWIRE

INDUSTRY NEWS



PHOTO BY SHAWN SPENCE

RV Shipments Hit Eight-Year High

According to the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA) survey of manufacturers last December, RV wholesale shipments reached an eight-year best of 356,735 units in 2014. This was an 11 percent gain over 2013. Additionally, December 2014 shipments totaled 26,736 units, 23.3 percent better than the previous December — the highest December total for RV wholesale shipments since 2005. Towable units ended 2014 at 312,784 units, a 10.6 percent increase over the 282,795 units shipped in 2013. Motorhomes climbed by 14.7 percent to 43,951 units from 38,332 units.

Said RVIA President Richard Coon, "The RV industry saw vibrant growth last year thanks to improving economic conditions and the deeply held preferences that consumers have for RV travel and camping. We look forward to riding that momentum to further gains."

RV EVENTS



Camping World/Good Sam Rally a Success in Phoenix

More than 2,600 RVers and 7,600 local RV enthusiasts visited the CW/GS Rally in Phoenix, Arizona, last February 26 to March 1 to view the hundreds of RVs on display and shop the 325 indoor exhibitors. Registered attendees enjoyed the Rally Dog Show, evening entertainment and other fun activities, and participated in a salute to military veterans. RVers generously donated 20 units of blood to United Blood Services, and 376 handmade blankets were crafted for Project Linus, an organization that provides blankets to children who are seriously ill or traumatized (www.projectlinus.org). Efforts fell short of the 1,087 couples needed to break the world record for the Largest Wedding Vow Renewal, but attendees didn't seem to mind as they blissfully recited their "I do's." Download free photos of the 2015 Rally at www.therally.smugmug.com.



Face the Giants at the Oregon Zoo

Find out what it's like to be a zookeeper and come face-to-face with some of the world's giants at the Oregon Zoo in Portland. The zoo offers rhino, hippo, giraffe and penguin encounter tours Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Participants get to see the variety of animal diets and treats, and learn from an experienced keeper about how the

zoo cares for the animals. "You don't fully grasp how large a rhinoceros is until you're standing next to one," says tour leader Dave Thomas. "And I don't think you walk away from an experience like that without caring a little more deeply about these animals and their place in the world."

Thomas, who has been with the zoo for almost 40 years, worked with

the chimpanzees and built a strong connection with renowned chimp expert and conservationist Jane Goodall, who visited the zoo in 1979. Other prominent guests have included President Jimmy Carter, who met Thomas and the zoo chimps during a 1976 campaign stop.

The Oregon Zoo is dedicated to inspiring the community to create a better future for wildlife. The zoo is currently working to save endangered California condors, Oregon silverspot and Taylor's checkerspot butterflies, western pond turtles and Oregon spotted frogs. Other projects include studies on Asian elephants, polar bears, orangutans and giant pandas.

The zoo opens at 10 a.m. daily. General admission is \$11.50 (ages 12 to 64), \$10 for seniors (65 and up), \$8.50 for kids (ages three to 11) and free for children age two and younger. To register, visit www.oregonzoo.org/discover/behind-scenes-tours.

Oregon Zoo
503-226-1561, www.oregonzoo.org

HOW DO YOU ESCAPE?

Introducing the Escape 5.0TA

A lightweight and aerodynamic tandem axle fifth-wheel trailer.

With a dry weight of only 3800lbs, **the 5.0TA is a perfect fit for mid-sized trucks.** With a molded fiberglass unibody design and maximized floorplan, travelling in the Escape 5.0TA successfully brings together comfort and efficiency. High quality interior finishes combined with an extensive list of custom options give you the opportunity to design a trailer that is specifically tailored to your needs and style of camping.

Overall Length	21' 2"
Interior Height	7' 2"
Usable Floor Space	7'
Kitchen Counter	34"



Escape Trailer Industries
Proudly built in British Columbia, Canada

escapetrailer.com | 855-703-1650 | Buy factory direct in Chilliwack, B.C.

Boatload of Fun

Your ship awaits for a unique way to register at an RV park in Townsend, Georgia

article and photos by Paula Loehr

It's a matter of routine for RVers to have boatloads of fun when they travel, but how often have you entered a hand-built replica of a shrimp boat to register for your campsite? At Lake Harmony RV Park in Townsend, Georgia, the boat-shaped office designed and constructed by owner Larry Kozior is certainly out of the ordinary. Co-owner Shari Kozior says the registration boat is a tribute to the shrimping industry that keeps the local economy in and around Darien, Georgia, afloat.

The surprising shrimp boat registration office is just the beginning of the fun-filled camping experience at Lake Harmony RV Park. The tranquil back-to-nature atmosphere and impeccably maintained facilities at the Koziors' wooded 60-acre Good Sam Park are likewise outstanding. The 40 pull-through campsites are shaded by a green canopy of Southern pine, hickory, birch, oak, maple and magnolia trees. Spacious sites feature full hookups (30/50 amps), Wi-Fi and cable TV. The tiled bathhouse-and-laundry complex is climate-controlled, squeaky clean



(Above from left) Spring-fed Lake Harmony offers a tranquil setting for campers. Lake Harmony RV Park's shrimp-boat-shaped registration office adds a touch of whimsy and a dash of local history.

and safely secured.

Scenic 18-acre Lake Harmony is a spring-fed fishing hole (up to 80 feet in depth) that's home to lunker largemouth bass and bluegill. There's a white sandy beach and a floating platform for swimmers. You might spot a great blue heron, osprey, red-tailed hawk or water turtle when you walk around the lake's edge, paddle a rented boat or kayak, or take a pontoon tour.

Located midway between Savannah and Brunswick, Lake Harmony RV Park is an easy half-mile off Interstate 95. To learn more or make a campsite reservation, call 888-767-7864, email info@lakeharmoniypark.com or visit www.lakeharmoniypark.com. 📞



LIGHT WEIGHT, QUIET AND POWERFUL



EF2000iS INVERTER

Powerful, portable and retro-cool, delivering maximum effort. It weighs only 44 pounds and features an extra-large handle for easy transport to almost anywhere. It's whisper quiet and meets the strictest environmental standards — simply the smartest way to power up.

To see our entire generator line or locate your nearest Yamaha dealer, visit yamhamotorsports.com/powerproducts



YAMAHA
POWER PRODUCTS
POWERFUL | DURABLE | RELIABLE

Read Owner's Manual before operation.
Specifications subject to change without notice.
©2014 Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A. All rights reserved.

WISCONSIN

..... *Charmer*

There's a more natural side to the Midwest's bustling Waterpark Capital, with magnificent riverside cliffs, rock formations, breathtaking parks and nature preserves

So extraordinary was a series of rapids on the otherwise placid Wisconsin River that early French explorers dubbed them the "dells," the English version of the French word *dalles*, which essentially means narrows. The Dells

of the Wisconsin River, also known as the Wisconsin Dells, occur on a 5-mile stretch in south-central Wisconsin. Here the robust river accelerates through a gorge lined with colorful sandstone cliffs, some rising to a height of more than 100 feet above the river.

By the mid-1800s, the Wisconsin Dells had become a major tourist attraction with a budding national reputation. Boat tours, offered from guide-powered rowboats, began as early as 1856. Steamboat excursions started in 1873, and in 1931 the town of Kilbourn City, in which most of the tourism was centered, changed its name to Wisconsin Dells to further capitalize on the tourist trade.

Manmade attractions, one in the form of a cabin called the Wonder Spot where optical illusions gave the appearance of water running uphill and chairs balancing on two legs, further



bolstered tourism in the 1950s. The Tommy Bartlett Show, an entertainment program based on trick water-skiing, came to nearby Lake Delton in 1952. The last decade of the 1900s saw a boom in attractions built in the Dells, to the point that the area is probably now more well known for its world-

class indoor and outdoor waterparks, carnival-like amusement centers and other shows.

However, the Wisconsin Dells still sit smack-dab in the center of some of the finest outdoor recreation and natural attractions in the state. On a recent visit to the area, Lisa and I set

out to explore more natural entertainment, after spending a wet and wild morning enjoying Noah's Ark, the largest waterpark in the United States.

Our first stop was the International Crane Foundation (ICF) near Baraboo, just 9 miles from Wisconsin Dells. We motored down a back road, passing a

The glassy waters of Mirror Lake attract paddlers and anglers alike. (Above left) Hiking trails at Devil's Lake State Park lead to many scenic vistas. (Above right) A question confronts every viewer of the famous Balanced Rock: How did it get there?





(Above from left) Visitors to the International Crane Foundation can lock eyes with endangered whooping cranes. A black-crowned crane, native to Africa, pokes about in a natural enclosure.

woodlands. An inconspicuous sign announced the entrance to the ICF, a conservation organization with an anything-but-inconspicuous impact on the global preservation of one of the earth's most magnificent families of birds: cranes.

Too late to catch one of the guided tours, we browsed the exhibits at the visitor center, then hit the trails leading to expansive enclosures housing every one of the world's 15 species of cranes.

The ICF is the only facility on the planet holding such a distinction, allowing bird lovers a rare opportunity to view all the world's cranes in a single visit. Not far from the visitor center, we spied a lovely black-crowned crane, native to Africa, poking about in its verdant abode of grass. Moments later, I found myself eye to eye with a curious sarus crane, a bird native to India that sometimes stands up to 6 feet tall.

Our next stop was the whooping crane exhibit. The rarest crane in the



Charmer in the Dells

Named for the Dells of the Wisconsin River, the city of Wisconsin Dells is one hour north of Madison, two hours northwest of Milwaukee, three hours northwest of Chicago and three hours southeast of Minneapolis. The Dells is the state's number one tourism destination.

EXHAUST BRAKES

DODGE / FORD / CHEVY

IMPROVE YOUR DRIVING SAFETY WHEN LOADED BY UTILIZING ENGINE RETARDING FORCES TO CONTROL YOUR DESCENT!



VARIABLE VANE

Turbochargers on current model engines utilize variable exhaust vanes to improve turbo response. We program the vanes to close off the exhaust when decelerating which creates retarding HP. When applied the transmission is down shifted, keeping engine rpm and engine retarding force high to help slow the truck down.



BUTTERFLY VALVE

BD's exclusive solid, offset butterfly is able to supply peak engine retarding pressure throughout the engine rpm. The spring loaded apply air cylinder is pressure regulated and provides up to 150 retarding hp - the highest and most constant retarding pressure available. Full kits with air compressor are available for most applications.



ALSO FEATURING

TAP SHIFTER



- Chevy 2001-2005 6.6L
- Ford 2008-2010 6.4L
- Eases gear selection
- Improves engine retarding
- Access peak pulling power



1.800.887.5030

BD Brake, Circle 104 on Reader Service Card



Flo doesn't personally cover your RV, but we do.

Progressive is America's #1 specialty RV insurance provider.
From motor homes to camper vans and travel trailers, we've got you covered.

PROGRESSIVE[®]

1.800.PROGRESSIVE / PROGRESSIVE.COM

Progressive Casualty Ins. Co. & affiliates. Insurance prices and products are different when purchased directly from Progressive or through independent agents/brokers.

No. 1 in specialty RV insurance from 2013 Millward Brown national survey data.

Progressive Insurance, Circle 145 on Reader Service Card

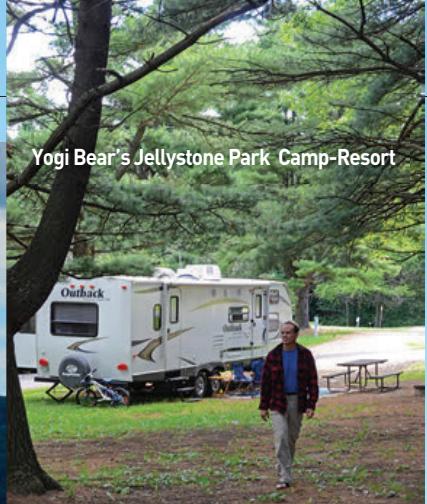


(Above) The cool, clear waters of Devil's Lake are a magnet to pilots of hand-powered watercraft. **(Below)** Kayaking on Mirror Lake is the ideal way to enjoy the water and wildlife.

world, whoopers are an American bird whose numbers plummeted to around two dozen in the mid-20th century. Extensive efforts to bolster the population of these magnificent cranes have been fraught with some success and many setbacks. The ICF has been highly instrumental in conservation efforts for whoopers in several locations in the United States. In a re-created natural wetland, we

watched a pair of the elegant white birds poke about in the reeds. Although the cranes were captive, it was still exhilarating to view such a rare American species that few people have seen in the wild, if at all.

The second day of our two-day visit to the Dells began with a daybreak departure from the family-favored Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort. Five minutes later we arrived at the



Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort

WHERE TO STAY

Devil's Lake State Park

RV camping with hookups, boating (electric motors only), canoeing, kayaking, fishing, hiking, biking, swimming, birding, scuba diving and picnicking on 9,000 acres. 608-356-8301, www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/devilslake

Mirror Lake State Park

RV camping with hookups, boating, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, hiking, biking, swimming, birding and picnicking on 2,200 acres. 608-254-2333, www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/mirrorlake

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort

RV camping with hookups, camping cabins, waterparks, outdoor sports and concessions on 67 acres. 800-462-9644 www.dellsjellystone.com



Devil's Lake was formed by ancient glacial activity. Natural overlooks on the trails above the waterway give visitors a peek at its unique geology.

boat launch at Mirror Lake State Park, where the Wisconsin Dells Visitor and Convention Bureau had graciously arranged a before-hours rental of two kayaks. With an ephemeral mist rising from the glassy surface of the lake, we launched our crafts, as the cheery chorus of an American robin greeted the day.

Our paddling route veered north from the launch, past an outpost of sheer rock outcroppings dropping directly into the lake. Gnarled trees clung to the vertiginous stone, their knobby roots sometimes exposed above the unrelenting stone where indiscernible crevices gave them purchase on the cliffs and transported nutrition to emerald canopies above the roots. Around a bend, our excursion met another party of lake travelers headed in the opposite



direction — a pair of Canada geese with some half-dozen half-grown goslings in tow. On a collision course, the geese warily veered shoreward to watch our passing from behind a partially submerged log.

Rhythmic strokes propelled the kayaks farther up the lake, where we encountered a pair of fishing boats. Excited chatter issued from one of the crafts, evidence, I presumed, of a successful outing. About the time I

LANCE CAMPER S

“Ultra Light Quality Redefined!”

At Lance, we have been setting the quality bar for 50 years. This year we have raised it yet again, redefining what a Luxury Ultra-Light Travel Trailer can be.

With all new designer decors, electric lateral arm awning, blue tooth compatible audio system and gorgeous front nose cap design with radius “sky view” window and integrated TPO gravel guard, we believe you don’t have to give up Quality and Luxury to get a lightweight, full featured, easy to tow travel trailer.

We are also honored and thank you for having been selected once again by Trailer Life readers as a “Readers Choice” in the Truck Camper category.

We encourage you to Discover The Lance Difference at LanceCamper.com.

50th Anniversary
Lance

began to sweat, Lisa called for a reprieve from the paddling.

Back at the launch, I looked reluctantly across the narrow lake at a bay disappearing on the far shoreline. On a similar trip some years previously, my youngest son and I viewed and photographed a host of birds in the shallows at the rear of the cove, including sandhill cranes, blue herons, osprey and an assortment of other waterfowl. But the day's ambitious itinerary beckoned in a different direction, this time to sandy soils near the Wisconsin River.

In 1935, Aldo Leopold, one of the greatest ecologists in American history, purchased a tired farm and tumbledown buildings along the Wisconsin River near Baraboo. There, Leopold and his family planted trees, worked to restore native grasses and other plants, and observed a regeneration of the natural world. Leopold died of a heart attack on the property in 1948 while fighting a grass fire on a neighbor's property. Shortly after his death, a collection of his essays was published under the title *A Sand County Almanac*. It has since sold more than 2 million copies and is considered an American classic in literature of the natural world.

Completed in 2007, the Leopold Center is located on

Near Baraboo, the Leopold Center provides a relaxing look at the life and work of conservationist Aldo Leopold, along with a glimpse of native plants and nature-friendly buildings.



THE ULTIMATE SCISSOR STEP SYSTEM

GlowStep glows in the dark for 10 hours with only five minutes of light exposure

Safely enter and exit your RV after dark

Aircraft grade fasteners to easily add and remove steps for different height applications

Legendary Lifetime Warranty

ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE

GlowGuide
Multi-Use Safety Handrail

SafeStep
Step Riser Guard

DirtDestroyer
Cleaning Attachment

Torklift International, Circle 156 on Reader Service Card



888-908-0322
torklift.com/trailerlife



TORKLIFT
INTERNATIONAL
OVER 35 YEARS OF INNOVATION, QUALITY, SAFETY.

B&W TRAILER HITCHES



COMPANIC
5th Wheel Hitch



Aldo Leopold's farm. The center was constructed from pines planted by Leopold in the 1930s and 1940s. It produces all its own energy, primarily from solar panels. Inside, visitors are intrigued by a fascinating look into the life and teachings of Leopold, primarily via vintage photos, artifacts from the farm and excerpts from his writings. The center also has a garden of native

wild plants and flowers, many of which Leopold described or were referred to in his essays.

Having read *A Sand County Almanac*, I was most curious to view the Shack, a former chicken coop on the old farm that Leopold converted to his family's residence while they tended the land. We found the weathered little building nestled

(Above from left) Aldo Leopold's Shack, part of the property managed by the Leopold Center. At Devil's Lake State Park, Wisconsin-style stress reduction awaits visitors.

among a stand of stately pines, trees planted by the hand of Leopold himself. After viewing the Shack, we wandered down a short trail to the banks of the Wisconsin River. Seemingly on cue, a



SANITATION MADE EASY.

Travel Jon® Liquid
8 oz., 3-Pack



Travel Jon®
Liquid, 32 oz.



Travel Jon® Liquid, 128 oz.



Travel Jon® Liquid, 64 oz.



Blue Max Toss-Ins, 10-Pack



Formaldehyde-Free • Environmentally-Friendly • Fights Odors

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

bald eagle came soaring up the river on the midday air currents. Back at the center, we admired and photographed several native wildflowers, including a compass plant, a prairie wildflower whose mature leaves point on a north-south axis.

Leaving the Leopold Center, we made a quick drive (12 miles) to Devil's Lake State Park, a 9,000-acre playground with a crystalline lake as its centerpiece. The lake itself is something of a geological wonder. During an ice age, the region was covered by the Wisconsin Glacier, which gouged and reshaped the landscape. One trough it created occurred at Devil's Lake, where deposits of earth and stone left by the glacier form two natural plugs in a valley. Underground springs spout between them, providing water for the 50-foot-deep Devil's Lake.

The park's 29 miles of hiking trails top our list of activities. Nearly 14 miles of the paths comprise part

of the Ice Age Trail, one of only 11 National Scenic Trails in the United States. The entire span of the more-than-1,000-mile Ice Age Trail is found in Wisconsin.

For our hike, we chose the short but strenuous climb to Balanced Rock, an inverted pyramid of quartzite. The stone is massive but appears it could topple at any moment from its perch on a flat ledge overlooking a cliff face. After admiring this geological oddity, we ascended further up the trail, until we scaled the East Bluff overlooking the lake. The scene begs for a photo. By the time we stowed the camera, we'd composed several dozen images.

We hiked for some distance on the East Bluff Trail, to which the Balanced Rock Trail connects, discovering additional views of the lake and relishing our footsteps on the Ice Age Trail, of which the East Bluff Trail is a portion. Then it was time to descend the path back to the parking area and turn our headlights toward our home

FOR MORE INFORMATION

International Crane Foundation

Crane viewing, guided tours, interpretive displays, nature trails and birding. 608-356-9462, www.savingcranes.org

Leopold Center

Guided tours, interpretive displays, hiking, birding, local history, native plants and ecology education. 608-355-0279, www.aldoleopold.org

Wisconsin Dells Visitors Bureau

Source of information for Wisconsin Dells area attractions, camping, lodging and dining. 800-223-3557, www.wisdells.com

in Montana.

The route brought us once again through Wisconsin Dells, bustling with couples and families enjoying its many manmade amusements. On a return trip, we'll doubtlessly play in a waterpark. But with so many outdoor attractions within minutes of the Dells, we'll spend just as much time savoring its natural side as well. 🗨️

WE MANUFACTURE TRUST

Products and services that turn customers into raving fans.



RUBBER PIN BOXES



SLIDING TRAYS



TV MOUNTS



SUSPENSIONS



EASY REELS



RUNNING GEAR



SLIDEZILLA

AND
MORE...



Above. Beyond. Always.

Visit www.TRUST.MORRYDE.COM to learn how.

MOR/Ryde, Circle 137 on Reader Service Card

Affordable luxury. Priceless enjoyment.

STARTING AT \$79,995*

INTRODUCING THE ALL-NEW JAYCO ALANTE



2
YEAR
WARRANTY

Starting at just \$79,995*, the all-new Alante Class-A motorhome is the perfect balance of comfort and value. So bring on the adventure—and make family memories that will last for generations.

Stunning Amish-crafted cabinetry • An LED-lit power awning • Superior construction and the industry's narrowest A-pillars • Fiberglass roof

Learn more at jayco.com/TrailerLifeMay

#LETSJAYCO

*Base price for the 31L and 31V floorplans starts at \$79,995 USD.


Jayco
Generations of family fun.

THE SUNNY SIDE OF OREGON

From royal-blue Crater Lake to the outdoorsy yet cosmopolitan city of Bend, this high-desert playground is flanked by the captivating Three Sisters peaks and perennially unattached Mount Bachelor

Central Oregon is protected from the Pacific Ocean's wet storms and moist air by the towering Cascade mountain range, giving it a dry climate that locals call the high desert. An RV trip through this area quickly makes it apparent, however, that it is hardly an arid place. Many beautiful rivers and stunning lakes fill the region. The sound of rushing streams and the sight of calm water set against snowcapped mountain backdrops become familiar and almost commonplace after camping in the area for a while.

On a recent trip with our fifth-wheel trailer, we came into central Oregon from the south after crossing the hundreds of miles of vast, open and barely inhabited desert valleys that spread out across

southeastern Oregon and northern Nevada. What a feast for the eyes it was to arrive at sparkling Diamond Lake, where the last vestiges of winter snow blanketed Mount Bailey, deep green trees pressed against a bright-blue sky and tiny wind-whipped waves lapped the shore. A paved 13-mile path around the lake made for an easy bicycle ride and gave us views of the water and surrounding mountains from all sides.

However, pretty Diamond Lake paled in comparison to her spectacular big sister, Crater Lake, a few miles away. We visited the national park on a warm morning in late May and were shocked to find snowdrifts that were twice our height in size. Even more stunning was the rich royal-blue color of the lake. As I looked at

The Crooked River winds through Smith Rock State Park near Bend, Oregon.





Vivid blue Crater Lake mirrors the rim's sparkling snow and pine trees.

the dozens of photos I was taking on my camera, I had to keep double-checking the color of the water. Was it really that blue? Yes, it was! All around the lake, the snow-covered mountains swept down to the water's edge, kissing their reflections in the placid water at the shoreline and creating perfectly mirrored images.

Crater Lake isn't just for gawking. Hiking trails cut through the mountains that surround the lake, and in summertime the park service offers boat rides. We were there a little early in the season, before the snow had melted off the trails and too soon to get out on a boat to admire the scenery rising up from the shore. An equally enjoyable alternative was having a nice cold microbrew beer out on the deck of the old log-built Crater Lake Lodge overlooking the majestic scenery.

Oregon is known for its microbrews, and nowhere is that more evident than in the city of Bend at the hub of central Oregon. Just two hours north of Crater Lake, Bend

is a youthful, hip and vibrant city with an outdoorsy, energetic spirit seemingly fueled by good coffee and great beer. There is a cute coffee kiosk or microbrew pub on almost every corner, and in the dry air of this high-desert region, everyone makes it a point to keep hydrated!

The Deschutes Brewery offers free tours and tastings, and we got a kick out of sampling their tasty Mirror Pond and Red Chair ales. Bend is proud to have more breweries per capita than any other city in Oregon. To help visitors find all the breweries, the local visitor center has created the Bend Ale Trail, complete with "passports" that visitors get stamped at each brewery they visit. Collect 10 stamps, and the passport can be redeemed for a prize at the visitor center. We started filling in our passport stamps with great intentions but still have a few to go.

The lovely Deschutes River flows through the heart of Bend, and following its flow is a great way to explore the city. The Deschutes River Trail runs along both sides of the river,



Outdoor enthusiasts paddle and float along the Deschutes River in Bend.



Central Oregon's ponderosa pine forests create naturally shady campsites.

High and Dry in Central Oregon

Central Oregon has a dry climate due to the rain-shadow effect of the Cascade Range. Wet air blows from the Pacific Ocean up against the western side of the mountains and it's forced to higher altitudes where pressure is lower. Moisture is lost when the air hits the barrier of the Cascades, and it warms up again as it continues down the eastern slope.



through downtown and then further south for miles out into the countryside. The path is paved in town where it is part of the Urban Trail. In the center of the city, it passes the expansive grassy lawns of parks where dog owners toss balls for their dogs and kids play Frisbee. Following this path on our bikes, we passed a series of eateries at the Old Mill District, a goldmine for shoppers, where outdoor seating provides a great view of the river and mountains beyond.

What a surprise it was to stop at a bridge and see dozens of people out on the river on paddleboards, kayaks, floating tubes and even Coleman air mattresses, making their way up- and downstream and getting a tan. The

pavement eventually yielded to a well-trodden dirt path that rose high above the river, and we could see some rapids at the base of the cliffs below. We watched a few intrepid hikers venture out onto some boulders midstream. The image of them sitting peacefully amid the rushing water, shirts off and swimming towels laid out on the rocks, a backdrop of sheer cliffs rising behind them with a sleek glass-walled office building perched at the top, seemed to describe Bend to perfection: rugged and adventurous yet chic and urban at the same time.

The Deschutes River Trail extends for many miles south of the city, and whether traveled by bike or on foot, the route is among the most scenic in

the area. Passing black, jagged beds of lava rock, the trail soars up and down over hills that line the river, offering dramatic views of several waterfalls along the way. When the river flattens out into a less tumultuous flow, the trail wanders into wide meadows. It has many access points, but, even though the trail is shared by bikers and walkers, so few people are on it at any point that there is little congestion.

Central Oregon is a woven tapestry

Vent it!



- Prevents odors from invading living space
- Speeds up waste breakdown
- Eliminates the need for chemicals
- Works in any wind condition
- Easy installation and universal fit

Flush it!



Waste Master
WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- Cam lock ensures leak-proof connection
- Smooth hose interior doesn't trap waste
- 18 ft. extended, 5 ft. compressed
- Stays extended during use
- Nozzle features clear port & shut-off valve

Support it!



FLOW
DOWN

- Adjusts to nearly any slope
- Prevents waste buildup
- Pivots hose around obstructions
- Extends up to 10 feet
- Stores in included bag, hose not included



Buy Online!
store.lci1.com



lippertcomponents.com



(Above from left) At 165 feet, the Goodpasture Bridge in Vida is the longest covered bridge still in daily use in Oregon. The waterfront Deschutes River Trail entices both hikers and cyclists.

of streams and rivers. Just a little to the north and east of Bend, the Crooked River winds an incredibly twisted path through the landscape. Smith Rock State Park is just a half hour north of Bend, yet when we came upon deer as we hiked its River Trail, it seemed a world away. Smith Rock is a rock-climbing mecca, and serious climbers scale its walls. I kept hearing voices and couldn't figure out where they were coming from until I finally tipped

my head back and looked up. Climbers were scattered across the rock face hundreds of feet above me!

Hikers can opt for a several-hour jaunt up and over steep hills past stony spires on the aptly named Misery Trail, or they can take a flat route on the River Trail along the banks of the river. Both trails are equally breathtaking for their scenic vistas, but the River Trail won't leave you gasping for air.

The Crooked River extends far

Recreation and Trails

Bend Park and Recreation District
www.bendparksandrec.org

Cascade Lakes Scenic Byway and McKenzie Pass-Santiam Pass Scenic Byway
www.fhwa.dot.gov/byways/states/or

Crater Lake National Park
www.nps.gov/crla

Lower Crooked River Recreation Area
www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation

McKenzie Pass Scenic Bikeway
www.rideoregon.com

Smith Rock State Park
www.oregonstateparks.org

beyond Smith Rock State Park, and the scenic drive that follows it to the south and east is filled with generous views of beautiful farmlands backed by hills.

The small town of Prineville sits on this river's edge about an hour east of Bend, and for 20 miles south of town,

America's #1 Choice for RV Shade

Easy Push-Button Power Awning

Dometic's 9100 Power Awning Features Adjustable Arms for Rain Runoff

- Easy operation – just press a button to extend or retract
- Easy installation – save time and money
- Internal motor for a clean look and moisture protection
- Adjustable arms for rain runoff or more pitch for shading
- Choices of hardware color and fabric designs
- Easy manual operation in the event of power failure



Dometic's 9100 Power Awning extends or retracts with the press of a button

LOWEST INSTALLED PRICE GUARANTEED
for Good Sam Club Members



Watch the 9100 Power Awning Video





WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STARCRAFT.



DREAMS COME TRUE!

SOLSTICE | TRAVEL STAR | AUTUMN RIDGE | LAUNCH | AR-ONE | COMET | STARFLYER

OUR FULL LINE IS 50 YEARS IN THE MAKING. At Starcraft RV, we're about building quality fifth wheels, travel trailers and camping trailers to satisfy any lifestyle or budget. That's why so many families are discovering the real value in our full lineup of RVs. You'll find the brightest innovations, highest quality standards, and better support thanks to a true 2-year warranty—all from one of the oldest, most respected RV names on the planet.

OVER
50 YEARS



AMAZING 2-YEAR WARRANTY!

The Starcraft warranty is a manufacturer's limited warranty at no additional charge for all Starcraft models. Warranted to the original purchaser for twenty-four (24) months from the original date of purchase against defects in materials and workmanship. See your Starcraft RV dealer for details.



STARCRAFT®

THE FUTURE OF CAMPING | pure and simple.

Find the RV of your dreams at: starcraftcamping.com

the river meanders through a canyon of fantastic lava beds and rock postpiles. The Bureau of Land Management oversees this entire section of the river and has created the Lower Crooked Wild and Scenic River Recreation Site, a heavenly spot for anglers (especially fly-fishing enthusiasts) where one riverfront campground practically blends into the next. At least half the sites are on the water, and they fill up quickly in the summer. These campgrounds are ideal for smaller to medium-size RVs, but the biggest rigs will require a shoehorn to get in.

The McKenzie River flows on the west side of Bend, and it is perhaps best loved for the gorgeous scenic drive that follows its shores. Starting just outside the charming town of Sisters, the McKenzie River portion of the McKenzie Pass-Santiam Pass Scenic Byway climbs through a 10-mile series of switchbacks on the way to the summit. We climbed up the rocky stairs of the old stone Dee Wright Observatory turret



Snowcapped peaks decorate the drive to Sisters.

at the top to take in the exotic views of vast lava beds that stretch to the horizon in all directions.

Also known as the McKenzie Pass Scenic Bikeway, this stretch is closed during the winter and for the first four weeks of spring is open only to bicycles, prior to opening to motorized traffic. A serious and scenic workout, the route is considered one of the premier road rides in the state. After

taking a breather at the top, the most hardy cyclists fly down the sweeping hairpin turns on the far side of the pass before climbing up and over again to return to Sisters. Mountain bikers can catch a shuttle ride in Bend that will deliver them to the top of McKenzie Pass and pick them up after they soar to the bottom on a single-track trail through the thickly forested western flank of the mountain.

QUIET OPERATION WITH 3-STAGE BATTERY CHARGING

Clean, Reliable DC Power for RV Electronics, Lighting & Appliances

WFCO CONVERTER/CHARGERS

- Quiet operating cooling fan runs only when needed
- Designed to prevent interference with televisions, radios or other signals
- Automatic three-stage charging maintains battery life:
 - 13.2 volt “float” mode
 - 13.6 volt “absorption” mode
 - 14.4 volt “bulk” charge mode
- Automatically shuts down power during overload or short circuit conditions.
- Mfr. 2 year limited warranty.



**LOWEST
INSTALLED
PRICE GUARANTEED**
for Good Sam Club Members



CA037643

SAVE TODAY. VACATION TOMORROW.

See how much you could save on RV insurance.

GEICO® *for your RV*
geico.com | 1-877-434-2678 | local office



Geico, Circle 118 on Reader Service Card

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans and features are not available in all states or all GEICO companies. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, D.C. 20076; a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. © 2015 GEICO

**NEVER GET ON YOUR
ROOF AGAIN!!!**



**RV ARMOR IS THE
"DIRECT BOND"
RV ROOF SYSTEM**

**RV ARMOR IS A CUSTOM FIT
MANUFACTURED NEW ROOF**

RV Armor is Lightweight:

Seamless, and Maintenance Free

RV Armor is Convenient:

We come to You. Virtually anywhere in the US

RV Armor is Permanent:

Lifetime Material & Labor Warranty. Goes with the VIN#

RV Armor is Affordable:

Less expensive than a traditional roof replacement

Bonds Directly Over:

Rubber • Fiberglass • Metal
Wood Decking

**Generally a Two Day Process
Nationwide Service**

**No Adhesives.
Bonds directly to
multiple surfaces.
GUARANTEED FOR LIFE!**

Call us or check us out on the web and
find out why many experts consider RV
Armor the Ultimate RV Roofing solution



**Call 855-RV-Armor
(855-782-7667)**

WWW.RV-ARMOR.COM

THE SUNNY SIDE OF OREGON



Pretty Suttle Lake makes a scenic stop on the drive over Santiam Pass in central Oregon's Cascade Mountains.

The other half of the byway is a little easier driving and travels over equally scenic Santiam Pass, which is open all winter. This route passes Suttle Lake, a small lake that is great for sailing and powerboating. The elegant Lodge at Suttle Lake (opening for the season on May 16 this year) is worthy of a visit. At the entrance a massive pair of handsome and elaborate wooden doors carved by Sisters artist Chester "Skip" Armstrong depict an Indian eagle dancer in a striking pose. Inside, a large and inviting stone-hearth fireplace awaits.

Continuing along the McKenzie River, Sahalie (Chinook for "heaven") Falls is among the most beautiful

waterfalls in the state and can be seen after a short walk from the parking area. The blast of cold, moist air from the crashing falls was refreshing, and the stone stairs leading to its base lured us further down. From there, we discovered a junglelike walk that follows a pretty trail through the rainforest on the McKenzie River's edge. Every now and then, the water rushing past us flashed a vivid turquoise. We were smitten by these falls and found the wet environment a fabulous contrast to the drier and dustier hikes along the Deschutes and Crooked rivers. Even the wooden handrails along the stairways were

Where to Stay in Bend

Bend/Sisters Garden RV Park

Top-rated Good Sam Park with paved RV sites, 30/50-amp hookups, Wi-Fi, fire rings, propane, pet walks, on-site fishing pond, heated pool and spa, nature trails and picnic areas. Nightly 10 percent discount for Good Sam Club members. 888-503-3588, www.bendsistersgardenrv.com

CrownVilla RV Resort

Set in a quiet residential area, this big-rig-friendly RV resort has full-hookup sites on brick pavers, Wi-Fi and cable TV, tennis, shuffleboard, disc golf, a clubhouse and a fitness center. Pets welcome. 866-500-5300, www.crownvillarvresort.com

Scandia RV Park

Family-owned RV campground with mature trees and green grass, full-hookup sites, Wi-Fi, cable TV, laundry facilities and a recreation hall. Walk to nearby restaurants. Pets welcome. 541-382-6206, www.scandiarv.com

green with moss and damp and thick with forest growth.

Making our way a little farther along the McKenzie River, we came to the Goodpasture Bridge in Vida, the second longest covered bridge in Oregon and the longest that has been in continual use since it was built. We had thought that covered bridges were found only in the Midwest, but this bridge is one of several scattered throughout Oregon. As we stood there photographing this unique bridge, a mint condition 1959 Corvette convertible drove through it!

Another designated scenic route in central Oregon is the Cascade Lakes Scenic Byway. This stretch extends from Bend to the north, then curves west and south, and it is among the most picturesque drives in the state. This road is ideal for a leisurely bike ride, but boaters and campers rush straight to the alpine lakes along this route for waterfront scenery that is unsurpassed. Several small lakes dot this landscape, and each is flanked by views of the Three Sisters mountains. These three peaks, named Faith, Hope and Charity, have flirted mercilessly with lonely Mount Bachelor since the first volcanic eruptions in the area eons ago. The neighboring peak has yet to win their affections, however, and stands off to one side, admiring them all from a distance while luring skiers and snowboarders in the winter and chairlift-riding sightseers in the summer.

Whether your preference runs to the urban pleasures of fine dining, beer tasting and shopping or the outdoor pursuits of hiking, biking and water sports, central Oregon is an area that is sure to satisfy. Our several-week stay was in the late spring when the snow was melting and the locals were stripping off their winter parkas in favor of shorts and bathing suits. However, summer or fall would be equally lovely, and at those times all of the higher-elevation trails and roads would be snow-free and open to visitors.

After our thrilling first visit and introduction to central Oregon, we have already put the area back on our list for a return RV trip with a newly refined agenda of what we plan to see and do! 🚐

SpaceCraft
The Ultimate in Personal Space.

It's All About You!
Now Offering Full Body Paint For Your RV

Fit your trailer to your lifestyle.
Contact us today and we will
custom design a trailer for YOU!
888.463.7520
Concordia, MO
spacecraftmfg.com

SpaceCraft Mfg., Circle 151 on Reader Service Card

Hydraulic Landing Gear for Fifth Wheels!

- **Affordably replaces** mechanical landing gear for easy set-up
- Engineered like aircraft landing gear for **exceptional stability**
- Electric/manual pump provides **power extend/power-retract** dependability
- Use as landing gear or in combination with other jacks to make a **complete leveling system**



*Exceptional stability. Outstanding value.
The runway is clear!*



For more information go to
www.HWH.com or call 1-800-321-3494

HWH Corporation, Circle 128 on Reader Service



Buy Factory Direct WEEKEND WARRIOR

built by



2016

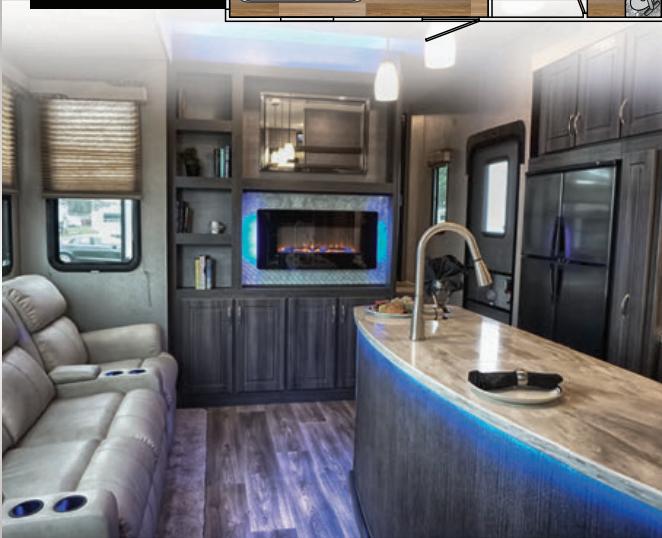
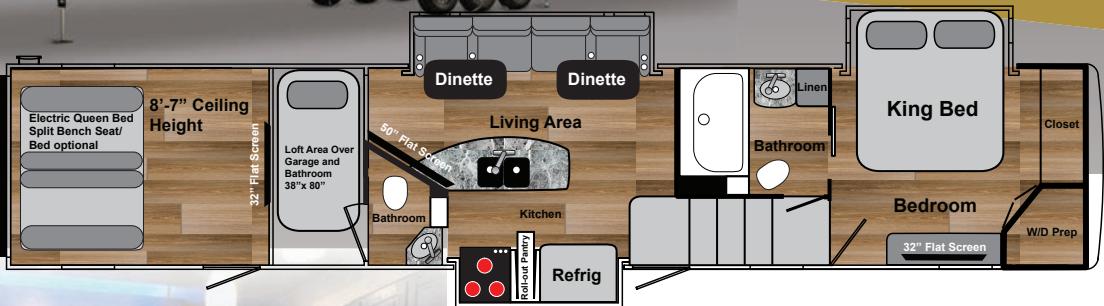
Toyhauler 5th Wheels starting at

\$76,800



**The Iconic Brand
is Back and Better
Than Ever!**

**Ramp Door /
Patio option**



Standard High-end Components

- Vacuum laminated foam insulated welded cage construction:
- Roof: Radius w/aluminum welded structure
- Sidewalls: High gloss fiberglass w/aluminum structure
- Floor: High strength steel with plywood decking
- Frameless tinted windows
- Molded one piece fiberglass front cap
- Electric awning
- LED lights throughout
- Tool box in Beaver Tail
- Outside speaker system
- 15' Garage



**Your weekends will never be the same
2016**



Toyhauler Trailers starting at

\$39,995

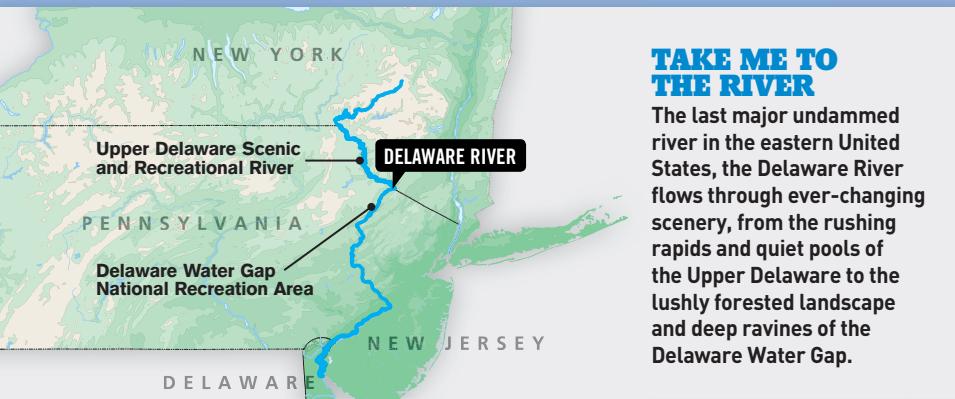
WONDERS OF THE DELAWARE RIVER

Soak up the fun along a scenic stretch of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey while hiking across forested mountains, marveling at cascading waterfalls and paddling through everything from tame pools to roaring rapids

A pristine, free-flowing river with thundering rapids, scenic hiking trails, mountains, waterfalls and historic sites — and even a '60s hippie shrine to Woodstock's music and mayhem — all make for a great RV adventure. Whether you're climbing a mountain trail, riding rapids, watching a bald eagle soar across the heavens or just peacefully fishing, the Delaware River region will captivate you. The Delaware River serpentine more than 300 miles from the Catskill Mountains to Delaware Bay while forming the borders of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. It is the longest clean, undammed river in the eastern United States.

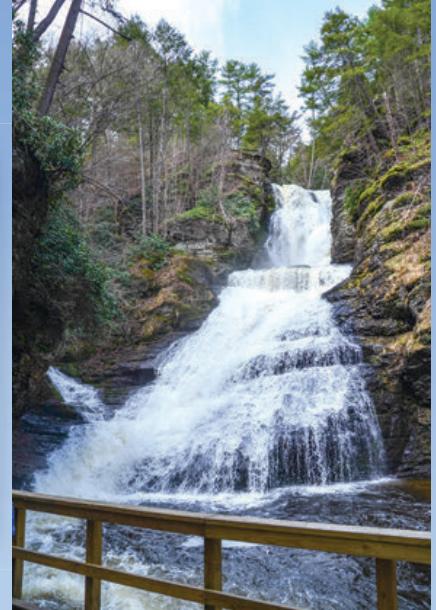
Perched atop the 1,803-foot mountain, High Point Monument in New Jersey climbs 220 feet into the heavens and offers a 360-degree panorama. Unfolding before your eyes are lush forests in three states.





TAKE ME TO THE RIVER

The last major undammed river in the eastern United States, the Delaware River flows through ever-changing scenery, from the rushing rapids and quiet pools of the Upper Delaware to the lushly forested landscape and deep ravines of the Delaware Water Gap.



(Above) A 1-mile walk on a boardwalk trail through primeval forest leads to thundering 130-foot Dingmans Falls in Pennsylvania. (Below) Dingmans Bridge is the last privately owned toll bridge on the Delaware River and one of the few left in the United States. A boat launch area is in the foreground.

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area — “the Gap” — in northern New Jersey and Pennsylvania encompasses 40 miles of river and 70,000 acres of parkland. The Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River runs 70 miles, forming the New York–Pennsylvania border to Hancock, New York. With campgrounds and a diversity of activities to experience, the Gap and the Upper Delaware guarantee a unique and fascinating adventure that can last for a few days or more than a week.

For decades, the federal government planned to dam the river, creating a vast lake. Rural residents were coerced into selling their land.

However, rising costs and strong citizen opposition forced Congress to eventually kill the project. Instead, with land already acquired, Congress established Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in 1965. A few abandoned homesteads remain in the park, and a handful of successful holdouts still farm within its boundaries. With development curtailed, wildlife abounds. Deer are as prevalent as flies at a picnic, and I have seen bears, foxes, flocks of turkey and a huge snapping turtle.

The best time to visit the area is midweek. Weekends in the summer can get a bit “zoey,” especially in the Upper Delaware part where there are rapids. The park service’s Kittatinny Point Visitor Center off Route 80 in New Jersey has a great view of the actual gap. Entering from the south

via Old Mine Road requires traveling a one-lane roadway for a few minutes, but there aren’t any size restrictions for RVs. Alternate entry areas are in Blirstown and Montague, New Jersey, and Dingmans Ferry and Milford, Pennsylvania.

Both public and private campgrounds welcome RVers in the Gap. The first one reached from the south is Worthington State Forest Campground. Here and at other area campgrounds, kayak and canoe trips can be arranged.

THIS REGION GUARANTEES A UNIQUE AND FASCINATING ADVENTURE THAT CAN LAST FOR A FEW DAYS OR MORE THAN A WEEK



THE SAFER, MORE EFFICIENT WAY TO START YOUR ADVENTURE



Unlock the potential of your engine's fuel economy with our proven tuning.



Improve torque to help you up steep grades safely.



Keep your investment running safe with our safety alerts (audible and visual), defueling and cold engine protection for diesels.



Custom Tuning now available on select models.



**BULLY
DOG**
powered by DERIVE

bullydog.com | 888-655-4241

Some Product not legal for sale or use in California on pollution-controlled vehicles.

(Right) Blair Lake Spillway near the closed Old Mill in Blairstown, New Jersey. **(Middle)** Route 97, the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, serpentine along a mountainside known as the Hawks Nest. The route parallels the river for more than 70 miles in New York, from north of Port Jervis to Hancock. **(Far right)** Rafter challenge the thundering rapids at Skinners Falls, New York.



This stretch of the river is flat water, so even at high levels, it is perfect for novices. Traveling downriver captures the true beauty of the park, enabling visitors to fish, swim or just take it all in while soaking up some rays.

Historic Old Mine Road was built in the 17th century to cover more than 100 miles from the local copper mines north to Kingston, New York. This road leads to several hiking trails and Millbrook Village, a re-created late-1800s rural community with buildings from that era. In season, park employees in period dress portray the lifestyle of the 1800s.

At the Millbrook Village intersection, a side road to Blairstown passes

the trailhead for a short hike to the fire tower with a three-state panoramic view. It is an easy 2-mile round trip. The Blairstown area was the setting for the 1980 film *Friday the 13th*, with Kevin Bacon. Main Street, the Blairstown Diner and a local Boy Scout camp were all featured in the film.

Not far from Millbrook Village is the turnoff to Buttermilk Falls, which cascades 90 feet down the Kittatinny

Ridge. The road travels directly to the base of the falls; a trail climbs to the top. The road also leads to the Wallpack Center Historic District, part of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

By crossing Dingmans Bridge (a privately owned toll bridge) into Pennsylvania, you can visit three more impressive waterfall sites: Dingmans Falls, Raymondskill Falls and George

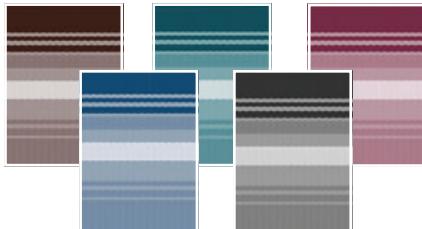
Exciting **NEW** products from Carefree!

NEW! Premium Vinyl Fabrics
So good they have a 10 year warranty

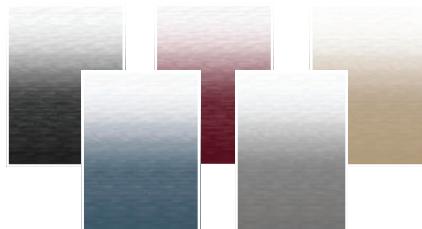


Double sided color • Proportionally scaled companion awnings

NEW! Standard Dune Stripe Vinyls



NEW! Standard Slate Fade Vinyls



NEW! Carefree Exclusive!



Carefree's FLXguard is a new, flexible material that rolls up with your awning to wrap and protect your fabric from the elements. The same protection and look as a metal wrap at an economical price!



Carefree of Colorado, Circle 109 on Reader Service Card

Quality • Value **Carefree** Performance • Style

Visit us at www.carefreeofcolorado.com



W. Childs Recreation Site, which includes Factory, Fulmer and Deer Leap falls. Dingmans is the most accessible and has a seasonal visitor center. Its boardwalk trail parallels a stream through a shaded ravine to Silverthread and Dingmans falls, with vertical drops of 80 and 130 feet respectively. The area is imbued with a sense of the primordial.

Driving or mountain biking the unpaved section of Old Mine Road transports you back to an earlier era. The section parallels the river, passes a few abandoned homesteads and Van Campen's Inn on the New Jersey side before returning to pavement. Originally built in the late 1740s, the now-restored

Van Campen's Inn provided a safe haven for settlers fleeing from Indian attacks during the French and Indian War.

Before heading into the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River area, I highly recommend visiting nearby High Point State Park. From the highest elevation in New Jersey (above 1,800 feet), the 360-degree, three-state view seems endless on a clear day. For an even higher view, climb the 220 steps of the High Point Monument, built in 1930 to honor veterans. Plenty of hiking, swimming and camping opportunities can be found in the 14,193-acre park.

The Upper Delaware is a different experience from the Gap. This stretch of the river has multiple sets of rapids,

Vass Farmstead, built in 1812 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is located on scenic Route 521 between Blairstown and Stillwater, New Jersey. The old stone farmhouse overlooks 665-acre White Lake Wildlife Management Area.



BUY

50,000 New & Used Towable RVs

For Sale By Owners & Dealers



Millions of RV Buyers!

Place a Free ad today

SELL

most of the land is privately owned, and there are no public campgrounds. Nevertheless, a partnership of landowners with local, state and federal governments works to protect the river and its environment. The entire length of Route 97 has been designated the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway.

From Port Jervis, Route 97 climbs into the Hawks Nest where it carves into the mountainside and twists and

turns hundreds of feet above the river, giving a hawk's-eye view. It is not uncommon to observe birds of prey gliding silently across a soothing sky. The Upper Delaware is also home to the largest population of wintering bald eagles in the Northeast, some of which have become year-round residents.

Liveries along Route 97 rent kayaks, canoes and rafts for trips as short as several hours or as long as several



(Top to bottom) In Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, a park docent in period dress demonstrates 19th-century life at a country store in Millbrook Village. The restored interior of a farmer's home in Millbrook Village. A real Amish carriage for sale at an antique store in Narrowsburg, New York, near the Delaware River.

days. Nothing gets the adrenaline pumping like challenging rapids in a canoe or kayak. A few years ago, my wife, Linda, and I camped at Kittatinny Campground in Barryville, which has dual zip lines and a paintball area in addition to RV and tent camping.

The river was high, and the Class II rapids were considerably more challenging than usual. We set out in a tandem kayak for a 10-mile trip. A few other idiots like us rented kayaks, but most people chose rafts. When we hit different sets of swollen rapids, the waves washed over us like pounding surf. Fighting our way through, we were exhilarated by fear and excitement.



LookUp
-Our-Skirts.com
Powered by ICON



Holding Tanks



A/C Shrouds









ICON
Aftermarket *Specialty* Products
Available Nationwide
www.icondirect.com
1-888-362-4266

With our hearts beating like crazed rock 'n' roll drummers, the kayak repeatedly refilled with water, but never once did we come close to capsizing.

Years earlier when our daughter, Shannon, was a child, we took a raft trip under similar high-river conditions. Whenever we reached a set of rapids, Shannon yelled, "Big waves, Dad, big waves!" We had just as much fun in the raft back then, though not as much adrenaline.

A side trip from Barryville takes you to the 1969 Woodstock festival site in Bethel, New York, where more than 400,000 young people gathered to celebrate "Three Days of Peace and Music." Standing quietly on the hill overlooking the stage area, you can almost hear the music. The Bethel Woods Center for the Arts has preserved the concert site and features a museum of the 1960s and an outdoor concert pavilion.

North of Barryville are several historic sites: Minisink Battleground Park, Delaware Aqueduct/Roebling Bridge and the Zane Grey Museum. The museum is the former home of Zane Grey, a popular early-1900s novelist of the American West. His book *Riders of the Purple Sage* inspired me to write a Western novel of my own, *The Hell Riders*.

Roebling Bridge, built in 1848, is the oldest existing wire suspension bridge in the United States. Initially built as an aqueduct for canal barges, it was later transformed into a vehicle bridge. On the Pennsylvania side are the Zane Grey Museum and the Inn at Lackawaxen, which has an outside dining area overlooking the river.

Minisink Battleground Park on the New York side honors the 50 militiamen and officers who died during the Revolutionary War fighting a British force led by Joseph Brant. Brant, a Dartmouth-educated Mohawk warrior, was a commissioned colonel in the British Army.

Further north is Ten Mile River, with its stone-arch bridge, and the Tusten Mountain Trail, a 3-mile-loop that leads to an impressive view of the river. In Narrowsburg, New York, the Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial

History displays historical artifacts, and employees dress in Colonial-era clothing to perform tasks from the period.

One of the most popular spots in the Upper Delaware is Skinners Falls, which is a misnomer; Skinners is actually a series of cascading rapids with multiple boulders to relax on while listening to the river sing. Watching people ride the rapids in a diversity of

crafts makes for some good entertainment. A flat-water swimming area is by the bridge.

Just across the 470-foot one-lane bridge, opened in 1902, is Milanville General Store, in business since 1850 on the Pennsylvania side of the river. The road snakes its way along the river to Damascus Township and is a great route for bicycling, as are many others in the Delaware River Region. Passing



Join the Phoenix Family, and Adventure Anywhere.

You really can have it all. Luxury, affordability, the absolute freedom to make each day your own adventure on the road or in the campsite. We have nine floorplans and can custom build your unit. Call Phoenix and begin living your dream today.

Follow Your Bliss.

**We take trades and we offer financing.
Call us today to begin your adventure...**

The Standard for Excellence

PHOENIX #1 Choice
Cruiser in Downsizing

Factory Direct phoenixcruiser.com Visit our website for more photos and information.
2601 Marina Drive Elkhart, IN 877-754-8535

COMFORT ZONE
02 | 400LPPROPANE
HEATING

Your hot water lasts longer than your shower vocals.

After a hard day of driving, fly-fishing, or even lawn-chair sitting, nothing feels better than a good hot shower. Especially when it's hot from the get go. With an Aqua-Hot Heating System, every shower is perfect.

Get into your Comfort Zone™. Insist the 400LP is in the equipment package on your fifth-wheel, park model or gas-powered motorhome — if you don't need engine pre-heating. Then you'll always be "singing," until you're ready to step out and say "Thank you! Thank you VERY much!"



(800) 685-4298 or (303) 651-5500 www.aquahot.com

It's a matter of comfort

through the river towns closest to Hancock made us feel like we stepped into the 19th century. Old homes, churches, stores and vacant streets brought back images of horse-drawn carriages and plows.

The Delaware River is a unique region to explore. You never know what you might see in addition to its natural beauty and wildlife. Colorful houses and hot rods, military vehicles and Amish buggies for sale all add to its allure. Weave in river fun, hiking trails, bicycling roads and paths, and numerous camping opportunities, and a great trip is guaranteed. 🚗

GO WITH THE FLOW

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

New Jersey and Pennsylvania
570-426-2451, www.nps.gov/dewa

High Point State Park

Sussex, New Jersey
973-875-4800, www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks

Jerry's Three River Campground

Pond Eddy, New York
(campsites, and canoe and raft rentals)
845-557-6078
www.jerrys3rivercampground.com

Kittatinny Campground

Barryville, New York
(campsites and river trips)
800-356-2852, www.kittatinny.com/camping/kittatinny-campground

River Beach Campsites

Milford, Pennsylvania
(campsites and river trips)
800-356-2852, www.kittatinny.com/camping/river-beach-campground

Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River

New York and Pennsylvania
570-685-4871, www.nps.gov/upde

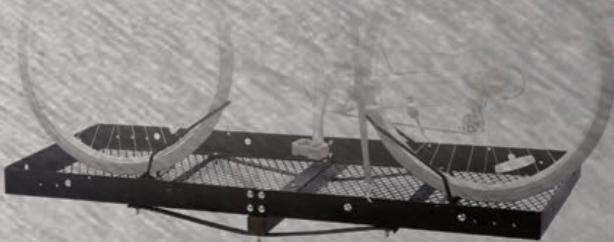
Worthington State Forest Campground

Columbia, New Jersey
908-841-9575, www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks

TOP QUALITY RV PRODUCTS

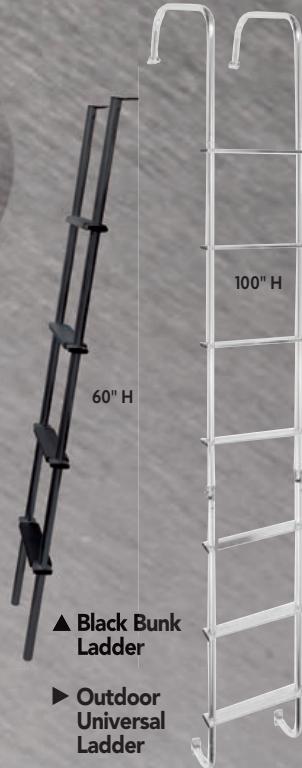


▲ Louvered Tailgates



▲ Cargo Carrier
60" L X 23" W

▲ Bike Rack



60" H

▲ Black Bunk Ladder

▶ Outdoor Universal Ladder

100" H



3500 lb. capacity with 18" stroke

▲ 3500 lb. Electric Tongue Jack, White

◀ 3500 lb. Electric Tongue Jack, Black



▲ Bumper Mount RV Clothesline



▼ Platform Step

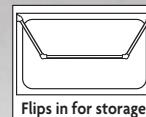
24" L x 16" W;
folds to 3 1/2" H

500 lb. weight capacity

1000 lb. weight capacity

19" L x 14" W;
folds to 2 3/4" H

▲ Adjustable Leg Platform Step



Flips in for storage



▲ Extend-A-Shower Rod, Bronze
Also available in:
Satin Finish & White Finish

Enjoy your travels and let Good Sam pay for those repairs.



Repair costs shouldn't be a part of your travel expenses.
Protect yourself with a Service Plan

Good Sam Extended Service Plans feature:

- We pay for your repairs – at any repair facility
- Unlimited critical system checkups – avoid that breakdown
- Rates are locked in from 3-7 years
- Flexible payment options
- The backing of Good Sam – 100% satisfaction guarantee

Protect yourself from
high repair bills today –
call 877-273-5477 or visit
GoodSamESP.com/TLA515

GoodSamESP.com/TLA515

877-273-5477



Good Sam
Extended Service Plan
MBI

*All program benefits are subject to limitations set forth in the current Terms & Conditions. ESP is available to U.S. residents only. Designed for the Good Sam Club by Affinity Brokerage, LLC. ADTL5477MAYA15 GSP38696 - 0215

★ TEXAS ★

INDEPENDENCE TRAIL

Relive the era when the Lone Star State became a nation while visiting historic downtowns, legendary forts and heritage sites on a more-than-200-mile stretch from Galveston to San Antonio

After 12 straight hours of drenching rain, which had temporarily refreshed the parched mid-August southeast Texas landscape, the storm had moved on, leaving in its wake a limpid, plum-colored early morning. The unlikely rain and gorgeous dawn seemed a good omen.

We were in Galveston at the start of a weeklong drive to follow the Texas Independence Trail, which runs through a region known as the Cradle of Texas Liberty. The trail, marked by blue and white signs, follows roughly an oval shape (with Interstate 10 as the lengthwise diameter) across 28 counties and stretches more than 200 miles between Galveston and San Antonio.

More than 50 historical museums and other heritage sites along the way interpret Texas' history, from the days of Spanish missionaries to the sudden flood of Anglo settlers from the United States, to the eventual decisive battle at San Jacinto that freed Texas from Mexican rule. We visited 22 of the 76 stops. The route is arranged conveniently rather than chronologically to avoid frequent backtracking and zigzags across I-10. We recommend driving the route as designated.

Galveston, once the largest, most prosperous city in the state, had been the last retreat for the Republic of Texas government before the Texian (as the settlers preferred to be called) victory at nearby San Jacinto. We left the island early, heading southwest, following the trail through a world

PHOTO BY JAMES PHARAON



With more than 2.5 million visitors coming annually to "Remember the Alamo," the site of the 1836 massacre is Texas' most popular attraction.



(Above from left) A canal boat tours the San Antonio River beside the River Walk. Gulf Prairie Pioneer Cemetery was the Austin family plot. The box grave in the foreground is Stephen Austin's original burial site (since moved to Austin). Next to it is that of his sister, Emily.

of lime-green salt grass and sky-blue water and along the Brazos River, the area where the first settlers, the Old Three Hundred, were led to by Stephen Austin, known as the Father of Texas. At Jones Creek, historical markers begin appearing, noting the sites of several early sugar plantations.

Of particular interest to us was the Gulf Prairie Pioneer Cemetery, established in 1833. Stephen Austin was initially buried here in 1836 but was reinterred at the state cemetery in Austin 74 years later. Gravestones and historical plaques tell the stories of Austin and his sister, Emily Austin Perry, both born in Virginia and raised in Missouri.

Their father, Moses Austin, lured by the availability of land and the

huge herds of cattle descended from animals brought there by the Spanish, secured permission from the Spanish government to bring colonists to Texas. He died before his mission could be accomplished, but his son led the group, followed by Emily and her second husband, James Perry, a decade later.

Continue along the trail to Brazoria, a quaint town of cavernous antiques shops, located on the green-crystal Brazos River. The Brazos Valley Railroad Society Museum is here, open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Ahead is West Columbia, made the first official capital of the Republic of Texas in 1836 (the government was moved to Houston the following year). A diorama at the Columbia Historical Museum shows the town — “an important river crossing,” said museum curator Margaret Wilke — as it was before the revolution. For a time it was a boom town after oil was discovered in 1920. The 12,500-square-foot museum displays a host of artifacts, paintings, early photos and vintage clothing.

Nearby, the centerpiece of Capitol of Texas Park is a 1977 replica of the first capitol building, a weathered story-and-a-half clapboard former store where Sam Houston took the oath of office as president of Texas and Stephen Austin as secretary of state.

Just outside town is the Varner-

WHERE TO STAY

We camped at three RV parks in the region for a total of eight nights, using each as a base. All three were first-rate, and we recommend them.

GALVESTON

Dellanera RV Park

Right on the beach, Dellanera has 44 full-hookup sites, including 21 pull-throughs, with a picnic table and barbecue pit at each site. Pets are welcome. Rates range from \$38 to \$48 per night. 888-425-4753 (extension 102) or 409-797-5102, www.dellanerarpark.com

NEW BRAUNFELS

Hill Country Cottage and RV Resort

A tree-shaded RV resort in a lovely setting about 30 miles northeast of San Antonio, this Good Sam Park has 286 full-hookup sites, including 55 pull-throughs, each with 20-, 30- and 50-amp service, a concrete patio and a picnic table. There's a dog walk area and a fenced dog play area. Rates range from \$49 to \$69 per night, with a 10 percent discount for Good Sam Club members. 830-625-1919 www.hillcountryrvresortnb.com

VICTORIA

Victoria Coletto Creek Lake KOA

Midway between Victoria and historic Goliad, this elegant RV park lies on 75 palm tree and live oak studded acres. Amenities range from a swimming pool to a nature trail. Spacious full-hookup sites include back-ins and pull-throughs, and each has a concrete patio, a picnic table and a grill. Pets are welcome. Rates range from \$38 to \$46 per night. 800-562-9394 www.koa.com/camp/victoria-coletto



America's #1 Choice for RV Refrigerators

LOWEST INSTALLED PRICE GUARANTEED
for Good Sam Club Members

A Refrigerator to Fit EVERY Space!

Dometic Elite 2+2 Refrigerators

- 12.3 cu. ft. of storage volume
- Premium double door convenience and space
- Extruded cooling fin for 15% improved performance
- Divider-less freezer for wall-to-wall cooling
- Automatic door lock activated by RV ignition system
- Three crispers, dual-action shelf guards
- Stainless steel, black stainless steel, acrylic, and wood grain panels
- Through-the-door ice water and optional ice maker



GET MORE INFO



Watch the Refrigerators Video



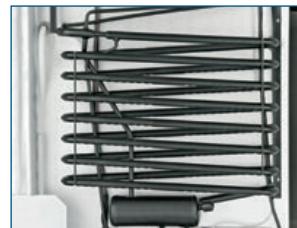
Automatic ignition-activated door lock



Through-the-door water and optional ice maker



Three crispers and dual-way shelf guards



Bigger, more powerful cooling unit

 **Dometic**[®]

Expand Your Refrigerator or Freezer Space

CFX Portable Refrigerators/Freezers

- Refrigerate or deep freeze to -7.6°F
- AC/DC operation
- Selectable temperature
- Easy to carry



CFX-035US

2-YEAR WARRANTY

TropiCool Thermoelectric Coolers

- Cool and heat
- AC/DC operation
- Lightweight
- Intelligent power-saving circuit



TC-14US

COOLS & WARMS!

CA038216

(Right) The statue of Juan Seguín, hero of the revolution and namesake of the town of Seguin. (Far right) A cenotaph in the Alamo Plaza marks the known names of the republic's defenders.



Hogg Plantation State Historic Site. The plantation had been established in 1824 by Martin Varner, a livestock farmer and one of Austin's Old Three Hundred. A decade later Varner sold his land to slave-owner Columbus Patton of Kentucky, who turned the plantation into a successful sugarcane enterprise (brick ruins of the 1841 sugar mill remain) and built the palatial home seen today.

The plantation changed hands several times over the years and in 1901 was bought for a vacation home by former Texas Governor James Hogg. After he died, his heirs discovered oil on the land and became extremely wealthy. Hogg's daughter Ima Hogg (yes, really) furnished the home with an elegant array of 19th-century furniture before donating the plantation and its 5,000 artifacts to the State of Texas in 1958.

Continue to Bay City, where in 1836 Fort Colorado was built to protect

settlers from Indian raids, and head just south of the trail to Matagorda, where at the cemetery is the grave of Samuel Fisher, Republic of Texas secretary of the Navy and signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

On to Palacios, a town of elegant old homes on Matagorda Bay, then north past vast white-speckled-chocolate acres of cotton to Victoria. Established as Guadalupe Victoria in 1824 when it was settled by 41 Mexican families, the town was renamed after Texas independence.

Fannin Battleground State Historic Site, a 10-acre park with an impressive 1916 stone obelisk and small museum, is ahead. Here, on March 19 and 20, 1836, two weeks after the Alamo fell, Texian forces

under Colonel James Fannin and Mexican forces led by General José de Urrea fought the Battle of Coleto Creek. When word got out that the Alamo had fallen, General Houston ordered Fannin to retreat to Victoria after destroying the Presidio La Bahía, the old Spanish fort outside Goliad, which Fannin and more than 300 volunteers had occupied and were strengthening against Mexican attack. For reasons unknown, Fannin delayed five days before leaving the fort, and by then the Mexicans were close behind and soon caught up. A fierce battle ensued, and by nightfall the Texians were surrounded.

The next morning they surrendered, believing, as did General Urrea, that they "would be treated as



The old Spanish Presidio La Bahía near Goliad, the largest remaining artifact of the revolution, was left in ruins for years with the exception of the chapel, shown here.

IF YOU GO

Part of the Texas Historical Commission's Heritage Trails program, the Texas Independence Trail Region provides visitors with maps, travel guides and other resources to remember the Alamo every day of the year. All 20 of the commission's state historic sites offer free admission on May 3, 2015, including Fannin Battleground and Varner-Hogg Plantation.

Texas Independence Trail Region, 281-239-9235, www.texasindependencetrail.com

EXPECT MORE!

INSTANT

CONSTANT

ENDLESS



For true hot water comfort – Go for the new Truma AquaGo™

- Most powerful and efficient instant water heater
- Endless hot water regardless of flow rate
- Constant water temperature – no scalding
- All-season use with optional Anti-freeze function



For product information and events where you can experience and WIN the Truma AquaGo™ Instant Water Heater visit www.truma.net

AquaGo by Truma Corp, Circle 158 on Reader Service Card

American recreation powered by German engineering

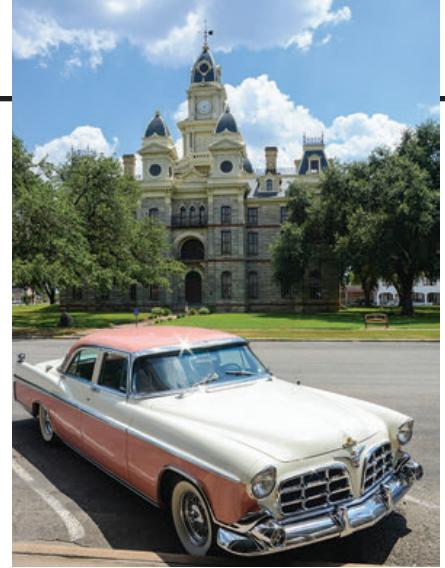


More comfort on the move

prisoners of war by a civilized nation.” They were returned to La Bahía, held there a little more than a week, then on Palm Sunday were ordered executed by General Antonio López de Santa Anna. The massacre galvanized opposition to Mexican rule, and the following month at the Battle of San Jacinto, the Texians’ battle cry rang out: “Remember the Alamo!” “Remember Goliad!”

The charming town of Goliad, one of Texas’ oldest, was settled in 1749 when the Spanish monarchy established Mission Nuestra Señora del Espíritu Santo de Zúñiga and Royal Presidio La Bahía along the San Antonio River nearby. Today Goliad State Park maintains the reconstructed mission, which includes a fine small museum and a campground.

The Catholic Diocese of Victoria operates the likewise reconstructed Presidio, a national historic landmark. Only the chapel, Our Lady of Loreto, built for the soldiers stationed at La Bahía, was never destroyed. Mass has



(Above from left) The chapel at Goliad State Park; in the 1930s CCC workers rebuilt the 1749 Spanish mission. An elegant 1955 Imperial parks near the 1894 Goliad County Courthouse.

been said here every Sunday for more than 230 years.

Among Goliad’s attractions are a magnificent courthouse, Market House Museum, a row of antiques shops, Hanging Tree Restaurant and at least half a dozen formidable live oak trees sprouting through the pavement on city roads. Long ago it became illegal to cut

down the massive trees. One such live oak, this one on the courthouse lawn, was used to carry out capital sentences between 1846 and 1870.

San Antonio, with dozens of heritage sites, is ahead. Beginning in the early 1700s, Spain built five missions, all of which survive along the San Antonio River (the popular River Walk is here).

You upgraded your phone, your television, your truck ...



UPGRADE THE WAY YOU TOW

with the Flex-Mount™ Brake Control ...

IT'S SAFER

Above dash display keeps your eyes on the road and controls mount within easy reach

IT'S SMARTER

Packed full of advanced technology to control your most demanding payload

IT'S EASIER TO INSTALL

Plug-In Simple!™ with no drilling required



www.BrakingInSight.com



Experience the Difference



INSIGHT™
Flex-Mount™ Brake Control

Most famous is the 1718 Mission San Antonio de Valero, better known as the Alamo (Spanish for “cottonwood”), where on March 6, 1836, 189 known Texian defenders died.

The Texians had occupied the old mission — now hunched in the shadow of 20th-century skyscrapers — as a stronghold. At the time, unlike many movies portray, the mission had no roof, and the familiar hump in the middle of the front wall had yet to be built.

Indian attack. Four years later, at the outbreak of hostilities between settlers and the government, a contingent of 100 Mexican soldiers was sent to retrieve the cannon. The town refused to give it up and began flying “Come and Take It” flags. The soldiers tried, and the first shots of Texas independence were fired on October 2, 1835. The town prevailed. There’s a granite marker south of town at the Guadalupe River in remembrance.

The trail runs north to quaint

colony, was a religious and educational center for the republic; the forerunner of Waco’s Baylor University was here. The Antique Rose Emporium, a 5-acre garden, displays varieties of the flowers popular before the Civil War.

The route zigzags to Washington — originally Washington-on-the-Brazos — which served as General Houston’s headquarters in 1835. Texian leaders came here the following year to sign the Texas Declaration of Inde-

TEXAS IS THE ONLY STATE TO HAVE THE FLAGS OF SIX NATIONS FLY OVER IT: SPAIN, FRANCE, MEXICO, REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, CONFEDERATE STATES AND UNITED STATES.

These few brave men held out for 13 days against Santa Anna’s 5,000 troops, with much of the fighting at the end (also different from the movies) taking place at the long barrack across the courtyard from the mission. It now houses a fine museum. The cavernous mission, where visitors are asked to “speak quietly, out of respect,” displays numerous artifacts, including David Crockett’s wallet, hunting bag and rifle.

The trail now turns back east, stopping first in Seguin, another of Texas’ oldest towns, founded in 1838 and named for Juan Seguín. Sometimes called the Paul Revere of Texas, Seguín had warned settlers that Santa Anna was gathering troops on the Rio Grande and was planning to invade and quash the rebellion in early 1836.

As General Houston and his army retreated east from Goliad, and General Santa Anna advanced north, terrified settlers began fleeing their homes in what came to be known as the Runaway Scrape.

A lovely park in downtown Seguin includes a large Art Moderne fountain, granite monuments to the pioneer trail drivers of Seguin and Guadalupe, and a 17-foot-high bronze statue of “the Tejano who fought with the Texian army at San Jacinto and all the other major battles of the revolution.”

Continue to Gonzales, known as the Lexington of Texas, as the revolution’s first skirmish took place here. In 1831 the Mexican government had loaned the town a small cannon to defend against

Bastrop, part of Austin’s last colony, and on to La Grange. In 1842, when Mexican forces were attempting to retake Texas, militia from the town rushed to expel them from San Antonio. At Monument Hill State Historic Site, a 48-foot stone-and-bronze memorial honors their casualties.

Independence, part of Austin’s

pendence, write the Constitution of the Republic of Texas and set up an interim government, electing David Burnet interim president. A replica of Independence Hall is the centerpiece of 293-acre Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (see America’s Outback, “Birthplace of Texas,” in the March 2015 issue of *Trailer Life*).



When it comes to keeping campers happy, there aren’t many places as perfectly prepared as Florida’s Lower Keys. In fact, with everything from primitive waterfront campsites to fully equipped RV lots, it’s pretty much made to order.

fla-keys.com/lowerkeys
1.800.872.3722

BigPineKey
and Florida's Lower Keys



FLASH

The Fastway® Flash™ E series

is the best looking pin-style ball mount you can buy. From stunning good looks to fast and easy adjustments, you'll be amazed every time you use it.



MADE IN THE USA



FastwayTrailer.com • Toll Free 877-523-9103

Fastway Flash - Faster, Easier™

Fastway Products, Circle 143 on Reader Service Card

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE TRAIL

San Felipe, called the Birthplace of Anglo-American Settlement, was Stephen Austin's home and his colony's first capital. Today, nothing remains of the original town, which was burned during the Runaway Scrape, but the original 12-acre townsite is now part of Stephen F. Austin State Park, which features a replica of Austin's log home and a statue honoring the man known as the Father of Texas.

In Houston, historical markers chart the course of Texas revolutionary armies moving toward San Jacinto, and the Heritage Society's museum complex in 20-acre Sam Houston Park displays half a dozen 19th-century buildings, from a rustic 1823 cabin to an 1891 immigrant-built church.

Our last stop on the trail is just east of Houston at San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site near Deer Park, where on April 21, 1836, in an 18-minute battle, Texas won independence from Mexico. A 567-foot-tall, 35,000-ton monument (the world's tallest monumental column) topped with a 34-foot tall, 220-ton Texas Lone Star marks the spot. Stretching west from the monument's base, an enormous reflecting pool displays the entire shaft. The 15,625-square-foot San Jacinto Museum of History, which exhibits hundreds of artifacts and documents, and a 160-seat theater are inside the monument's base.

Where the column stands, Sam Houston and his Texians, enraged over the events at the Alamo, Goliad and elsewhere, caught Santa Anna's encamped army off guard (the Mexican general, so confident Houston would not attack, had posted no lookouts). Sustaining few casualties (just nine killed and 30 wounded), the Texians killed 630 Mexican soldiers and captured that many more.

Santa Anna was caught (wearing a private's uniform) the following day. He was brought to the Texian camp, where he reluctantly agreed to the terms of a treaty that called for Mexican soldiers to leave Texas. The result was the Republic of Texas, which would enter the Union as the State of Texas nine years later. 🗽

THE ORIGINAL
Equal-i-zer
SWAY CONTROL HITCH



A Track Record You Can Trust
For 70 years, Equal-i-zer sway control hitches have been keeping families safe.



EqualizerHitch.com
Toll Free 800-478-5578

Equalizer, Circle 144 on Reader Service Card



Inverters will turn your 12V Battery into an electrical outlet



Modified Sinewave Power Inverters

- DC to AC Power conversion products that connect to your battery and produce output power that approximates household utility power
- Great for running most home appliances such as TV's, tools, microwave ovens, coffee makers, and more
- Use less expensive technology than true Sinewave inverters, and are therefore less expensive



Pure Sinewave Power Inverters

- DC to AC Power conversion products that connect to your battery and produce power that is identical to that of the electric company (or even better)
- Will operate sensitive equipment such as high-end video and sound equipment, laser printers, and heavy-duty motor loads
- For peace of mind that you will have optimal performance when plugging in an AC load, choose a true sinewave power inverter



Inverter Chargers

- Inverter/Charger integrates the battery charger into the same package as the power inverter
- The charger inside is typically a superior charger and provides faster recharge time than the typical RV converter/charger
- Automatic transfer switch inside allows you to transfer seamlessly between inverter/battery power and shore/campsite power

USE IT IN YOUR CAR
Use low power inverters in your car by plugging into the 12V port to recharge cellular phones and MP3's

USE IT IN THE RV
To run lights, TV's, microwave ovens, hair dryers, and refrigerators

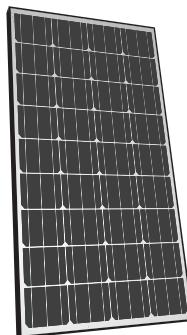
USE IT ON THE BOAT
Use inverter chargers to recharge your marine batteries with shore power



SOLAR PANELS

Battery Maintainers/ Trickle Chargers

- Thin Film Amorphous Solar panels keeps 12 Volt batteries topped off.
- These panels work in all weather conditions even low lighting.
- Equipped with heavy duty aluminum frames.



Battery Chargers

- High output Monocrystalline solar panels charge 12 Volt batteries.
- Link panels together for faster charging.
- Includes quick connect wiring and z-bracket mounting accessories.
- 25 year warranty

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

LIVING IN A NATURE POWERED WORLD



Imagine yourself camping wherever you want, for extended periods of time, without sacrificing anything. Dream of freeing yourself from noisy campgrounds, troubled connections or the annoying sound of someone's AC generator and do so without enlarging your *carbon footprint*. **It is now a possibility with solar-power systems.**

More and more RVers are considering adding solar power to their powering system. A solar-power system requires little maintenance, has no moving parts and makes no noise or smell unlike an AC generator. A solar-power system can be sized to suit your needs and it will save you money in the long run.

A basic RV solar-power system consists of one or more solar panels to generate charging current, a charge controller, 12V batteries and the **right inverter**.

RV Solar Power Basics

Install solar panels on your RV to obtain two main benefits:

- To trickle charge house batteries
- As a source of primary electrical power (Dry camping)

Despite if they're used or not, when your RV sits for a prolonged period of time, your house batteries begin to lose power. To avoid the complication associated with a dead battery all you need is a solar trickle charger. This charger will also keep your batteries fully charged and ready to go when the time comes to use them.

You can also use solar panels to **provide primary power to RV house systems**. This involves the installation of several solar panels and other gear, sometimes called a solar kit, together to create and regulate enough power for routine operation of your RVs house systems.

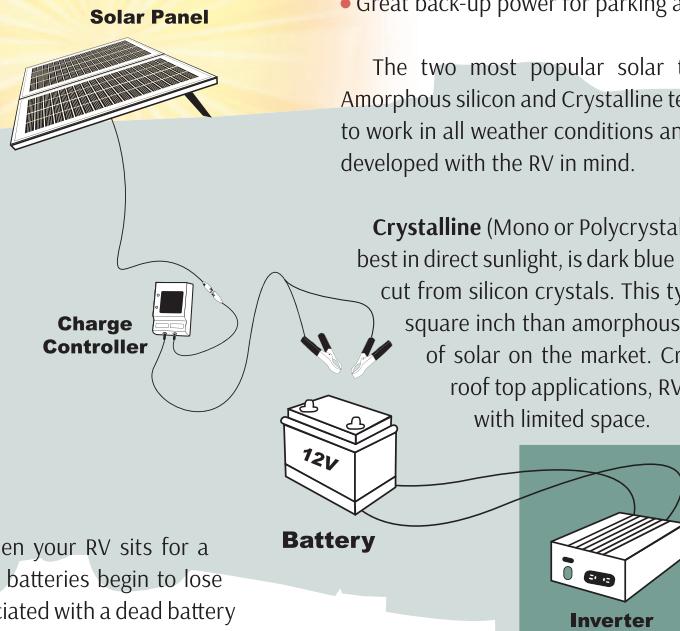
For anyone new to RV solar-power systems, anything that can run off your batteries can be run from this type of solar technology. A solar panel on your RV collects and generates the energy, then a battery is used to store this energy.

Why Choose Solar for your RV?

- Save money by reducing your reliance on fuel generators
- Save time with a maintenance-free back-up power that will last for years
- Gives you freedom to explore remote places, relax and have fun
- Solar energy is a simple, renewable, clean and reliable source of electricity
- Silent power, no more noisy generators
- Great back-up power for parking anywhere or during an emergency

The two most popular solar technologies on the market are Amorphous silicon and Crystalline technology. They both are designed to work in all weather conditions and the Nature Power line has been developed with the RV in mind.

Crystalline (Mono or Polycrystalline) - This solar technology works best in direct sunlight, is dark blue in color and consists of thin wafers cut from silicon crystals. This type of solar has higher output per square inch than amorphous, making it the most efficient type of solar on the market. Crystalline solar is usually used on roof top applications, RVs and marine systems, and places with limited space.



This is how a Solar System works. Continue reading for more information on Sine Wave Inverters

Amorphous Silicon -The principal advantage of amorphous silicon solar cells is their lower manufacturing costs, which makes these cells very cost competitive. This technology is efficient in both high or low light conditions and is commonly used in small solar-powered electronics.

A **charge controller** is the command center for your RV solar system. It regulates the power (both current and voltage) coming from the solar panels to prevent your batteries from becoming overcharged.

Solar charge controllers can read and adjust battery voltage, optimize power flow, figure solar panel production, keep the RV solar system running efficiently and your batteries from overcharging.

Most RV'ers have been in a situation where a power inverter would be quite handy. Perhaps it was when you were dry camping and there was no household electricity available at your site. Or when you want to watch a movie at night but don't wish to haul out the noisy generator and raise the ire of your neighbors. Perhaps you'd even like to pop some popcorn in the microwave, and then when it's time for bed, have the ability to recharge your batteries again for the next day's DC battery requirements.

We have become very reliant on the comforts of home in our lives, and with DC to AC power inverters, there is no need for roughing it anymore.

What power inverter is right for you?

Inverters and inverterchargers use one of two technologies: Pure Sine Wave or Modified Sine Wave.

Pure Sine Wave (PSW) inverters can produce AC power at or above the quality level of utility power grids. Virtually all modern electronics are designed to run on sine wave electricity.

Items like personal electronic devices, computers and cameras will benefit from improved charging, longer battery life and longer device life when operating from Pure Sine Wave. Products with electric motors, like blenders, fans, power tools and vacuums will run more efficiently and quieter with a Pure Sine Wave inverter.

Pure Sine Wave also has the added benefit of reducing electrical noise, so televisions and lights won't flicker, stereos will produce better sound, and printers will produce better looking documents. If you use kitchen appliances like milk frothers, breadmakers and high-end coffee makers, pure sine wave power allows them to perform just like at home.

However, producing a PSW requires more electrical components and more intricate designs, and therefore is more expensive. **Modified Sine Wave (MSW) inverters** produce a stair-stepped output form. It is a economical choice, and will work well with the vast majority of kitchen appliances.

Portable Inverters

Portable Inverters are instant gratification products: just plug 'em in and start using their modest AC outputs. These are ideal for laptops, TVs, small lights, and tools. These inverters generally connect to your DC electrical system using the common "cigarette lighter socket".

Permanent Mount Inverters

These inverters draw too much power to pull through a cigarette lighter socket, and so they are hardwired directly to the battery bank. They are ideal for home appliances such as microwave ovens, coffee makers, and toasters.

Inverter-chargers

These have outputs that rival small generators (2000-3000W) and include a powerful battery charger. Inverter/chargers include an automatic transfer switch, so that when your inverter/charger detects another source of AC power (because you have access to campground AC or shore power, or you have started your generator), it will start recharging your batteries. Inverter/chargers should be professionally

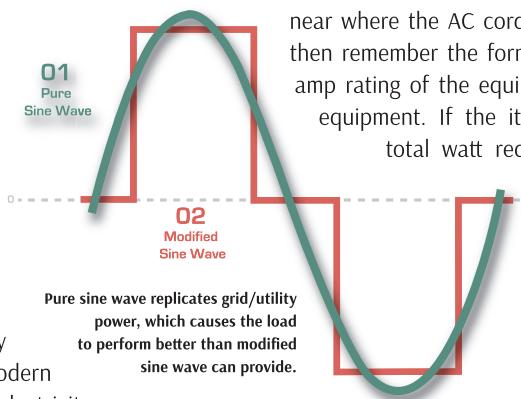
installed because they draw a lot of amps, with the potential for dangerous shorts and electrical fires if they're wired inadequately.

How Much Power?

The answer to this question depends completely on what you wish to operate from the inverter. Create a list of the items you wish to operate and also find out the power requirement of these items.

Most items will have a manufacturer's power rating on the label near where the AC cord is found on the item. If it is rated in amps, then remember the formula $Watts = Volts \times Amps$. Just multiply the amp rating of the equipment $\times 115VAC$ to get the watt draw of the equipment. If the items will be running concurrently, then the

total watt requirement of each item needs to be added together to determine which inverter power level is required. And remember that many appliances have a start-up current requirement that is significantly higher than the continuous power rating, so it is always best to buy a larger inverter with higher surge capacity if in doubt.



But I love my Generator

Many RVers own generators, and these are great for large, continuous loads like air conditioning, heating, and refrigeration. While many people would love to run air conditioning from an inverter, it is impractical unless you are cooling a small area for a relatively short period of time. If your 120V energy requirements exceed 2000 watt-hours per day, a generator is the best bet.

This doesn't mean that there isn't also a need for a power inverter on-board the RV. The inverter is great at night since it won't make noise and disturb the neighbors. Unlike noisy, fossil fuel-driven generators, inverters are silent, require virtually no maintenance, and are easy to install. They are excellent power sources for light, or intermittent loads.

Inverters and generators are great partners: use the inverter for lighter loads and the generator for heavy-duty loads that would be too taxing for a battery bank. Use the generator to the inverter/charger to recharge your battery bank.

We recommend using a Pure Sinewave inverter for powering the following:



Dependable Support

If you encounter a problem with your power inverter, it's good to know that technical assistance is available. Look for a power inverter manufactured by a company that is prepared to offer support and stands behind the product with a solid warranty.

Nature Power inverters carry a 1-year warranty along with free technical support over the phone or online. For more information and to make the best purchase decision for your needs, visit **Campingworld.com**. Type "Nature Power Inverter" in the Search bar to see the Nature Power lineup. Click on the Description and Specs tabs to find out more about each model. Then click on the Camper's Choice Reviews tabs to see how other RVers rate their Nature Power inverter.

America's #1 Choice for Eco-Friendly RV Chemicals

Formaldehyde Free & Pet Friendly

Septic-System-Safe for Use At Any Campground



- Most powerful, longest-lasting control of holding tank odors
- Formaldehyde free
- Additives break down effluent and help tanks rinse cleaner during pump-out
- Advanced, non-toxic liquid and pre-measured dry formulas
- Toilet cleaners won't stain the bowl
- Air-freshening scents

Strong **D** **efense Against Dirt & Odors!**

- New Premium RV Awning Cleaner removes streaks, droppings and mildew and extends awning life
- Professional-strength formulas are safe for all hard surfaces
- Wash 'N Wax cleans, polishes, and protects in one application
- Roof Sealer leaves a silky, UV resistant finish
- Odor Absorb Supreme neutralizes the harshest odors



GET MORE INFO



See the D-Line Products & Watch the Video

CA038126

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

Family Time

The 2015 Ford F-150 and Forest River Wildwood travel trailer make it easy to enjoy the journey and the destination

If you are of a certain age, you can probably recall a time when a camping trip was met with as much trepidation as excitement. Trailers were often towed by passenger cars that weren't really assigned a tow rating, and certainly were not available with specialized equipment designed for hauling heavy loads. As a result, many (OK, probably most) of us towed trailers that were too heavy for the vehicle, resulting in sketchy handling on the highway and overheating on steep grades. If you arrived at your destination without so much as a flat tire or fuming radiator, that was reason enough to celebrate.

Those days, while still fresh in memory, seem difficult to imagine as we drive the highway in a 2015 Ford F-150 with a Forest River Wildwood travel trailer in tow. The scenery moves past the windows in an almost surreal silence as the engine pulls its load without complaint. Integrated Trailer Sway Control prevents the trailer from imposing its will on the tow vehicle. And perhaps most importantly, the temperature gauge hovers far west of the red zone, further building confidence with every passing mile.

By now, you've likely heard all the

mainstream news about the new F-150, which has been celebrated by many as the most advanced pickup of our time. In case you haven't, here are the headlines. Its new aluminum-alloy body saves up to 700 pounds compared to steel (depending on model, equipment level, etc.), according to Ford, a bold engineering move that the company is gambling will pay dividends in the face of ever-tightening fuel economy standards. Two new engines join the existing 3.5-liter EcoBoost V-6 and 5.0-liter V-8: a normally aspirated base 3.5-liter

V-6 making 282 horsepower and 253 lb-ft of torque, and a 2.7-liter EcoBoost V-6 that churns out an impressive 325 horsepower and 375 lb-ft of torque. A six-speed automatic with available SelectShift manual control is the only transmission available.

What all this means to RVers is perhaps more significant. The lighter weight enables the new truck to haul up to 530 pounds and tow up to 1,100 pounds more than last year's model. Further, Ford is offering technologies that make it a lot easier to tow, including Trailer Hitch Assist and a Smart Trailer Tow module. Trailer Hitch Assist adds a new rearview camera feature that incorporates a dynamic line in the display that is based on steering wheel angle. In simple terms, guidelines on the screen predict the truck's path as you back up, making it easy to connect a trailer without a spotter. The Smart Trailer module incorporates an all-new wiring harness that helps identify and inform the driver of potential trailer connectivity issues, including inoperable brake/tail/marker lights. And, if your activities include toys or other equipment, the new F-150 is available with integrated ramps to make loading motorcycles or ATVs easier and a BoxLink system that uses metal brackets and custom cleats to help secure cargo.

The test F-150 that Ford delivered to our offices had pretty much all the equipment an adventure-thirsty RVer could want. Outfitted with the FX4 off-



road package and XLT Sport Appearance package with painted grille and bumpers, the F-150 looked thoroughly modern and well finished with its Magnetic Metallic paint and matching 20-inch painted aluminum wheels. Useful equipment for our purposes included the optional 7,000-pound GVWR package, Trailer Hitch Assist and Max Trailer Tow Package that, paradoxically, does not include towing mirrors. In fairness, Ford is not the only manufacturer that offers towing mirrors as a separate option, but it seems to us that these should be included whenever a towing package is specified. Another curiosity is a standard power locking tailgate, which is great for those with a hard tonneau cover or camper shell but does not include a damping feature (offered by the competition) that makes the gate easier to lift or lower.

There was other optional equipment on the truck that we probably wouldn't have selected when ordering but definitely came in handy, most notably, the Blind Spot Information System (BLIS) with Cross Traffic Alert. Changing lanes with a trailer in tow can be a stressful situation, especially when you need to do it quickly. With the BLIS, a yellow light on the appropriate mirror illuminates if another vehicle is present and flashes insistently should you then activate the turn signal for that side. And we had forgotten about the Cross Traffic Alert feature until we were backing out of a parking spot while driving solo and the system alerted us to a car that was ap-



proaching from the right. We would definitely recommend BLIS as an option.

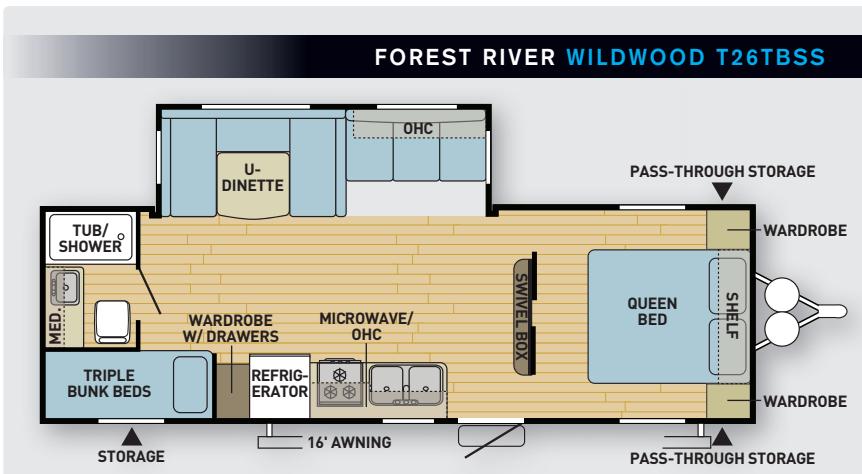
From the moment we climbed into the cockpit, it was clear that this new F-150's mission is to not only retain current customers but also secure new ones. Brand loyalty in the light-truck segment is fierce, after all, and many buyers won't jump ship even if it is clearly demonstrated that the competition has a better offering. But this truck has the power to secure even hardened Chevy, Ram and Toyota loyalists. Its blend of style and refinement appeals to the sensibilities of truck enthusiasts as well as the expectations of car owners.

The cabin feels roomy and masculine (but not too masculine), with the right amount of bright work and excellent ergonomics. The steering wheel is thick and leather wrapped, and elbows fall onto a nicely padded armrest and center-console lid. The chrome-clad, leather-wrapped shifter is big and feels

good in the hand, and the SelectShift buttons, which allow for manual shift control, are intuitively placed — the up-shift button forward and the downshift back. Gauges are large and easy to read, and all of the controls are either leather wrapped or feature a grippy rubber that is tactilely satisfying. Rear-seat legroom in the SuperCrew test model was exemplary, and with no transmission hump in the floor, three passengers could sit abreast quite comfortably without awkward foot placement.

We drove last year's F-150 with the 3.5-liter EcoBoost, and though it was quiet, Ford's continuing battle against Noise Vibration and Harshness (NVH) is evident in the 2015 model. When coming to the first stoplight, we had to glance at the tachometer to make sure the engine was still running. At cruising speed, the cabin is virtually silent, and yet, somehow, the lack of a thrumming V-8 doesn't diminish the truck experience. The EcoBoost offers amazingly strong power delivery, and the chassis, while providing a compliant ride, still feels substantial.

Well suited as the F-150 SuperCrew is for family travel, we paired it with a Forest River Wildwood T26TBSS travel trailer, an entry-level unit that should answer the prayers of those who camp with the modern-day equivalent of the Brady Bunch and understandably have a conservative budget. There are three single bunks in the rear, and the large living area slideout houses a U-shaped dinette that can sleep two and seat four to six. Next to it is a jackknife sofa that folds out easily to sleep one large or two





(Above from left) The large streetside slideout incorporates a roomy-U shaped dinette and a comfortable sofa. The forward queen bed is comfortable, and mirrored wardrobes offer plenty of room for hanging clothes. Stainless-steel-clad appliances create a premium feel in the kitchen, and a wardrobe area for the kids is located between the refrigerator and bunk beds. The rear bath is nicely equipped but can't be accessed without partially deploying the slide.

small people, and up front is a queen bed for Mom and Dad. By our count, that brings the total to eight, maybe nine. We didn't have that kind of crew available for a max-capacity real-world test, but we did borrow some kids from family mem-

bers and set out for a few days to see how successful this floorplan is.

The Wildwood is yet another example of an entry-level trailer that doesn't feel entry-level. With the single living area slide deployed, the room feels nice

and open, and the clever use of inexpensive materials makes the T26BSS feel more upscale. For example, the flooring is simple sheet vinyl but looks like wood, and the countertops and table are laminate but have the appear-

"You can feel the difference in your towing experience!"

Finally there's a way to align RV suspension

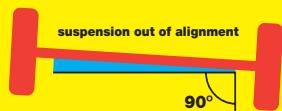
- Easy bolt-on installation
- Raises trailer 2 inches

Simple alignment adjustments

- Authorized dealer adjusts alignment to your load requirements
- Octagon cam adjusts alignment with each 1/4-inch turn

Trailer tows with tow vehicle, not against it

- Can help improve fuel economy
- Tires run smoother and cooler when properly aligned
- Hundreds of Authorized Dealers nationwide



Adjust your alignment in 1/4-inch increments



Each turn clockwise or counter clockwise adjusts alignment 1/4-inch

Buy Online!
store.lci1.com



- The RV Doctor, Gary Bunzer



lippertcomponents.com



Scan for our
Authorized Dealers



Lippert Components, Circle 136 on Reader Service Card

ance of a natural stone product. Unfortunately, the functional aspect of this trailer leaves something to be desired in several areas.

First and foremost, the bathroom is located in the rear of the trailer on the street side, which means that the slideout must be deployed at least partially anytime someone needs to use the bathroom during travel. With Big Gulps and small bladders on board, it's easy to imagine how this would become a problem. What's harder to imagine is why Forest River didn't put the bunks on this side instead, which would leave the bathroom accessible during travel.

The bunkhouse is a cute idea, but it also suffers from its share of problems. The bottom bunk is at floor level, which requires one kid to crawl on his or her hands and knees into the sleeping area. We could find no ladder, which means your little monkeys will have to climb their way into the upper bunks, and jump down with an alarming thump in the night when they need to use the

bathroom. Bringing your own stepladder would probably help, but we don't think that should be expected. There are lights at the entry point for each bunk, which helps with ingress in the night, but once in the sleeping position, they do little more than illuminate small feet. If the kids are flexible enough to turn around in the narrow space, they could read — but then they'd have to turn back around to get out of bed. A simple solution would be to put a light at either end of each bunk.

The U-shaped dinette is roomy and comfortable enough, and we appreciated that the table is supported by two posts instead of one for added stability. A light above the dinette features an integrated switch so it can be turned on once you are seated at the table, and windows at either end of the slideout help bring the outside in, if desired. There is also a storage drawer on the forward leg of the U, which could be useful, but we were disappointed to find that it was poorly finished and clunky

to use. The jackknife sofa, however, deployed very easily, was reasonably comfortable and featured a huge drawer underneath to store blankets, pillows and other items.

On the curbside is the kitchen, which features stainless-steel-appointed appliances to further the upscale appearance. The dual-bowl plastic sink is large and looks like white enamel, but we really wished for sink covers since there isn't a lot of counter space and there is no stove cover. There is, however, decent storage, courtesy of a large, deep cabinet underneath the sink, and next to this is a single cutlery drawer. Above is a double-door cabinet with a shelf, and we liked the glass inlays that were painted to look like woven cloth. The three-burner stove has a standard oven, and above it is a small microwave. The Dometic refrigerator looks nice with its stainless-steel front and was big enough for our needs, but we question how well it would work when the trailer is filled to occupant capacity, as 6 cubic feet isn't

Order Now & Save!

The largest collection of new RV models in the marketplace — all in one handy volume



2015 RV BUYERS GUIDE

Completely Revised & Updated for 2015 • More Than 600 Listings

1-800-309-0311 • www.rvb.com

Send me a total of ____ copies of the **2015 RV Buyers Guide** for only **\$7.99** plus \$2 shipping and handling per copy. Total Payment due: \$ _____

Check or money order made out to RV Buyers Guide enclosed

Charge my: Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

Account # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Available to US and Canadian residents only (U.S. funds only). Publication date is February 2015. Please allow 4-6 weeks after publication date for delivery. 21CO TL05



Clip out and mail to: 2015 RV Buyers Guide, P.O. Box 421090, Palm Coast, FL 32142



(Above from left) With Ford's Equipment Group 302A, the F-150's cloth seats offer heat and 10-way power adjustment. Optional Sync with MyFord Touch multimedia system features voice command and an excellent navigation unit. The rear seat offers limolike legroom.

any larger than in other non-bunkhouse trailers this size.

At the front of the living area is the entertainment center, which in the test unit was TV-ready. There is a depression in the front and hookups for cable, etc., and the panel is supposed to swivel so it can be viewed from the bedroom, although we couldn't see how. Beneath the TV area is a rectangular cubby, to the right of which is an all-in-one DVD/AM/FM player with built-in Bluetooth for audio streaming. All the way beneath are two cabinet doors with a single shelf.

The forward bedroom isn't large but has enough room come bedtime and offers good privacy with two sliding doors instead of a curtain. The queen bed is comfortable, and there is plenty of walk-around space. On either side of the bed are large, deep wardrobes, and although there are no overhead cabinets, there is a shelf with lighting

underneath for reading. Ahead of each wardrobe are carpeted areas, which we found were a good place to put books, glasses of water, etc., and there are 120-volt AC power outlets in case you want to plug in an alarm clock or charge your phone.

You might expect a travel trailer designed to host so many kids to have generous exterior storage, but the Wildwood does not. It offers a narrow pass-through compartment up front that is just large enough for essentials, plus a large rear door that opens up — wait for it — the bunk area. We have no idea what purpose this would serve, other than to use the bunks for storage during travel.

With the reliability and comfort provided by the F-150 and the sleeping accommodations of the Forest River Wildwood, the whole family can enjoy the same travel experiences we had as kids, minus the drama. 🚚

SPECIFICATIONS

2015 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW

Fuel Economy, Solo	19.3 mpg
Towing	10 mpg
Engine	3.5-liter twin turbocharged V-6
Horsepower	365 at 5,000 rpm
Torque	420 lb-ft at 2,500 rpm
Transmission	6-speed automatic
Axle ratio	3.55:1
Fuel Cap.	23 gal.
Tires	275/55R20
Suspension, Front	Double-wishbone independent, coil-on shock
Suspension, Rear	Live axle, leaf springs, outboard shock absorbers
Brakes	4-wheel ABS
Tow Rating	11,500 lbs.
GVWR	7,000 lbs.
GCWR	16,900 lbs.
Weight, as tested	5,200 lbs.
Length	17' 4"
Wheelbase	122.4"
MSRP, base	\$39,425
MSRP, as tested	\$51,715
Basic Warranty	3 years / 36,000 miles

FOREST RIVER WILDWOOD T26TBSS

Exterior Length	29'
Exterior Width	8'
Exterior Height	11' 2"
Interior Width	7' 9"
Interior Height	6' 8"
Construction	Wood framing, aluminum side walls, 3/8" walk-on roof
Freshwater Cap.	40 gal.
Gray-Water Cap.	34 gal.
Black-Water Cap.	32 gal.
LP-Gas Cap.	14 gal.
Water-Heater Cap.	6 gal.
Refrigerator	6 cu. ft.
Furnace	30,000 Btu
Air Conditioner	15,000 Btu
Converter	30 amp
Battery	Dealer supplied
Tires	ST205/75R15
Suspension	Leaf spring
Weight (water and propane full, no supplies)	6,660 lbs.
Hitch Weight	860 lbs.
Axle Weight	5,800 lbs.
GVWR	7,815 lbs.
GAWR (2)	3,500 lbs.
Cargo Carrying Cap.	1,155 lbs.
MSRP, base	\$25,157.50
MSRP, as tested	\$29,818.75
Basic Warranty	1 year parts and labor

Forest River

574-534-8107, www.forestriverinc.com
Circle 165 on Reader Service Card

GARAGE BRAIN

Why should fifth-wheels have all the fun? These conventional travel trailers haul your

Toy haulers are a great way to enhance the RVing experience, allowing owners to bring along their beloved recreational toys and combine their passion for adventure with the usual benefits of the RV lifestyle. These haulers, or sport-utility recreational vehicles (SURVs), are available in many RV types, from elegant Class A coaches to well-appointed Class C motorhomes to luxurious fifth-wheels. But toy haulers are also available in a handful of smaller vehicles, such as nimble

Class B motorhomes, the occasional truck camper and, perhaps the most underappreciated members of the SURV sect, conventional travel trailers.

Sure, some motorhomes are more spacious, and some fivers may offer a more stable towing platform, but overall, travel-trailer toy haulers allow for some of the easiest, most convenient and certainly most versatile off-grid RVing solutions. These trailers and their respective tow vehicles are generally more

easily navigable to off-road-friendly locations, which may require stouter suspensions, higher road clearances and lighter weights to get to than typical commercial RV parks and public campground sites.

While many travel-trailer toy haulers can take RVers to more off-of-the-way destinations, they still contain all the comforts of home, from pillow-top mattresses to flat-screen HDTVs to residential kitchens and baths. Plus, when not in use, their garage areas afford additional space,

Toy haulers are the perfect way to tap into your adventurous side. The Lance 2612 shown here sleeps up to eight and offers nearly 3,000 pounds of toy- and cargo-hauling capacity.



TRAILERS

toys with the best of 'em

so the whole family can join in the fun. Most are built for the long haul and should stand up to the beating they will take from the journey to the campsite, and the grease, grime and hours of use they will receive on a typical adventurous getaway.

What follows is a selection of toy-hauling travel trailers that are on the market. A simple Internet search or an afternoon spent at a dealership like Camping World may reveal even more options for you and your off-pavement pals.

CrossRoads

CrossRoads offers the ZT278RR toy hauler, part of the popular Z-1 trailer lineup. At around 5,000 pounds dry weight, the Z-1 is towable by most half-ton trucks, and, with a properly equipped tow vehicle, owners have the luxury of bringing along more than 2,500 pounds of outdoor toys and cargo. A large 69- x 74-inch ramp door allows for easy loading of quads, motorbikes or a variety of other popular toys. Six D-ring tie-downs keep the vehicles in place. After the toys have been off-loaded, the two rear sofas can be converted to make additional sleeping positions (they fold against the wall for a wide-open floorplan when not in use). Up front, a walk-around queen bed makes bedroom duties a snap, while a handy floor-to-ceiling pantry amidships

enhances storage space, which also includes two shirt closets and a good amount of overhead storage. Notable standards range from wood-grain linoleum to an AM/FM/CD stereo with auxiliary (iPod) jacks and two exterior speakers, diamond-plate front stone guards and raised-panel cabinet doors.

Z-1 ZT278RR

Exterior Length	30' 4"
Exterior Width	8'
Exterior Height	10' 4"
Interior Height	6' 6"
Freshwater Cap.	40 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	26 gal./52 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	10 gal.
Hitch Weight	746 lbs.
GVWR	7,746 lbs.
MSRP	\$22,532

CrossRoads RV

855-226-7496, www.crossroadsv.com/z-1





Dutchmen

The Rubicon 2900 features a wide 8-foot 6-inch body for the extra space needed to haul outdoor toys. High-gloss exterior walls and an aggressive graphics package will let other RVers know you have arrived. Once in camp, the electric awning, overhead cargo netting for storage and 30-gallon fuel station are big pluses for off-roaders, and the tub/shower combination inside is a benefit for those who like to easily wash off the day's dirt after a long ride. The dual-basin sink, three-burner stove and microwave all help with preparing family meals, while a sizable refrigerator and separate pantry hold plenty of food. An optional rear-ramp patio setup takes the entertainment outside.

Rubicon 2900

Exterior Length	34' 8"
Exterior Width	8' 6"
Exterior Height	12' 3"
Interior Height	8' (Max. Garage Height)
Freshwater Cap.	92 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	42 gal./42 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	14 gal.
Hitch Weight	1,534 lbs.
GVWR	12,000 lbs.
MSRP	\$47,590

Dutchmen, 866-425-4369, www.dutchmen.com



EverGreen

The Amped 32KS may be a travel trailer, but it definitely feels more like a fifth-wheel in terms of livability. The Amped's unique Z-Frame technology provides RVers with more than three times the amount of storage found in typical travel-trailer toy haulers, according to the company. This configuration also affords owners the ultimate in RV entertaining space. "No other toy-hauler travel trailer offers an upper-deck kitchen-slide floorplan," said Will Gonyon, Amped's product manager. "The Amped 32KS has a breakfast bar with vast countertop space, allowing you to prepare a meal in your kitchen while having family and friends at the bar." Other impressive features of the 32KS include an 8-cubic-foot refrigera-



tor, solid-surface countertops, a shower with a tri-sliding door and bench seat, and a porcelain foot-flush toilet. Utility standards include a 4,000-watt Onan generator, E-Z Lube axles, a 40-gallon fuel tank for your toys and an 8-foot, 3,000-pound-rated ramp door. Plus, the ramp can be converted into a patio (optional), allowing the entertainment-friendly trailer to live up to its name when it comes to party time.

EverGreen also offers the Reactor 29FS, a rugged, lighter-weight trailer featuring a double-welded aluminum structure for enhanced durability. A high-gloss exterior, aggressive graphics and frameless windows make for an attractive exterior, while the 8-foot 5-inch-high barreled ceiling inside provides an open concept similar to a fifth-wheel. The L-shape counter in the galley makes for easy meal prep, and dual 72-inch sofa beds in the living area and a pair of sofa beds in the garage area provide an abundance of sleeping space. The master offers a comfy queen bed with walk-around space and dual wardrobes, and the large bathroom features an enormous 48 x 30-inch residential shower that is ideal for cleaning off the grime after a day on the dunes. The 7½-foot ramp door is larger than most, while the full 8-foot 6-inch width makes hauling those toys easy.



tor, solid-surface countertops, a shower with a tri-sliding door and bench seat, and a porcelain foot-flush toilet. Utility standards include a 4,000-watt Onan generator, E-Z Lube axles, a 40-gallon fuel tank for your toys and an 8-foot, 3,000-pound-rated ramp door. Plus, the ramp can be converted into a patio (optional), allowing the entertainment-friendly trailer to live up to its name when it comes to party time.

Amped 32KS

Exterior Length	36' 11"
Exterior Width	8' 6"
Exterior Height	12' 2"
Interior Height	8'
Freshwater Cap.	176 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	50 gal./50 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	10 gal.
Hitch Weight	1,086 lbs.
GVWR	12,900 lbs.
MSRP	\$65,574 base



Reactor 29FS

Exterior Length	34' 2"
Exterior Width	8' 6"
Exterior Height	12' 2"
Interior Height	8'
Freshwater Cap.	106 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	41 gal./41 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	10 gal.
GVWR	10,900 lbs.
MSRP	\$35,000-\$40,000

EverGreen Recreational Vehicles

574-825-4298, www.goevergreenrv.com



A MARK OF PASSION

Exploring the world. Dreaming of new places. Waking up to the most epic sunrises. Discovering it all with your loved ones. That's your passion. Right?

Our passion is creating the world's best propane cylinders, so you can fully enjoy your passion. Viking Cylinders are the modern, lightweight alternative to traditional steel propane tanks. Our corrosion-free and translucent design means no rust rings, plus you see exactly how much propane is available. Viking Cylinders are the perfect choice for the RV owner. With more than 9 million cylinders in use worldwide you can be sure it's the safest way to enjoy your passion.

WHAT LIGHTS YOUR FIRE? www.vikingcylinders.com/rv

Viking Cylinders is a registered trademark of Hexagon Ragasco AS.




by HEXAGON RAGASCO

Highland Ridge

Highland Ridge recently joined the toy-hauling travel fray with the introduction of the Highlander HT31RGR. The four-season Highlander features a heated and enclosed underbelly and R38 insulation in the ceiling and floors for snow-goers, and the garage area can be sealed off from the living area to help combat the fuel/oil smells that often permeate an SURV, especially when traveling with snowmobiles. Opposing slides result in an uncluttered, wide-open floorplan, and the kitchen island is a great touch to add more real estate to the countertops. The amidships lavatory extends the width of the trailer and contains a 30- x 48-inch shower. Dual nightstands flank the queen bed in the master. The garage area is available with a HappiJac bed-lift system with a pass-through (removable) dinette and television. The trailer runs on 50-amp electrical, which allows you to enjoy all the comforts of home while plugged in.

Highlander HT31RGR

Exterior Length	37'
Exterior Width	8' 4"
Exterior Height	11' 6"
Interior Height	7'
Freshwater Cap.	50 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	31 gal./62 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	14 gal.
Hitch Weight	1,335 lbs.
GVWR	11,735 lbs.
MSRP	\$54,865

Highland Ridge RV

260-768-7771, www.highlandridgerv.com



Jayco

Built by the family-owned manufacturer with nearly 50 years in the RV industry, Jayco's half-ton-towable Octane Super Lite 222 toy hauler weighs in at a svelte 4,795 pounds (uvw), offering more than 3,000 pounds of toy- and cargo-carrying capacity. The robust trailer is constructed using screws rather than staples, and Jayco's Magnum Truss Roof System (which the company claims is 50 percent stronger than other roofs), laminated floor with block-foam insulation and additional heavier-duty assembly techniques lead to a longer lasting, more durable trailer. Aluminum wheels, a fiberglass radius front wall, diamond-plate aluminum and LED taillights give the Octane a distinctive look outside, while Espresso wood cabinetry, stainless-steel appliances, a deep double-bowl sink and vinyl flooring throughout keep things looking good inside. The garage offers a 2,500-pound-capacity ramp door, bar-lock latches, keyed door locks and flush-floor mounted tie-down rings with a stout 2,500-pound capacity. All Jayco products come with what the company calls an industry-leading two-year limited warranty.

Octane Super Lite 222

Exterior Length	26' 4"
Exterior Width	8' 6"
Exterior Height	12' 2"
Interior Height	7' 5"
Freshwater Cap.	50 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	45 gal./45 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	14 gal.
Hitch Weight	690 lbs.
GVWR	8,000 lbs.
MSRP	\$25,630 (Mandatory Customer Value Package)

Jayco Inc., 574-825-5861, www.jayco.com

Keystone

The Carbon 33 is one of five floorplans in the Carbon toy-hauler line. Standard features of the 33 (which ships at 8,985 pounds, leaving plenty of room for all your toys) include a 10-foot garage, welded-to-the-frame tie-downs (each rated at 5,000 pounds pull-strength), an oil- and gas-resistant composite rubber floor in the garage and AC-generator prep. The 33 features a heated and enclosed underbelly, a 30-gallon fueling station and a vapor door to keep fuel fumes out of the living area. Inside, livability features include a full galley with a gas/electric refrigerator, range, oven and microwave; an entertainment center with a 40-inch LED TV; and ducted 15,000-Btu air conditioning. Popular options include an Onan 4,000-watt generator, dual-pane frameless windows, a rear screen enclosure and electrically operated single or stacked queen beds in the garage that convert to opposing sofas with a dinette.

Carbon 33

Exterior Length	35' 5"
Exterior Width	8' 4"
Exterior Height	12' 3"
Interior Height	7' 11"
Freshwater Cap.	106 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	30 gal./60 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	10 gal.
Hitch Weight	1,315 lbs.
GVWR	13,000 lbs.
MSRP	\$44,500

Keystone RV

866-425-4369, www.keystonerv.com/carbon





Sharing family traditions Courtesy of Cummins Onan

RV QG 3600 LP



RVing is a great way to kindle a passion for family activities like fishing. Relying on a Cummins Onan installed generator is another tradition worth passing on to the next generation. It makes all your adventures even more enjoyable, with comfort and convenience at the push of a button.

With over 50 years' experience in making reliable RV generators, it's no surprise that Cummins Onan models have some important advantages:

- Lowest noise and vibration
- Highest reliability
- Most extensive and experienced service network

Learn more about the benefits of a Cummins Onan installed generator at <http://powertotrailers.com>. And pass on what's important.

Cummins Onan



Performance you rely on.™

Onan Corporation, Circle 101 on Reader Service Card



Lance

Known primarily for its upscale truck campers and its top-quality lightweight trailers, Lance Camper has entered the toy-hauler market with two models: the 2212 and the 2612. The 2612 shown here offers more than 12 feet of unencumbered cargo space, which should be plenty of room for any type of toy owners can send its way. The floorplan does a great job at creating five distinctive areas: the master bedroom, the bathroom, the kitchen/dining area, the living room and the garage. This layout allows for a more residential feel while inside, and when the toys are away, the garage offers a queen bed



Lin' Lite

Lin' Lite trailers live up to their name, available in models the company claims are up to 30 percent lighter than the competition. The Axxess 8.5x26FBR shown here features an aerodynamic radius front end for improved mileage, and the highly detailed graphics package and black trim give it the look RV buyers have come to expect. But perhaps what makes the Axxess stand out most is the large garage area. There is 12 feet 6 inches of space from the rear to the kitchen street side, plus an impressive 16 feet 6 inches of space along the curb side. When not storing vehicles, the garage area offers a convertible dinette and portable table, a fold-up sofa bed and an optional HappiJac power bed. The front of the trailer offers a private bedroom with a

and optional dual jackknife sofas and dinette, which expands the homey feel even further. Standard features include electric side and rear awnings with LED lighting, designer interior decors, blue LED accent lighting, an air conditioner, microwave and more. Options include keyless entry, a 4,000-watt Onan generator, a central-vacuum system, an automatic-tracking satellite dish, a solar panel, a roof rack and a ramp-door patio-railing system.

Lance 2612

Exterior Length	31' 11"
Exterior Width	8' 6"
Exterior Height	11' 5"
Interior Height	8'
Freshwater Cap.	100 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	45 gal./45 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	14 gal.
Hitch Weight	845 lbs.
GVWR	9,950 lbs.
MSRP	\$58,000-\$62,000

Lance Camper

661-949-3322, www.lancecamper.com



queen bed, while storage is plentiful throughout, thanks to an abundance of cabinetry. The L-shape galley is cleverly designed to offer the best use of space to help feed an army of off-roaders.

Axxess 8.5x26FBR

Exterior Length	30' 3"
Exterior Width	8' 6"
Exterior Height	10' 4"
Interior Height	7' 3"
Freshwater Cap.	63 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	28 gal./28 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	10 gal.
Hitch Weight	675 lbs.
GVWR	5,400 lbs.
MSRP	\$35,000

Lin' Lite Recreational Vehicles

574-862-2228, www.linilite.com



Northwood

Northwood hangs its hat on durable four-season construction, and the Desert Fox 27FS toy hauler is no exception. Like all Desert Fox trailers, the 27FS features a custom-built, third-party, structurally certified chassis under an 8-foot 6-inch wide-body floorplan. The thick walled, fully welded aluminum frame utilizes solid core anchor blocking and pressure-bonded, hot-polyurethane-laminated multi-layer walls. Cabinets are residential quality with face-frame construction, utilizing screws rather than staples. Standard features include a 5.5-kw Onan generator, a 30-gallon on-board fuel station, an LED TV, LED utility lighting inside and out, a power awning, a power A-frame jack and a power-lift queen bed (a second lift bed is optional). The 27FS also comes with a cable kit to convert the rear door into a patio deck and a rear screen wall for open-air use. Options include thermal-pane windows, a pressure washer, an air compressor, retractable cable toy lock, reversible rear lounge, solar panels and an exterior barbecue grill.

Desert Fox 27FS

Exterior Length	32' 7"
Exterior Width	8' 6"
Exterior Height	11' 7"
Interior Height	8'
Freshwater Cap.	100 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	50 gal./47 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	14 gal.
Hitch Weight	1,410 lbs.
GVWR	12,000 lbs.
MSRP	\$50,037

Northwood Manufacturing

800-766-6274, www.northwoodmfg.com

Towing doesn't have to be a drag.



SWAYPRO™

Weight Distributing Hitch



- SWAYPRO™ prevents sway.
- Pre-adjusted hitch head. No fine tuning
- Sway prevention that works in any weather
- Back up without disconnecting
- Rotating latches
- No noise

BLUEOX.COM • 800-228-9289
f facebook.com/blueoxproducts **t** YouTube

Blue Ox, Circle 106 on Reader Service Card



Strong As An Ox™

Weekend Warrior

Years ago, when you said “toy hauler,” any respectable RVer would immediately think Weekend Warrior. Well, after a few years on the shelf, Weekend Warrior is back. The WSA 28 has been designed specifically for recreational-toy owners, with a powder-coated chassis, all-steel-cage construction, an integrated toolbox, 10 tie-downs in the garage and an optional 40-gallon fueling station.

The WSA 28’s front fiberglass cap, 15-inch aluminum wheels and frameless windows make the trailer a head-turner. Four scissor jacks help with in-camp stability. But the WSA 28 has a softer side as well, with deluxe cabinetry, a porcelain toilet, pleated shades and marine-grade custom furniture, all sure to please the indoor adventurer. Popular options include solar panels, a 4,000-watt generator, a rear screen, a veranda and automatic leveling jacks.

WSA 28

Exterior Length	33' 5"
Exterior Width	8' 4"
Exterior Height	12'
Interior Height	8' 4"
Freshwater Cap.	140 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	50 gal./50 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	10 gal.
Hitch Weight	680 lbs.
GVWR	9,999 lbs.
MSRP	starts at \$39,999 (factory-direct)

Weekend Warrior

844-284-6678, www.weekendwarriortoyhauler.com



Winnebago

The company that’s virtually synonymous with motorhomes makes a pretty nice trailer as well. And, as of this model year, Winnebago offers a toy hauler: the Spyder. Available in four lengths (the 24FQ shown here is the only one beyond the prototype stage), the distinctive-looking trailer is immediately identifiable by its black gel-coat fiberglass exterior. The inside of the trailer has a wide-open design concept, combining the galley and living area into one unencumbered “great room.” The amidships bathroom is surprisingly roomy and contains everything needed for personal duties, including a spacious 60-inch shower, while the master bedroom houses a 60- x 80-inch walk-around queen bed, overhead storage

and dual nightstands and wardrobes. A Rockford Fosgate sound-system upgrade is much appreciated, as is the Spyder’s ability to sleep up to six. Off-pavement enthusiasts should be pleased to discover an in-floor toolbox, pull-down rear screen wall and ramp-door patio option.

Spyder 24FQ

Exterior Length	28' 9"
Exterior Width	8' 4"
Exterior Height	11' 11"
Interior Height	8' 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ "
Freshwater Cap.	100 gal.
Black-/Gray-Water Cap.	41 gal./41 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	10 gal.
Hitch Weight	760 lbs.
GVWR	10,400 lbs.
MSRP	\$46,661 (Mandatory Spyder Package)

Winnebago Industries

641-585-3535, www.winnebagoind.com



UP TO
\$25

IN REC REWARDS POINTS*

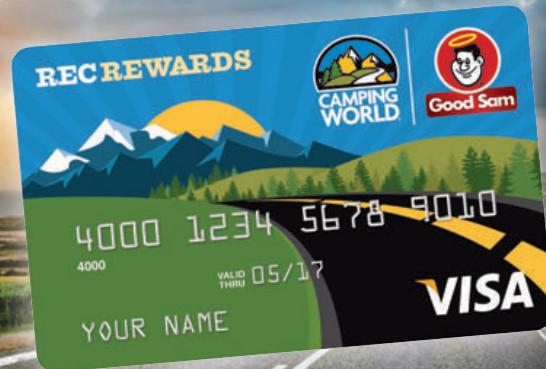


**0% INTRO
APR**

FOR 6 MONTHS*

13.99%, 19.99% or 24.99% variable APR
thereafter, based on credit worthiness

WHEN YOU **APPLY TODAY** FOR:



GET ON THE ROAD TO **BIGGER REWARDS!**

FOR EVERY \$1 SPENT

5 POINTS

at Camping World and on Good Sam purchases

3 POINTS

at private campgrounds across the U.S. and Canada

1 POINT

everywhere else VISA® is accepted

REDEEM for cash back as a statement credit,
Good Sam memberships, restaurant, retail and
gas gift cards, PLUS MUCH MORE!

NO ANNUAL FEE**

AUTOPAY for when you're on the road

30 EXTRA DAYS FOR RETURNS

on Camping World purchases made
with the card

APPLY TODAY! CALL: 1-844-271-2591 CLICK: GoodSamCampingWorldVisa.com
or Visit a Camping World Supercenter near you!

*Offer subject to credit approval. Cardholders will earn five (5) points for every one dollar (\$1.00) of Net Purchases spent on Good Sam Club related products and services made on their Account rounded to the nearest dollar. "Good Sam Club eligible purchases," are defined as products and services purchased from Good Sam Enterprises, LLC and its affiliates and partners, including but not limited to the following: Coast to Coast, Camping World, Good Sam, TL Enterprises, and NGIC. Cardholders will earn three (3) points for every one dollar (\$1.00) of Net Purchases made at any retail establishments that classify their merchant location to Visa as Campgrounds and Trailer Parks within the U.S. and Canada. For all other purchases made anywhere else, Cardholders will earn one (1) point for every one dollar (\$1.00) of Net Purchases made on their Account rounded to the nearest dollar. A one-time bonus award of (2,000) Rec Rewards Points will be awarded to new cardholders after the first purchase is posted to the Account. Bonus Rec Rewards Points will be posted approximately 30 days after the initial qualifying transaction. This rewards program is provided by Comenity Capital Bank and its terms may discontinue or change at any time. For information about the rates, fees, other costs, and the reward program rules (including point accrual rate, bonus point awards, etc.) and benefits associated with the use of this credit card program please visit www.comenity.net/goodsamcampingworld for complete terms and conditions.

**Standard variable APR of 24.99%, 19.99% and 13.99% based on Prime Rate and your credit worthiness. Balance transfer and Cash Advance APR of 25.99% based on Prime Rate. Minimum interest charged is \$2.00 per credit plan. Offer subject to credit approval.

The Good Sam | Camping World Visa® and Visa Signature® cards are issued by Comenity Capital Bank, pursuant to license from Visa® U.S.A. Inc.

GCR37816 - 0115

REMOTE CONTROL Trailer Positioning



"The Purple Line unit moves our trailer across the driveway, handling the incline nicely, and allows me to put it right where I want it. I don't get to use it much anymore as my 9 year old grandson says it's his job to hitch and unhitch the trailer... And he does it all by himself!"



SEE THE VIDEO AT:
www.purplelineusa.com



All With One Effortless Touch!

- ✓ Eliminate Blind Spots
- ✓ Simplify Hitching
- ✓ Get Into Impossible Spaces
- ✓ Maneuver Around Driveway

WALK-THROUGH: CROSSROADS ELEVATION SONOMA

Toy-Haulin' CrossRoads

The Elevation fifth-wheel combines a touch of luxury with a cavernous garage capable of handling a four-seat ATV

When it comes to choosing a fifth-wheel, the process can not only be time consuming but downright overwhelming. It may sound obvious, but one of the quickest ways to organize and simplify the search is to determine what price point will work within your budget. This key point is especially important when selecting a toy-hauler fifth-wheel because the ability to handle outdoor recreation equipment must be balanced with livability.

If your working price range falls around \$120,000, then the Cross-Roads Elevation Sonoma should be on your active list. As with many new models, there are a slew of improvements in the 2105 Sonoma floorplan, offering just about everything you could possibly want in a fifth-wheel that has sport-utility capabilities. This trailer is more than capable of doing everything you would expect from a

high-level toy hauler, while easily becoming a base for entertaining fellow outdoor enthusiasts.

The foundation is a chassis made from 12-inch steel I-beams, matched with 7,000-pound-rated axles and 16-inch aluminum wheels wrapped with E-rated tires, part of the Pinnacle Package. The 42-foot trailer is equipped with a 13-foot garage and four strategically placed slideouts that work nicely with the efficient floorplan. A six-point Level Up hydraulic leveling system, part of the Peak Performance package, keeps the fifth-wheel on a comfortable plane in camp, while rear electric stabilizer jacks add support. Finishing the framework and smoothing some of the road ripples is the Trailair Rota-Flex pin box, complete with an LED docking light.

The toys are supported by a 5.5-kilowatt Onan generator fed by its

own 30-gallon fuel tank, as well as the auxiliary 30-gallon tank and pump. Let's not forget about the two power awnings with LED lighting, the heated and enclosed underbelly, dual four-step entry or the independent exterior entertainment system that adds sound to the garage area. The large number of packages that make up the Sonoma leaves a short list of factory options.

The home-like interior starts on 5/8-inch tongue-and-groove floor decking and continues up through the stoutly framed walls. Like other high-quality fifth-wheels, the Sonoma uses smooth-finished gel-coated exterior fiberglass packed with enough insulation here and in the roof structure to keep the trailer comfortable in varying climates.

Inside is an inviting floorplan with opposing slideouts. The kitchen has a wealth of workable solid-surface countertop real estate, including an island that's fitted with a large residential stainless-steel sink with a high-rise faucet and pull-out sprayer. The island allows for quite a bit of storage, supplemented by cabinets and counters surrounding the galley. The streetside slideout houses a 40-inch Samsung LED TV with a Blu-ray



The triple-axle 42-foot Elevation has a 13-foot garage and striking exterior graphics for a bold let's-get-out-and-play look.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MANUFACTURER

WALK-THROUGH: CROSSROADS ELEVATION SONOMA

player tied to a JBL home-theater sound bar, all backed by Bluetooth connectivity. Filling the depths of the curbside slideout is a plush faux-leather couch with a removable dining table.

Although the Sonoma's kitchen and living area may not be ideally equipped for longer-term occupation, it offers all the right touches for more than just casual cooking. The kitchen is loaded with appliances that include a 12-cubic-foot four-door refrigerator, a hefty 30-inch residential convection microwave and an electric induction cooktop.

Moving to the front of the trailer reveals a mini-apartment-style master bedroom suite with opposing slideouts, augmented by plenty of storage space, a 32-inch LED TV and a cushy sofa surrounded by a unique front cap/window. The single bathroom is on the way back from the master suite at the stair landing. Outfitted with a full fiberglass shower enclosure, a porcelain foot-flush toilet, a small cabinet-mounted sink and an appropriate linen closet,



Featuring a cushy couch along the front cap that's fitted with a large window, the Elevation's master bedroom feels like a mini-suite.

the Sonoma's bathroom has all the necessary elements.

Throughout the fifth-wheel's living quarters, details such as LED lighting and crown molding add elements

of luxury. Amenities like a 40,000-Btu furnace, standard 15,000-Btu ducted air-conditioner, optional bedroom/garage 15,000-BTU air-conditioners, 19.7-gallon-per-hour gas/electric

America's #1 Choice for Innovative RV Air Conditioning

Smallest 13.5K BTU RV A/C Unit

The Brisk II Is 19% Lighter With 15% More Air Flow

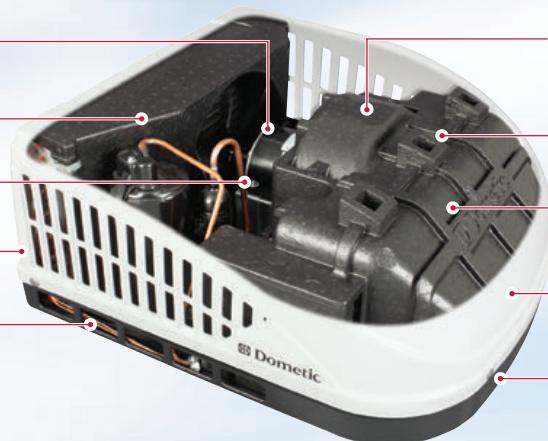
High-performance motor and fan

Rounded edges increase air flow

Fan motor sound dampening brackets reduce noise and vibration

Enclosed wrap-around back adds strength and rigidity

Larger air openings for improved air flow and cooling performance



Tighter tolerances for improved fit and finish between shroud and evaporator cover

EPP foam housing reduces weight and increases cooling performance

Press fit evaporator cover eliminates fasteners for improved service access

Custom composite Korad shroud is laminated to provide UV protection

3-in. deep-draw G 90 carbon steel drain pan with powder-coated finish for durability

LOWEST INSTALLED PRICE GUARANTEED for Good Sam Club Members

GET MORE INFO



Watch the Brisk II Videos

 Dometic

CA037810

ENJOY SATELLITE TV ANYWHERE YOU GO

INTRODUCING THE NEW

KING TAILGATER & KING QUEST

PORTABLE OR ROOF-MOUNTABLE SATELLITE TV ANTENNAS.



VQ4500

FOR USE WITH DISH®



VQ4100

FOR USE WITH DIRECTV®

- Fully Automatic, Simple Set-up • Portable or Roof-Mount Ready
 - Supports Multiple TV Viewing*
- Compact, Lightweight Design (13.5" x 18.75" x 17" / 7.5lbs)

SMALLER, LIGHTER AND EASIER THAN EVER.

Whether you want a portable antenna (with built-in handle) or roof mounted satellite antenna, you can get either with the new KING Quest or KING Tailgater. No additional hardware needed! KING Quest works with DIRECTV and KING Tailgater works with DISH. Just choose the KING antenna that's right for you. It's never been easier to stay connected and get satellite TV service anywhere you go! From a trusted name and leader in the mobile satellite TV industry, KING.

*Must be on same satellite.



KINGTM
kingcontrols.com

DISH® & Tailgater® are registered trademarks of DISH Network, L.L.C.
DIRECTV® is a registered trademark of DIRECTV, LLC. KING™ is a trademark of Electronic Controlled Systems Inc.

CA038220

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

WALK-THROUGH: CROSSROADS ELEVATION SONOMA

hot-water tank and washer/dryer connections mean there's no shortage of creature comforts.

Last, but certainly not least, is the substantial 13-foot garage area. The segregated garage is actually big enough for a four-seat Polaris RZR ATV, a plush and popular off-road vehicle for all ages. Besides the mammoth capacity, the garage is loaded with all

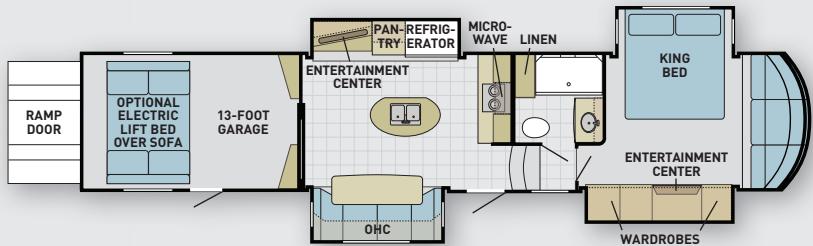
the best toy-hauler options. From the aforementioned individual garage AM/FM/MP3/32-inch LED TV entertainment system with Bluetooth and the pull-down screen to the Dyson vacuum and optional electric queen-bed lift with opposing sofas, the Sonoma's garage is more than well equipped. Of course, there are also the must-have frame-mounted, 1,200-pound-rated D-rings, Tuff-Ply flooring, aluminum RamAir vents and black snap-in

window covers.

Sure, there are a few areas where it would have been nice to see some embellishments, like the bathroom design, for the almost \$120,000 price tag, but smaller details like these won't be missed when considering the other features in this fifth-wheel. Those looking for a higher comfort level and ideal storage facilities for toys will be lured to take a close look at the 2015 Elevation Sonoma. 🚐

QUICK INFO ✓

Exterior Length	42' 4"
Exterior Width	8'
Interior Height	8' 6"
Exterior Height	13' 2"
Freshwater Cap.	104 gal.
Black-/Gray-water Cap.	45 gal./90 gal.
LP-gas Cap.	20 gal.
UVW	14,720 lbs.
Hitch Weight	3,488 lbs.
GVWR	18,000 lbs.
MSRP, base	\$119,000



CrossRoads Recreational Vehicles, 855-226-7496, www.crossroadsrv.com
Circle 166 on Reader Service Card.

WE HAVE YOUR TANK-CLEANING NEEDS COVERED!

Flush King

Reverse RV Flush Valve



- Flushes and refills waste tank at any height or bend of plumbing
- Rotating elbow allows for easy access



SLUNKY
HOSE SUPPORT

- Deep pocket design
- Self-fastening strap for easy storage



Available in 10', 10' Low, 15' & 20' lengths

CA07836

HONDA
GENERATORS

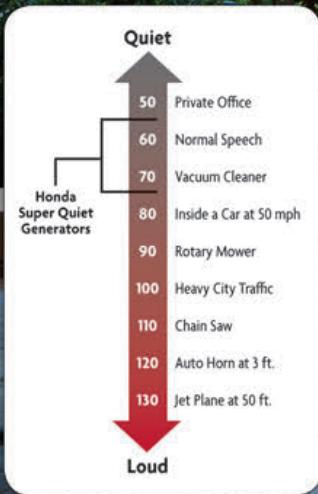
Special Advertising Section

Powerfully

QUIET & EFFICIENT!



Honda's **NEW** EU700is portable generator with Electronic Fuel Injection offers easier maintenance, fewer starting problems and better fuel efficiency plus the brand's signature quiet operation.



Quiet operation is essential in portable generators to prevent annoying your camping neighbors and to enhance your own outdoor experience. Honda's Super Quiet line of portable inverter generators feature enclosed bodies that significantly reduce noise while in operation.

Honda's latest addition to its super quiet EU lineup brings a host of advantages over competitors vying for a top spot in the RV and camping market. The EU7000is offers smart electronic fuel injection technology that increases fuel efficiency by up to 20%, eliminates the engine choke, and reduces fuel-associated carburetor problems. That means reliable starting at any elevation, no storage-related carburetor fouling problems and longer run times between fill-ups. With 7000 watts of maximum output and 5500 watts rated output, the EU7000is is an excellent power source for most RVs with dual rooftop air conditioners.

Honda Quiet

As a member of the RV-friendly EU family, the 7000is produces less noise than normal conversation, earning the gratitude of your camping neighbors. It operates at only 52 to 60 dBA, which is quieter than the average vacuum cleaner or the inside of your tow vehicle at 50 mph. In fact, it's the equivalent of a normal conversation! Special sound dampening materials help to make the EU7000is and other Honda inverter generators incredibly quiet. Eco-Throttle also reduces the noise level on this generator. Because the engine is not running at full speed constantly, it is much quieter than similar-sized competitors. You (and your neighbors) will especially appreciate the quiet, steady power output of the

EU7000is when powering your RV air conditioner overnight this coming summer.

More Power, Less Fuel

The hard-working Honda GX390 engine is the same as in the EU6500 model, but more powerful magnets allow it to produce additional power at the same RPM. Eco-Throttle also helps boost power output. Traditional carbureted generators have to run at 3600 RPM to produce 60 Hz electricity. Eco-Throttle-equipped generators can run at much slower RPMs while maintaining frequency and power. Eco-Throttle uses a load-dependent speed control-type governor to automatically adjust the engine speed to the optimum level. Eco-Throttle also reduces fuel consumption by up to 40% plus it helps to reduce exhaust emissions.

And, because electronic fuel injection makes the already-fuel-efficient Honda GX390 engine even more miserly with each drop of gasoline it uses, you won't have to get up in the wee hours of the morning to fill the tank to keep your air conditioner running. The EU7000is runs up to 18 hours at one-quarter load on 5.1 gallons of fuel, and up to six hours at rated load.

Ripple-Free Power

Honda's advanced inverter technology ensures the



EU7000is and other Honda inverter generators produce power that is as reliable as the power you get from your outlets at home. It's the clean power you need for computers, electronics and other sensitive equipment.

120 Volt and/or 240 Volt

The EU7000is comes equipped with a 120/240 volt selector switch, giving you more usable power and more flexibility. Choose between using both 120 and 240 volts, or 120 volts only. This allows the total generator output to be available through any of the 120 volt outlets, limited only by the capacity of the individual outlet.

What's the difference between 120 volt/240 volt and 120 volt only? On a typical 120 volt/240 volt generator, each of the 120 volt outlets gets only half of the generator's capacity. For a 5000 watt generator, that would be only 2500 watts at any 120 volt outlet. The full 5000 watts is only available at the 240 volt outlet. This limits the amount of 120 volt power you can use. But with a Honda voltage selector switch, you can essentially turn off the 240 volt outlet, making the full 5000 watts available from the 120 volt outlets, limited only by the capacity of the individual outlet. Because most appliances are 120 volt, it means your Honda generator can power more of them.

Other Features

The EU7000is is packed with still more user-friendly features. The i-Monitor™ system provides information on hours of usage, engine speed (RPM), battery volts and wattage, as well as diagnostics for convenient dealer servicing. Oil Alert® protects the generator by shutting the engine off

when low oil is detected. Electronic circuit breakers prevent the generator from being overloaded. An easy to read fuel gauge shows you at a glance when to refill. A push-button electric start makes starting effortless, but should the battery fail, the generator offers easy pull starting as a backup. Folding handles and the included wheel kit make it easy to maneuver and store. Two 120 volt, 20 amp GFCI outlets meet ETL and NEC standards. It comes equipped with a USDA-qualified spark arrestor/muffler, is CARB compliant, and is protected by Honda's three-year warranty.

The EU7000is is just one of a full selection of quiet, powerful, fuel-efficient Honda EU Series portable generators ideal for use when camping and tailgating, as well as during home power outages and weather emergencies, at worksites, trade shows and other outdoor events. Honda EU Series portable generators are available at Camping World and other retailers.

Honda Power Equipment, a division of American Honda Motor Co., Inc., markets a complete range of outdoor power equipment, including outboard marine engines, general purpose engines, generators, lawnmowers, pumps, snowblowers, tillers and trimmers for commercial, rental and residential use. For consumer information about all Honda products, visit Honda.com. A full selection of Honda portable generators is available at Camping World SuperCenters. Select Honda EU Series generators are also available at CampingWorld.com.



Acadia Charcoal Grill



Gladiator 2-Burner Stove



Twin LED Lantern



4-in-1 Outdoor Table



Height adjusts to 14½", 27¼" or 32".



20,000 BTU

285" sq. of cooking surface

XCursion Grill

Grill Accessories

- Griddle 13" x 13"
- Big Griddle 26½" x 13"
- Grated Griddle 13" x 13"
- Duffel Bag



Comfort Smart Bag Chair



Tabletop Charcoal Grill



Fold N Go 2-Burner Stove



Fold N Go Grill

TRANSMISSION TRANSFORMATION

DIESELSITE USES PRODUCTS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED FOR RACING TO HELP THOSE WHO TOW HEAVY TRAILERS

It's often said that necessity is the mother of invention.

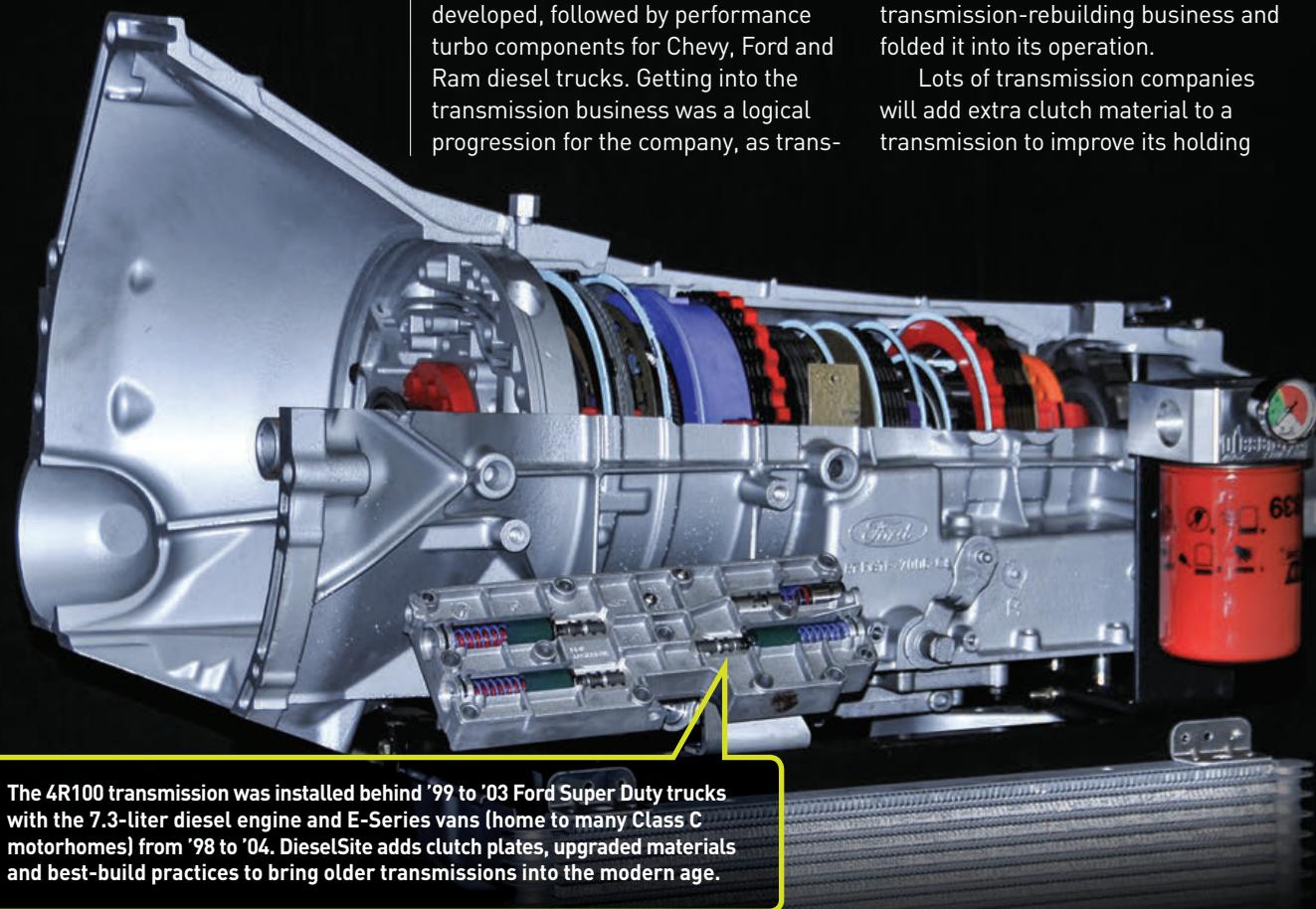
When Bob Riley started DieselSite in 1998, it was to cater to the performance diesel market (then in its infancy), helping enthusiasts solve weak links in their trucks that revealed themselves as more and more power was added.

At first it was filtration. The company made filters for coolant, remote oil filters and more. Then a beefed up high-pressure oil pump was developed, followed by performance turbo components for Chevy, Ford and Ram diesel trucks. Getting into the transmission business was a logical progression for the company, as trans-

missions often wear prematurely or fail under the rigors of extra horsepower and heavy towing, especially after the miles pile on.

DieselSite spent years analyzing the weaknesses of Ford's most popular gear changers (the E40D came in all 1989 through 1997 Ford F-250s and F-350s, the 4R100 came in 1998 through 2003 F-250s through F-550s, and the 5R110 came in all 2003 through 2010 F-250s through F-550s) and ultimately purchased an existing transmission-rebuilding business and folded it into its operation.

Lots of transmission companies will add extra clutch material to a transmission to improve its holding

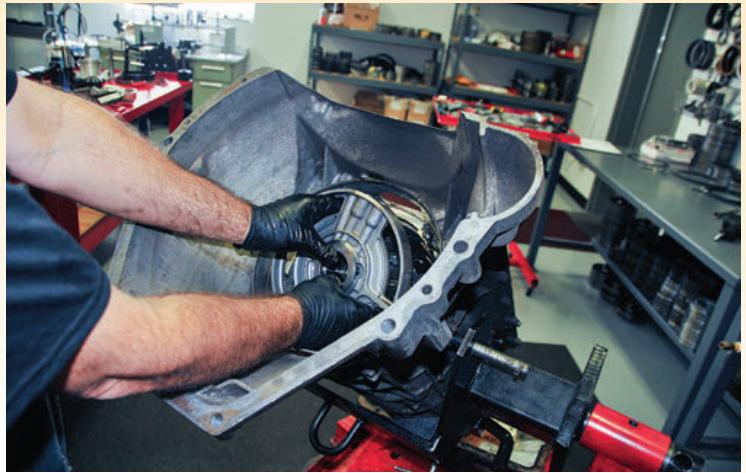


The 4R100 transmission was installed behind '99 to '03 Ford Super Duty trucks with the 7.3-liter diesel engine and E-Series vans (home to many Class C motorhomes) from '98 to '04. DieselSite adds clutch plates, upgraded materials and best-build practices to bring older transmissions into the modern age.

TRANSMISSION TRANSFORMATION

power, and DieselSite certainly does that, typically adding 20 to 40 percent more surface area. But the real secret is that DieselSite has been able to procure the technologically superior modern material used in late-model clutches and have it bonded to the older transmission's clutch plates. This high-energy friction material can increase holding capacity by 30 percent and offers 20 percent less heat production, resulting in longer transmission life. So a 25-year-old transmission can be built with the specs and materials of the most modern transmissions coming out of Detroit. It's quite a jump in sophistication.

In addition, DieselSite does a lot of machine work to upgrade the components. One example is the work Riley does to the coast clutch. In stock form, a coast clutch is applied only on deceleration, but if you use an aftermarket exhaust brake with a lock-up controller, the demands rise exponentially, as you are now asking that clutch to hold back the loads on a downgrade. Riley points out that the factory coast clutch comes with two clutch plates and a standard snap ring that sits against a dimple



(Top) Cores are torn apart at the shop, and what gets reused is cleaned and inspected. Some center supports don't have bearings, but DieselSite makes sure they always use center supports with bearings. (Right) Often, burnt clutch plates are the result of too much power for the transmission design. Aftermarket upgrades can bring up the level of performance dramatically.



DieselSite in Homosassa, Florida, has been targeting diesel performance weak links since 1998. The latest target in the company's sights has been transmissions.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

TRIMARK ENTRY DOOR LOCKS



CA037710

Kit not shown



TriMark by RV Designer

- Unequaled Reliability and Function
- Elegant Look and Feel
- RV Designer Lifetime Commitment
- Easy Installation
- Durable Construction designed with RV Travel in Mind
- Weather Resistant



Copyright © 2015, RV Designer. All rights reserved.

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

TRANSMISSION TRANSFORMATION

that's supposed to retain the snap ring; often it doesn't do its job and leads to failure of the coast clutch. DieselSite machines the coast clutch to accept a custom spiral snap ring in a machined groove. Then they install two additional clutches and use the high-energy friction material described earlier. It's a massive jump in durability, especially when towing a heavy load and using an exhaust brake.

We spent the day watching Riley tear apart and rebuild transmissions at his 18,000-square-foot shop in Homosassa, Florida, and we learned a lot about what goes into beefing up an automatic transmission so that it can handle big power and heavy loads.

DieselSite

888-414-3457, www.dieselsite.com



Another enhancement DieselSite does for older transmissions is to upgrade to a '98-and-newer pump stator, so that the company's upgraded coast clutch can be used. To do that, the pump back plate has to be machined.

(A) The factory unit doesn't have a gasket in the center support. Riley adds a gasket here as well as several seals to minimize internal leaks so line pressures remain high and consistent. (B) The center planetary gets replaced. On the left is the factory aluminum piece with four sun gears, while on the right is a steel unit from a 4R100 transmission with six sun gears that DieselSite retrofits to the older transmissions. (C) On the left is an E40D overdrive friction plate, the middle is one from a 4R100, and on the right is a custom-made high-energy friction disc from DieselSite that uses modern materials for a 30 percent increase in holding capacity and 20 percent less heat production. DieselSite stuffs an extra 20 to 40 percent more clutches in its transmissions.



Here's an area some aftermarket transmission companies don't pay any attention to, when they should. The park gear in many transmissions is fitted with a bushing, so DieselSite replaces it with a Torrington bearing, which reduces drag and increases the lifespan of this component.



HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

**How Does Harbor Freight
Sell GREAT QUALITY Tools
at the LOWEST Prices?**

We have invested millions of dollars in our own state-of-the-art quality test labs and millions more in our factories, so our tools will go toe-to-toe with the top professional brands. And we can sell them for a fraction of the price because we cut out the middle man and pass the savings on to you. It's just that simple! Come visit one of our 550 Stores Nationwide.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

20% OFF

ANY SINGLE ITEM

LIMIT 1 - Save 20% on any one item purchased at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount, coupon, gift cards, inside Track Club membership, extended service plans or on any of the following: compressors, generators, tool storage or carts, welders, floor jacks, Towable Ride-On Trencher, Saw Mill (Item 6172/6226/67138), Predator Gas Power Items, open box items, in-store event or parking lot sale items. Not valid on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase date with original receipt. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

FREE

WITH ANY PURCHASE
3-1/2" SUPER BRIGHT
NINE LED
ALUMINUM
FLASHLIGHT

ITEM 69052
69111/62522/62573

Item 69052 shown

\$6.99
VALUE

LIMIT 1 - Cannot be used with other discount, coupon or prior purchase. Coupon good at our stores, HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Offer good while supplies last. Shipping & Handling charges may apply if not picked up in-store. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one FREE GIFT coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

**12" SLIDING COMPOUND
DOUBLE-BEVEL MITER SAW
WITH LASER GUIDE**

CHICAGO ELECTRIC
POWER TOOLS

NEW

LOT NO. 69684
61776/61969/61970

Item 69684 shown

SAVE \$165

\$134.99

REG. PRICE \$299.99

26334135

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

**5 FT. 6" x 7 FT. 6"
ALL PURPOSE WEATHER
RESISTANT TARP**

LOT NO. 953/69136
69248/69128/69210

Item 953 shown

SAVE \$50

\$2.69

REG. PRICE \$6.99

26365618

LIMIT 8 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

**PACIFIC HYDROSTAR
1650 PSI
PRESSURE
WASHER**

LOT NO. 69488

• 1.3 GPM

\$79.99

REG. PRICE \$129.99

26390029

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

**4-1/2" ANGLE GRINDER
drillmaster**

LOT NO. 95578
69645/60625

Item 60625 shown

SAVE 50%

\$9.99

REG. PRICE \$19.99

26426489

LIMIT 7 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON!

**US GENERAL PRO
26" 16 DRAWER
ROLLER CABINET**

• 1060 lb. Capacity
• 14,600 cu. in. of storage

Item 67831 shown

LOT NO. 67831/61609

\$317.83

~~\$369.99~~

REG. PRICE \$649.99

26427229

LIMIT 8 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON!

**TRIPLE BALL
TRAILER HITCH**

HaulMaster

LOT NO. 94141
68874/61320
61913/61914

Item 94141 shown

\$19.99

~~\$29.99~~

REG. PRICE \$58.99

26352809

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON!

**PITTSBURGH
RAPID PUMP®
1.5 TON ALUMINUM
RACING JACK**

Item 68053 shown

• 3-1/2 Pumps Lifts Most Vehicles
• Weighs 27 lbs.

LOT NO. 68053/69252
60569/62160/62496/62516

\$59.99

REG. PRICE \$119.99

SAVE \$60

26375248

LIMIT 3 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

**NEW
900 PEAK/
700 RUNNING WATTS
2 HP (63 CC) 2 CYCLE
GAS RECREATIONAL
GENERATOR**

LOT NO. 60338/69381/62472/66619

Item 69381 shown

SAVE \$80

\$99.99

REG. PRICE \$179.99

26401546

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

**2.5 HP, 21 GALLON
125 PSI VERTICAL
AIR COMPRESSOR
CENTRALPNEUMATIC**

Item 67847 shown

LOT NO. 67847
61454/61693

SAVE \$70

\$149.99

REG. PRICE \$219.99

26413402

LIMIT 3 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

**2500 LB. ELECTRIC WINCH WITH
WIRELESS REMOTE CONTROL**

Item 61258 shown

NEW

LOT NO. 68146
61258
61297
61840

SAVE \$100

\$49.99

REG. PRICE \$149.99

26419414

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON!

**TORQUE WRENCHES
PITTSBURGH PRO**

• Accuracy within ±4%

YOUR CHOICE!

\$9.99

Item 239 shown

\$21.99

REG. PRICE \$29.99

SAVE 66%

1/4" DRIVE
LOT NO. 2696/61277

3/8" DRIVE
LOT NO. 807/61276

1/2" DRIVE
LOT NO. 239/62431

26364617

LIMIT 8 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

**10 FT. x 20 FT.
PORTABLE
CAR CANOPY**

LOT NO. 69034/60728

SAVE \$100

\$99.99

Item 69034 shown

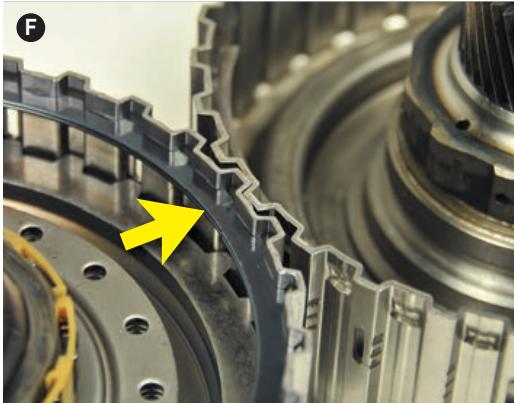
REG. PRICE \$199.99

26381682

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 8/14/15. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

• 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed • No Hassle Return Policy • 550 Stores Nationwide
• Over 25 Million Satisfied Customers • Lifetime Warranty On All Hand Tools • HarborFreight.com 800-423-2567

TRANSMISSION TRANSFORMATION



(D) To fit more clutches into one of the clutch packs, the pressure plate must be machined.

(E) Unlike the factory, which simply puts the required number of plates in during assembly, DieselSite takes the time to mix and match parts to get exacting tolerances.

(F) The coast clutch gets light usage, unless you use an aftermarket exhaust brake and a lock-up switch. Then it gets used heavily. DieselSite performs extensive modifications to the coast clutch, providing twice the clutch surface area as well as a custom 360-degree spiral snap ring in a machined groove (arrow).

(G) To fit more friction plates in, the overdrive pressure plate is faced off just a bit.



with **BioBlastPlus™**
Odor Control Technology

Waste Digester & Odor Eliminator

- 2 oz. per 40 gallon black or gray water tank
- Biological enzyme/bacterial formula
- Performs in all temperature conditions
- Odor control **up to 130°**



CA037837

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

(H) Every transmission that leaves the DieselSite shop gets tested on a transmission dyno. This runs the transmission through all the gears with varying loads to simulate actual driving conditions. It's a lot of work and was a sobering financial commitment, but it practically guarantees no comebacks.



(I) The recently installed chassis dyno behind the shop helps test transmissions in conjunction with high-horsepower, high-torque engines.



(J) DieselSite has a wall full of cases cleaned up and ready to build.



(K) OEM-style crates are used to ship transmissions across the United States. Simply ship the core back in the same crate.



FURRIION
Electrical Evolution

SMART SAFE POWER

Furrion's new SMART technology brings unique innovation to the RV industry!

Powersmart™
Voltage Indicator
For Each Live Leg

Bright Blue LED Power Voltage Indicator

Faultsmart™
Reverse Polarity and
Neutral Loss Indicator

Bright Blue LED Power Voltage Indicator Bright Red LED Reverse Polarity Indicator

Pullsmart™
Safe Disconnect

Revolutionary Design
Helps Prevent Neutral Loss

See website for conditions
5 year
100%
quality assured
warranty

For every purchase of this product make a donation to plant a tree
TREES FOR THE FUTURE

Powersmart™ 30 and 50 Amp RV Cordsets

- Faultsmart reverse polarity and neutral loss LED indicator (30 amp)
- Powersmart LED voltage indicators for each live leg (50 amp)
- Pullsmart safe disconnect feature

Powersmart™ 30 and 50 Amp Inlets

- Powersmart LED indicator
- Heavy duty marine-grade construction

RV Pigtail and Generator Adapters

- Safely convert plug sizes in all weather conditions!**
- Powersmart or Faultsmart feature
 - Pullsmart safe disconnect feature

ENTIRE RANGE OF FURRIION PLUGS, ADAPTERS, CORDSETS AND INLETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

CA029074_0115

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

NOW'S THE TIME TO **UPGRADE** YOUR TOILET!



Aqua-Magic® V



Aqua-Magic®
Residence



Aqua-Magic®
Style II



Aria® Deluxe II



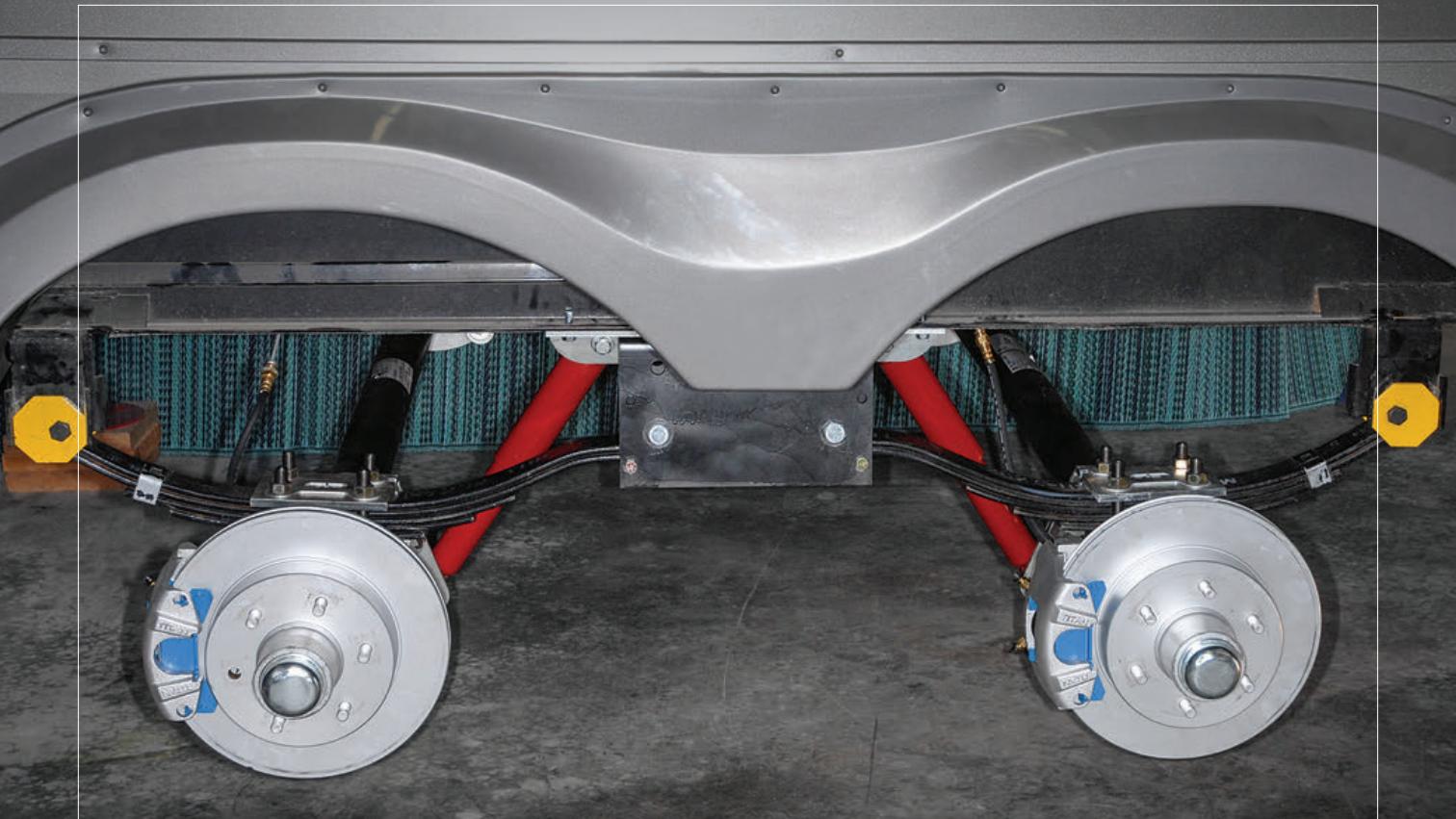
Bravura®

Makeover your RV bathroom now
with a brand new Thetford toilet!

THETFORD
Going Places

CA038014

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide



WHOA, NELLY!

Titan's disc brake conversion kit for trailers and fifth-wheels slows the horses down with precision and confidence

Years ago, the automotive industry figured out that, in order to make its vehicles safer, braking would have to be improved. Drum brakes were phased out in favor of disc designs that provided more reliable service and considerably shorter stopping distances. For the most part, the trailer industry never got the message, continuing to rely on timed out electric-drum brake technology as the primary stopping source for all but a few higher-end models.

To be fair, there have been a few improvements over the years, including self-adjusters and much more efficient

brake controllers. But trailer braking remains plagued by less effective lining material (now that asbestos is banned) and rather crude componentry. Fortunately, disc brake conversions can bring any trailer into the current century, and Titan, a company that's no stranger to the automotive industry, offers a kit that will upgrade any trailer or fifth-wheel chassis into a veritable stopping machine.

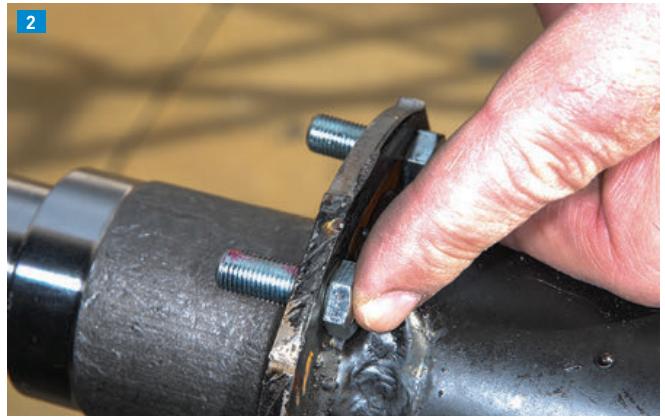
When a disc brake conversion is completed, the owner eliminates the inherent deficiencies of electric drum brakes. Common trailer brakes are difficult to control and are not highly



KIT CONTENTS The kit includes ventilated brake rotors, calipers, mounting brackets and all the hardware needed to make the conversion. Each kit contains a long length of hydraulic tubing, brackets and rubber pigtails required for connecting to each caliper.

(Top) The Titan disc brake kit is a complete retrofit of the standard electric drum brakes. Dacromet finish on the Premier system provides enhanced corrosion resistance over zinc plating.

WHOA, NELLY!



accurate. Part of the problem can be traced to limited braking power because of the design of electric drum brakes. For example, there's just so much power that can be applied to the shoes via a magnet that drags against an armature, and the aforementioned braking material is no help in this department.

Other common ailments of an electric drum — or any drum and shoe system — include premature fading under heavy braking during emergency stopping and when descending grades. Typically, the hub and drum assemblies

go out of spec easily, and in most cases there's not even enough stopping power to lock up the brakes, which illustrates how poorly these brakes work under emergency conditions. Stopping heavy trailers can be a challenge.

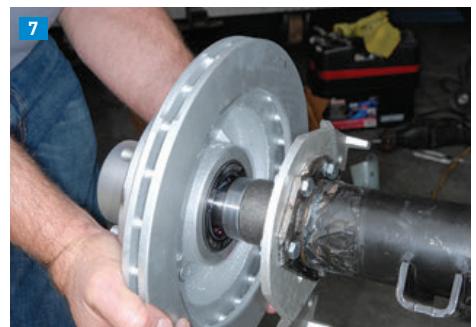
Disc brakes are simply better in a number of areas. There's no adjusting necessary, all the brakes function equally, wear is reduced by a wide margin, and stopping can be improved by as much as 50 percent — with 80 percent less fade than drum brakes. For trailer owners, that's big news. And the fact that there is less maintenance

Caliper bracket (1) is mounted on each axle spindle. Provided bolts are pushed through the spindle collar (2) and nuts are torqued to spec on the outside of the caliper bracket (3 and 4). Since new axles were installed, the assembly was done on a bench and floor.

— and no magnets to go bad — is compelling when deciding whether or not to make the conversion.

Titan's disc brake systems are available in Standard and Premier versions, the latter featuring stainless-steel pistons/sleeves and a ventilated rotor. The Premier kit is better suited for heavier trailers and can handle up to 24,000 pounds. The braking system is hydraulic and operates via

(5) New bearings were packed by hand using premium-grade grease. (6) New grease seals (mandatory) were gently pounded into the rotor before installing (7) on the axle spindle.



They say money can't buy happiness... but it can buy an RV and that's pretty close!



- Refinance Your Existing RV Loan
- Loans For New Or Pre-Owned RVs
- Private Party RV Loans
- Cash Recapture: Obtain A Loan Within Six Months Of Your Original Purchase Date

APR^{*} AS LOW AS

3.99%^{}**
on loan amounts of \$75k+

4.12%^{}**
on loan amounts of \$50k to \$74,999

4.59%^{}**
on loan amounts of \$25k to \$49,999

CALL

1-800-444-1476
mention priority code 539

VISIT

GoodSamRVLoans.com/539



Good Sam
RV Loans

* Estimated APR (Annual Percentage Rate). Subject to consumer loan program requirements and credit approval. Certain fees, closing costs, and restrictions may apply.

** APR applied to the loan is the APR in effect on the date the application is received and is valid until 30 days after the loan is approved. APRs may vary with loan term. For a refinance request, RV must be 2005 model year or newer. For a purchase request, RV must be 2007 model year or newer. Maximum loan to value is determined by the following: credit score and model year, with collateral value being established per NADA Used Wholesale Trade-in value. Maximum loan term may vary based on model year, loan amount, loan type and lender guidelines. Example of an RV loan: A 15 year fixed-rate \$55,000 loan. Based on an APR of 4.37%, this loan has 180 monthly payments of \$417.10 each. Information is accurate as of February 19, 2015. This offer is not available to applicants who use their RV as a principal dwelling (Full-Timer); visit website for Full-Timer rates and terms. Good Sam Finance Center™ provided through Bank of the West. © 2015 Bank of the West. GRL38363 - 0115

 EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

WHOA, NELLY!



[8] Once the rotor was secured to the axle spindle, the outer bearing was carefully maneuvered into place. **[9]** The castle nut is tightened to 50 ft-lbs and then backed off to allow for finger tightening and lining up with the first hole in the spindle shaft to install a new cotter pin. **[10]** Installing the hub cover on the rotor took some gentle persuasion and patience to keep it from getting banged up.

a network of steel lines and rubber pigtails. Hydraulic fluid that activates the caliper pistons is pushed through the lines by an electric-over-hydraulic actuator. A brake control mounted under the tow vehicle's dashboard processes signals based on decelera-

tion and sends them to the actuator, which modulates hydraulic pressure and the amount of braking. All this happens seamlessly and provides very smooth braking in accurate response to the tow vehicle's stopping effort.

Making the conversion is not rocket

science but should be performed only by professional technicians and do-it-yourselfers experienced with braking systems and bearing maintenance. We swapped out the system on a 12,000-pound fifth-wheel, and it was a comfortable weekend project. Since we also took the opportunity to replace the stock axles with higher-rated and better quality counterparts, the project was more complicated, and the components were assembled on a bench. A straight conversion is much

EXCLUSIVE



GOOD SAM RV GPS

RVND™ 7735 LM (Item #77601)



7" RVND™ 7735 LM

- **NEW!** Large, higher resolution HD screen with updated graphics and more map detail
- **NEW!** Faster processor for improved route calculation time
- **NEW!** Robust lane guidance and junction views help you stay in the correct lane
- **NEW!** View toll costs and compare toll vs. non toll routes
- **PLUS!** Displays 8,000 privately owned RV parks and campgrounds, including 2,100+ Good Sam Parks
- **PLUS!** RV Safe and easy routing for 11 types of RV, plus car mode
- **PLUS!** Wi-fi® connected services: weather, fuel prices and more*

FREE
Hard Case
with purchase of 7" GPS
(See coupon below)



Good Sam GPS

Powered by
RAND McNALLY



5" RVND5525

EXCLUSIVE!
GOOD SAM 5" GPS
POWERED BY RAND
MCNALLY® #73362

Same features as the larger Good Sam GPS powered by Rand McNally (#68986) in a more compact size. See RV-friendly features at CampingWorld.com/GoodSamGPS.

GOOD SAM CLUB MEMBERS

FREE Hard Case
for 7" GPS #61908

with purchase
of Good Sam
7" GPS #77601

\$21.99
VALUE!



Offer is not retroactive and cannot be used in combination with any other offer. Must present coupon at time of purchase or give discount code when ordering by phone. Limit one coupon per customer. Offer expires May 4, 2015.

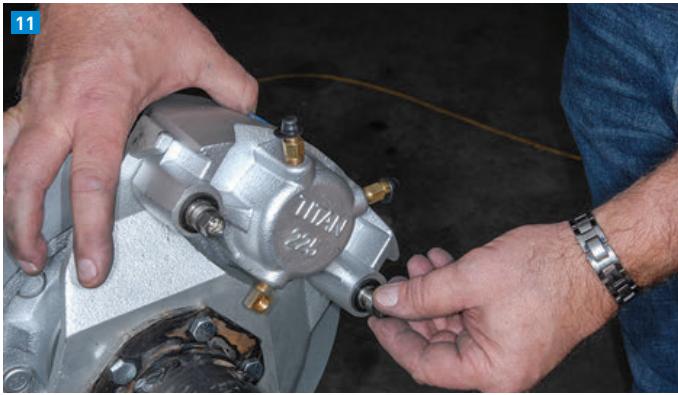
Coupon Code: CC5740

AVAILABLE
ONLY AT



ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide



(11) Calipers are bolted to the brackets once the rotors are installed on the axles. Caliper orientation should be in the 10 or 2 o'clock position and be on the same side of each axle. **(12)** The Titan BrakeRite electric-over-hydraulic actuator is installed in the front storage compartment on an optional bracket supplied by the company. It's wired into 12-volt DC power and the breakaway switch, and hydraulic tubing is connected. **(13)** Titan supplies extra-long sections of steel hydraulic tubing for installation in just about any length trailer. Excess tubing is coiled and secured under the trailer.

difficult part of the installation was routing the steel hydraulic brake lines under the fifth-wheel. The company provides an abundance of tubing to accommodate longer trailers, so the excess had to be coiled and secured to the underbelly, which was somewhat complicated. Most trailers have an enclosed underbelly made of a plastic-type material, and it's way too flimsy to secure the tubing brackets that come with the kit. We had to improvise using strips of angle aluminum attached to

easier since it's just a matter of stabilizing the trailer and lifting the wheels off the ground.

The proprietary BrakeRite actuator was installed on an optional bracket

inside the front storage compartment, and it required wiring to the battery and the breakaway switch, which took some maneuvering, but nothing extraordinarily painful. Probably the most

KANSAS RVC CENTER
 Trilogy by Dynamax HitchHiker by NuWa
 Voltage Toy Hauler

Mobile Suites

Lifestyle

FULL TIMER 5TH WHEEL BUYERS WANT:
JAW DROPPING NO NONSENSE PRICES
 EXPERT PRODUCT KNOWLEDGE
 NO SURPRISE DELIVERY EXPERIENCE
ADD OPTIONS NOW; DO IT RIGHT
 RESPOND TO ME AFTER THE SALE

THAT'S WHY

Buyers from all over U.S. come to us for:

- * Expert knowledge of all things 5th wheel
- * Negotiate purchase/trade by phone/email
- * 60 new and used 5th wheels available
- * Indoor Leisurely comparison of brands
- * Indoor, no rush customer orientation
- * In 2-3 days be on the road in new trailer
- * Free RV Park for transfer of belongings
- * "In the Park" service during & after sale
- * 15 Bay service dept. is affordable/reliable
- * Famous for service response after the sale
- * At center of U.S. on the way to everywhere

Call, email sales@nuwa.com, or come visit
 We like to pleasantly surprise our customers

www.kansasrvcenter.com
www.nuwa.com
 3701 Johnson Rd. - Chanute, KS
 1-800-835-0676

WHOA, NELLY!



the few hold-down bolts that went into the trailer frame. That and the use of EternaBond tape got the job done.

On the road, we were all smiles from the first time we hit the brakes. A 2000 Dodge Ram was used to tow the trailer because this truck has notoriously poor brakes that require a lot of pedal effort to stop the combo. The improvement in braking efficiency was nothing short of remarkable — a testament to the superior capability of disc brakes. The experience was even better when towing with a newer truck with better service brakes.

Once we got the brake controller dialed in, any bucking at slow speeds was eliminated, and the combo

behaved beautifully during normal and emergency stopping events. There are a number of brake controllers that are compatible with the Titan actuator, and the company can provide that information. We used a Tekonsha Prodigy III, which is one of the best controllers for this system.

Titan offers conversion kits for virtually all trailers with brake sizes ranging from 10 to 13 inches (axles rated from 3,500 to 8,000 pounds) and with six or eight lugs. The 12-inch, six-lug kit was installed on the test fifth-wheel; it has a retail price of \$1,500 and is protected by a three-year warranty.

Owners wanting to take their

(14) Brake line brackets are designed to secure connection blocks to the underbelly but in actual use were hard to mount under the trailer. We used additional strategically placed clamps **(15)** purchased at the hardware store to secure the tubing to the chassis and angle aluminum held in place by existing bolts that hold the underbelly material. **(16)** We ran into a little snag when remounting the wheels at the end of the project. The studs provided by Titan were too short to handle the aluminum wheels on the fifth-wheel. Longer studs were ordered from a local trailer supply store.



Splendide
Laundry Centers

Best Performing. Most Reliable. Best Supported.



**LOWEST
INSTALLED
PRICE GUARANTEED**
for Good Sam Club Members

5 things you should know about your RV laundry center

Size Matters Splendide models have large load capacities yet are lighter and slimmer than other brands

Efficiency Matters Splendide's use little water to wash and our vented models use NO WATER to dry

Performance Matters Made in Italy, Splendide's clean to the highest standards and dry clothes up to 50% faster

Safety Matters Splendide's are tested and cULus listed for safe built-in use

Experience Matters Preferred by manufacturers, dealers and consumers since 1984, every Splendide is built tough and made for life on the road. Whether you choose one of our all in one models or our stackable laundry pair, **there's no substitute for a Splendide**

CA037044



trailers and fifth-wheels out of the dark ages will certainly appreciate the benefits of improved braking provided by the Titan conversion. 🚚

Titan International
800-872-2327, www.titan-intl.com

(17) After pounding the original studs out of the rotors, which could be done without removing them from the axles, we installed the new studs **(18)** using spare generic lug nuts and “press” fitting them into the rotor **(19)** using an electric impact tool. **(20)** DOT 3 brake fluid is added to the actuator before bleeding the brakes. Make sure the actuator is mounted in a position that allows access to the caps to check the fluid level and add when necessary. **(21)** An empty jar is used to capture brake fluid that runs out of the caliper port during the bleeding process. A helper pulled and replaced the plunger in the breakaway switch to operate the actuator, while the other person opened the bleeder port. It took two quarts of fluid to complete the process.

STABILITY EQUALS



Uses opposing force on your trailer or 5th wheel tires to eliminate front-to-back rocking when parked.
Chock -n- Lock, Twin Pack



Each provides a 6500 lb. lifting capacity. Bolt or weld to RV frame.
Ultra Scissor Jacks, set of 2



3500 lb. tongue weight lift power.
3500 lb. Tongue Jack



Tripod design offers maximum frame overhang stability, giving side-to-side and front-to-back support.
Heavy-Duty King Pin Stabilizer

SMELL THE DIFFERENCE



Absolutely No Holding Tank Odors with Odorlos!

- Industrial strength nitrate formula prevents and eliminates holding tank odors
- Liquefies all waste & tissue
- Lubricates valves
- 100% biodegradable/eco-friendly
- Formaldehyde free, non-toxic
- Scent/fragrance free
- Available in dry & liquid formulas
- Effective even in extreme temperatures
- Unlimited shelf life

Trusted worldwide
by waste water
treatment plants to
control odor!



ODORLOS
Holding Tank Treatment

INTERIOR MOTIVES

FROM CARPET TO CABINETS TO FURNITURE AND MORE, YOUR TRAILER'S LIVING SPACE CAN BE BETTER THAN NEW

Home-improvement shows are wildly popular these days. People just love seeing what's possible when a renovation expert gets his or her hands on an old house that has great "bones" but is simply worn out and in need of a little love. As an RVing enthusiast, you may not be aware that the very same thing is possible in your trailer — but when you think about it, it makes perfect sense. Sometimes, a rig just fits your lifestyle — it's got enough room, the floorplan is perfect, and everything works properly. But years of use have left the interior looking a little shabby, making you long for the days when it looked and smelled new inside.

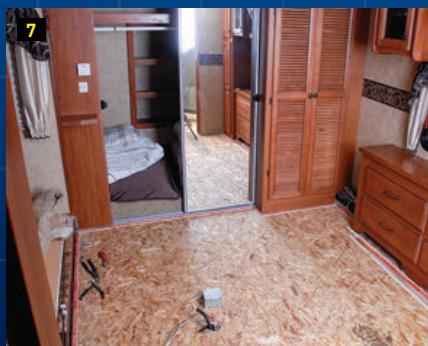
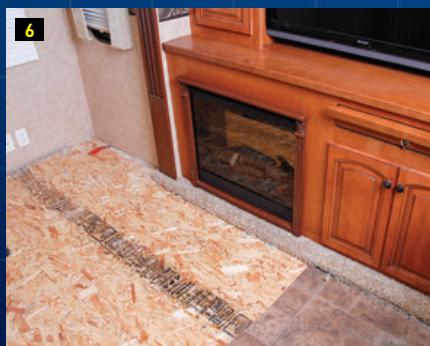
Just like your home, the interior of a trailer can be upgraded, even completely remodeled to suit your needs at a fraction of the cost of a new trailer. Dave and LJ's RV Interior Design of Woodland, Washington, 30 miles north of Portland, Oregon, specializes in making older RVs new again. The company opened its doors in 2007, but brothers Dave and LJ Ast (say "Ahhst") actually were raised in the business, helping their father at his interior

design company when they were growing up. Today, pretty much anything goes, including basic flooring replacement and upgrades, reupholstering, and installation of window shades, electronics, cabinetry and more. The company also has the largest RV furniture and interior products showroom on the West Coast, making the business a one-stop shop.

Typically, motorhome owners are Dave and LJ's biggest customers, so we were interested when the brothers called to let us know they were undertaking a complete fifth-wheel renovation for good customers. Originally planning just to replace the worn furniture, the traveling couple decided not to stop there and wanted to switch out the carpet, swap the sheet-vinyl flooring for Congoleum tile, create a matching backsplash and have new window shades installed as well. After about three days' work and \$10,000, the job was completed, leaving an interior that not only looked better than new but was much more comfortable and durable. No doubt, home improvement isn't just for stationary homes anymore.



(1, 2) From a distance, the original interior in this fifth-wheel doesn't look like it's in bad shape, but the carpet padding is getting beaten down and the furniture was worn after years of use. **(3)** Because the owners decided to replace the carpet and the furniture, the first step is getting all the furniture out of the way so the carpet can be taken out. The dining table was secured by screws covered by wooden caps, which are removed. The rest of the original furniture was freestanding.



(4) With all the furniture removed, the real work is ready to begin. **(5)** The slide floor carpet is gripped with a pair of pliers and simply torn out, followed by the main floor carpeting. **(6)** Here you can see both carpet and padding have been removed. Because the carpet actually wraps underneath the floor and furniture on the streetside slideout, this small strip of carpet cannot be completely pulled out, but the edge will be cut away and recarpeted so it looks perfect. **(7, 8)** Meanwhile, in the forward bedroom, the crew is hard at work removing the queen-size bed so the carpet can be replaced here as well.

A

B

C

D



9



10

(9) The old sheet vinyl in the kitchen and dining area is cut, then torn out. It will be replaced with Congoleum vinyl tiles.

(10) Removing the sheet vinyl revealed mold on the floor caused by an earlier refrigerator leak. The crew treats the area with a bleach-and-water mixture, and once dry, paints over it to prevent regrowth.

(11) The window lambrequins are also removed. They will not be reupholstered, but the windows will be fitted with new Auto-Motion Shade blackout roller shades. (12) Here you can see the carpet has been cut away from the streetside slideout floor and tack strips installed in preparation for the new carpet.



11



12

2

2



Discover a Better Way

Portable RV Waste Pump

Portable RV Waste Pump

- Connects directly to RV waste outlet
- Discharges waste through a garden hose
- Ability to dump longer distances
- Easy clean-up and storage



CA025080

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club members at Camping World.
Also available at other RV retailers.

FLOJET
a xylem brand



[13] New, thicker padding is laid down and stapled into place, then carefully trimmed by hand. **[14, 15]** Out in the shop, each lambrequin is fitted with a piece of wood that will conceal the new roller assembly underneath. The wood is custom-upholstered in the same material as the furniture for a perfect match. **[16, 17]** Each roller is then tested to make sure it deploys straight. If not, the longer end is treated with a layer of tape (arrow), which effectively makes the tube larger in diameter and pulls that side up very slightly. **[18]** The finished shade looks like factory equipment. Note the top of the lambrequin with a piece of upholstered trim behind it (arrow).

CARPENTER

We Bring Comfort to Your Life®



10" Mattress

Avena Foam Mattress

- Two layers of premium hypoallergenic foam add more comfort & deeper support.
- 100,000 cycle testing ensures lasting comfort & durability.
- Absorbs motion so you don't disturb or wake your partner.
- Provides total body relaxation to soothe aches & pains
- Available in Short Queen, Queen, RV King & King sizes.

3" Avena Foam

7" Foam Foundation



Slumberfresh Mattress Pad

- Overfilled with 11 oz. of RELY™ antimicrobial fiber that effectively inhibits odor-causing bacteria for longer lasting freshness.
- Moisture-wicking system
- Soft 300 thread count 100% cotton cover.
- The 14" stretch-to-fit skirt fits mattresses up to 17" thick.
- Hypoallergenic.
- Available in Bunk, Short Queen, Queen & RV King sizes.

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
 CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

A

B

C

D



19



20

[19] Glue is spread evenly across the floor and must be allowed to dry to almost clear before the new tiles can be laid down. The tiles are then grouted with a special vinyl-based material that is flexible and won't crack like household grout.

[20] A special sewing machine is used to put a bound edge on the piece of carpet that fits in the curbside slideout, giving it a factory appearance.

[21] The backsplash is sprayed with a light coating of adhesive, and then matching tiles are installed here as well.

[22] The new carpet looks factory installed but is more plush and has thicker padding underneath. All windows are now fitted with daytime and blackout shades, which look great and provide added comfort.



21



22

oxygenics[®]
Pure Shower **Genius**[®]

FURY RV HANDHELD

Experience the smart way to RV shower

Our patented Oxygenics technology provides 5 powerful settings that rinse fast and **LEAVE YOU FEELING FRESH REGARDLESS OF PRESSURE.** The Oxygenics Fury saves water, too. Your RV tanks will last longer, leaving you time to spare for the important things in life.

CA037918



Available in White and Brushed Nickel

Includes 72" hose and wall mount

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide



[23, 24] The new floor tile is much more durable than the old sheet vinyl, and with the matching backsplash, the interior has a modern, integrated look. [25] A new Flexsteel Ultraleather convertible couch and matching reclining rockers complete the transformation. 🚐

Dave and LJ's RV Interior Design, 360-225 7700, www.daveandljs.com



**ALL NEW LIGHTING
FOR 2015!**

Reliable & Quality LED Products for All Your RV Lighting Needs!



Overhead Lighting | Reading Lights | Decorative Lighting | Utility Lighting

TBC presents

BEWARE OF THE PEDESTAL

RV's Are At The Mercy Of The Power Pedestal



Available In Hardwires, Portables and RVC Compatible Automatic Transfer Switch Models

SURGE GUARD

RV Power Protection

Don't Plug-In Without It!

C038049

Most Complete Protection Available!

SURGE GUARD

RV Power Protection

Plug-In to Peace of Mind

NEW! Added Features Offer More Protection Than Ever Before

Features Built-In Intelligence, LCD Display, auto reset, multi-mode surge suppression, caution light for miswired pedestal, reverse polarity and elevated ground conditions.

New Added Features

- ▶ Shuts off for Open Ground
 - ▶ Surge Failure Indication
 - ▶ Patent-Pending Thermal Plug/Receptacle Prevents Overheating
- 30A Model 34830**
- ▶ 120V, 10/3 AWG Cord with 2450 joules of Surge Protection

50A Model 34850

- ▶ 120/240V, 6/4 AWG Cord with 3850 joules of Surge Protection

NEW and IMPROVED!



Patent Pending Overheating Protection

34830
30A Portable

34850
50A Hardwire



ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

POWER PROTECTION FOR YOUR RV

SURGE GUARD™
RV Power Protection

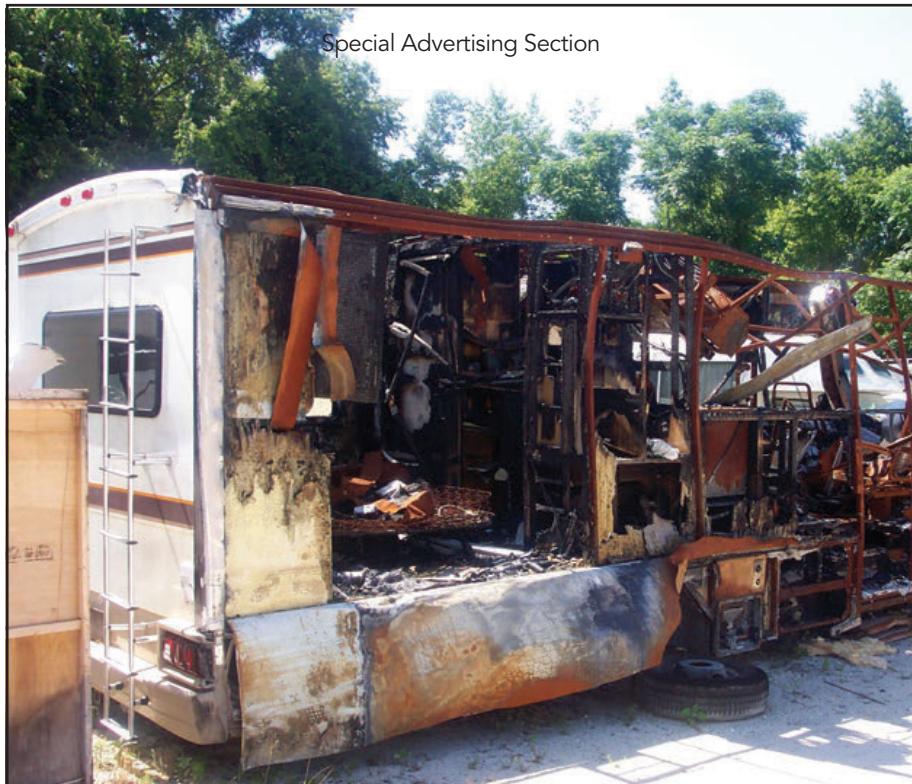


Protect what you value! Investing in Surge Guard power protection for your RV instead of costly repairs to your RV's total electronics gives you peace of mind

Damage to an RV from faulty electrical power and surges can be catastrophic. Sensitive electronics in appliances, TVs, sound, navigational displays and inverter/charging systems can easily be damaged or destroyed by faulty power conditions. These issues could be prevented with Surge Guard® RV Power Protection devices, avoiding lengthy repairs that can be both costly and ruin your trip and plans with family and friends.

Park Power Problems

Not all electrical mishaps are the result of lightning strikes. In addition to the potential damage by voltage surges, there are also other hidden dangers damaging your RV at the pedestal. Low voltage conditions force some appliances to draw more current, resulting in overheating of appliances. This overheating can shorten appliance lifespans and lead to premature failures. High voltage will reduce the life of resistive loads and damage electronic control circuits. Miswired pedestals can result in reversed polarity or an open neutral condition on the coach. Both are safety/fire hazards and will cause severe damage. With Surge Guard® RV Power Protection, you can plug in and rest assured that your RV is protected against faulty power.



Don't let this happen to you! Using a surge protector, especially a model that offers multi-mode surge suppression and additional safety features, will help protect against the risk of electrical fire, which can quickly consume an RV and leave you, your family and pets little time to escape.

Peace of Mind Protection

The Surge Guard RV Power Protection family provides a full line of electrical safety products for the RV industry. Several models in both 30A and 50A, hardwire and portable units are offered with protection against power surges, overheating plug/receptacles, high and low voltage conditions, open neutral and ground conditions, or mis-wired pedestals – all of which lead to serious damage to your coach.

Perfect for pop-ups and travel trailers, the Surge Guard Model 44750 30A portable unit provides ground fault circuit interruption technology with basic protection against surges. With the 30A Surge Guard Model 44260 and 50A Model 44270, added intelligence that analyzes circuits to identify faulty park power before plugging in compliments the surge protection.

Portables with LCD Display

Surge Guard's Full Protection models 34830 (30A) and 34850 (50A), feature an LCD display that provides the user with important alert data in easy-to-read English readout. These models offer higher joules of power surge protection

than the previous models. The 30 amp models now protect up to 2,450 joules and the 50 amp models to 3,850 joules.

In addition, these full protection devices continuously monitor conditions at the pedestal, and will automatically shut off power when faulty power is detected to protect your coach. Patent-Pending thermal technology will shut down whenever temperatures at the plug/receptacle exceed 200°F, protecting against fire/safety hazards and melted connectors. Shut off for open ground/neutral protection, low (<102V) and high (>132V) voltage, and reverse polarity (50A unit) is present. Continuous monitoring for voltage and amp draw (RMS), as well as elevated ground voltage is included in both units, and alerts for surge events indicate when the unit has experienced a significant surge that has sacrificially exhausted the Surge Guard to protect your RV. Each device resets automatically once acceptable power conditions have been restored after a 128-second time delay for AC startup protection.

Easy to Use

Surge Guard portable protection devices are compact and easy to use, plugging in between the pedestal and the

line cord to provide protection. They are designed for all travel trailers, 5th wheel and motor coaches with 30 and 50 amp service. The entire Surge Guard line is equipped with Easy-T-Pull™ handles on both line and load sides. No more difficulty plugging/unplugging power cord connections.

Theft Protection

To ease possibility of theft of the portable Surge Guard devices and voltage regulators, a Surge Guard lock hasp is designed to attach to the standard 30A and 50A plugs, using a customer-supplied padlock attached to the hasp to deter theft.

Convenient Hardwired Models

The Surge Guard hardwire models 34520 (30A) and 34560 (50A) provide all of the same full-featured protection of the portable units, compact for ease of installation into the coach's power compartment. Optional remote LCD display model 40298 plugs into the remote port on the hardwire units, providing easy readout and plug and play joystick convenience for on-screen navigation of options. Sixteen detailed fault screen keep you informed of your RV's power status.

Surge Guard's Automatic Transfer Switch Model 40250-RVC is RVC compatible full Surge protection with automatic transfer ability from shore power to generator power when energized after a 30-second delay in generator mode.

Low Power Solutions

Voltage regulators, 30 amp model 10176 and 50 amp model 10175 provide reliable source of power when experiencing fluctuations resulting in low RV park input voltage. They do not protect against faults or surges, but monitor and boost line voltage conditions, helping prevent low voltage damage to the RV's appliances and electronic devices.

Protect your investment and what you value most! From basic monitoring and surge protection to bumper-to-bumper full featured security, Surge Guard RV Power Protection is here to provide peace of mind on your way to trouble-free roads!

TRAVELASSIST IS NOT A MEDICAL INSURANCE PLAN.

IT'S A GET YOU, YOUR FAMILY, YOUR PETS AND YOUR RIG BACK HOME SAFE PLAN.



Good Sam Travel Assist Benefits Include:

- Emergency Medical Evacuation
- RV/Vehicle Return Service
- Prescription Replacement Assistance
- Transportation Home After Stabilization
- Travel Companion Benefits
- Pet Return Assistance

Plans start at just

\$79⁹⁹

CALL OR CLICK TO JOIN!

GoodSamTravelAssist.com

866-694-1582



Good Sam
TravelAssist 

BIG E-GO

Purple Line's European-designed power trailer mover makes negotiating tight spots and hitching up as easy as pushing a button on a remote control

It isn't exactly a well-protected trade secret that trailers are big, boxy and bulky, and often difficult to maneuver into tight places. A prime example is when multiple movements back and forth are necessary because of campsite size constraints. Another complication is maneuvering a large tow vehicle into position for hitching up, particularly on one's own. Adding these ingredients using the classic recipe usually cooks up a nice serving of extra work and frustration.

A few products have been designed to aid in these situations, but most are not practical for home use or in a campground environment. However, the American RV market now has access to a trailer moving product that has been used in Europe for a long time, one that offers superior hitch-up support and convenient remote control. The Purple Line E-Go has been adapted to fit U.S. RV frame shapes and sizes, and is designed to allow owners the benefit of moving trailers into tight

spaces, just as they do in Europe, where storage space is at a premium. Purple Line has packaged a ready-to-install power-trailer-mover system that utilizes a series of two or four motor units, providing maneuverability not previously experienced by American trailer owners.

Weight dictates the suitability of the E-Go. The system can move trailers up to 5,000 pounds using two motors or up to 7,800 pounds with a four-motor installation. In the case of our project trailer, a four-motor setup was necessary. Provided with the four-motor kit is everything needed to complete the installation including

bolts, brackets, two sets of main- and cross-actuation bars, chassis (mounting) plates, spacers, specialty tools, control units and remote, and a wire-numbering system to boot. About the only things needed are a good drill with sharp bits, a $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch ratchet with corresponding metric sockets, metric and adjustable wrenches, a hole saw and basic wiring hand tools such as crimpers and cable cutters.

With regard to the installation time, you'll likely have one solid day's work invested, but as with any project, the great unknown comes into play, so do it right and make it an easy-paced



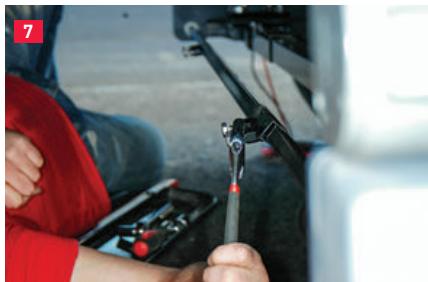
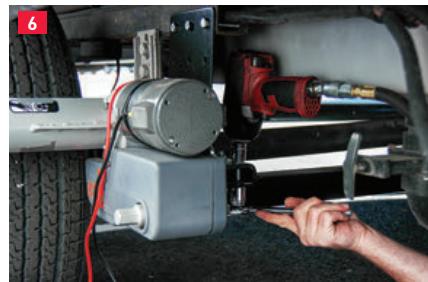
(1) Once the trailer is level and the tires chocked, it's best to use a floor jack to hold the motor assembly in place. **(2)** Find the proper location for the adapter plates and **(3)** mock up the installation to make sure the brackets will fit. **(4)** Use a clamp to hold the adapter plates in place to facilitate drilling the holes through the frame.

weekend project for you and a helper.

To begin the fitting process, find a clean, level workplace and secure the trailer with suitable chocks so it's immobilized. Before diving in, double-check that all parts and hardware are present, and ensure that all four rollers attached to the E-Go motors have been fully disengaged according to the directions and built-in sight windows. It's also a good idea to take a quick peek at the target install area to be sure all moving parts and plumbing, etc., are free and clear. Once everything passes inspection, determine which of the enclosed chassis clamp plates and braces (either L-shaped or I-profile) are to be used, based on the type of chassis frame — I-beam or tube.

After picking the correct plates, line them up appropriately, providing correct tire-to-roller alignment and sufficient spacing, while still allowing for proper engagement of the E-Go roller. We found that it was easier to utilize a floor jack to support each motor unit while mocking up the installation and checking fit. Also helpful for the install were a couple of locking-type pliers or C-clamps to hold the L-chassis clamp plates to the frame for marking and drilling.

One more quick tip: try using a silver permanent marker to make your reference points more visible on dark areas and use a black marker on bright surfaces. From here, it's a matter of drilling through the clamped-on plates and both sides of the frame. It is also imperative to look through the ends of the frame before drilling to find any wires that may have been run inside for the brakes, as was the case with the project



(5) With the chassis clamps in place, the crossbars can be positioned after assembling all the parts for one axle **(6 and 7)** and then tightened and torqued to spec. **(8)** Once the fit is confirmed, a 20mm spacer (not shown) is used to set the distance between the rollers and tires. Duct tape (arrow) can be used to tape the spacer to the roller during adjustment.

trailer. When working on an I-beam chassis, special sliding mounts and extra plates take the place of drilling.

The chassis clamp mounts can now be permanently attached to the frame via the M10 x 55-millimeter chassis clamp bolts and associated washers with nylon insert lock nuts. Using two of the motor units and all three sizes of actuation hardware and crossbars, loosely assemble everything that will make up one axle. Now the whole axle assembly can be lifted near its respective L-plate locations with the floor jack and/or some kind of blocks, before loosely bolting together the three plates, which ultimately affixes the entire drive arrangement to the trailer. You can then finish adjusting and aligning the entire apparatus, per the instructions.

This is when the roller distance spacers come into play and should be temporarily held in place with duct tape. Once you're pleased with the alignment, all remaining bolts and nuts can be torqued as specified in the instructions. For the other axle, simply flip the brackets and motor units around and repeat the install process; it will be much easier and faster the second time around.

With all the hard mounting complete, installing the electronic control units, power-isolation key and wiring are the only items left on the to-do list. For mounting the two control units that are required to run a four-motor setup, a dry storage compartment location within about 2 feet or so of the batteries is ideal. To finalize the wiring portion to the control



(9) After the spacing between the roller and tire has been set, the remaining bolts are tightened and torqued (40 lb-ft). **(10)** Two electronic control units are needed for a tandem axle installation. Here they are mounted near the batteries, and a hole is drilled in the floor to **(11)** route the wiring.

units, a hole approximately 1¼-inch will need to be drilled in the floor near the electronic boxes. As for the power-isolation key (battery disconnect), find a suitable home somewhere between the batteries and control units where it's safe to drill another hole.

Pay close attention to details clearly laid out in the instructions when routing the heavy-gauge wires to and from the motor units, electronic control units and batteries. It is obvious that Purple Line intended for a clean fit and finish by integrating split-loom conduit, plenty of wiring terminals, P-clips and even wire ties. Using the ultra handy numbering flags prevents any wiring confusion.

After completing the task of wiring all the associated electrical components, the rollers should be tested for proper direction. To verify the correct travel operation, the electronic control units and the remote handset must first be calibrated. This is easily done by removing and replacing one AAA battery in conjunction with



(12) With the control units securely mounted to the wall, the wires are connected to their respective terminals. **(13)** The kit includes split-loom conduit that is used to protect all the wiring.



pressing a button until a long beep is heard, followed by silence. Assuming everything works out as planned the first time, it's finally time to engage all four rollers to the tires — again, referring to the instructions and sight windows. From here, it's time for the real-world testing, referring to the manual once again to determine the operating mode that will work best for your trailer and conditions.

One of the most crucial elements for the E-Go to work as designed is the utilization of a front pivot point, which is

dependent on the A-frame jack wheel. It's critical to have a strong and smooth rolling wheel, which means most of the cheap wheels used on trailers will not work properly. Do your homework here and don't skimp on quality for cost.

Once we had everything dialed in, it became apparent that the Europeans really do know something about moving trailers in tight places. The E-Go outperformed our expectations, moving the trailer easily and confidently, with the "brains" to provide unexpected features such as an initial soft start and

IN CONTROL

THE PERFECT BALANCE BETWEEN EASE & STRENGTH FOR LEVELING YOUR RV

LOWEST INSTALLED PRICE GUARANTEED
for Good Sam Club Members



Ground Control™ 3.0 Electric 5th Wheel Leveling System

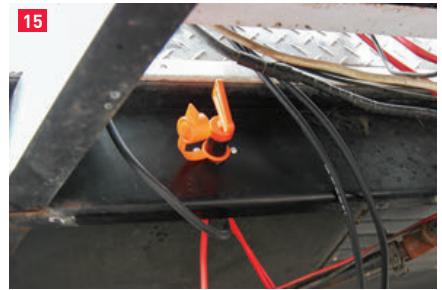
The new Ground Control 3.0 5th Wheel Leveling System makes it easier than ever to efficiently and safely level your 5th wheel! Fully automatic electric leveling system features leveling jacks driven by Hall Effect technology, which measures the jack leg motor revolutions instead of amps, ensuring more accurate leveling of your coach.

FEATURES

- Twice the speed of previous systems—saves time setting up camp
- More accurate leveling than previous systems
- Auto re-hitch memory function for faster, easier hitching
- Added stability with new rear round leveling jacks
- Fully automatic one-touch control panel included
- One-touch auto-level wireless feature—Linc™ remote included
- 20,000 lb. total weight capacity



(14) There's plenty of split-loom conduit and wire, so take the time to route the wiring around potential hazards. Use clamps and cable ties to secure all the wiring. **(15)** The battery disconnect switch is installed in a convenient location. **(16)** The drill motor and supplied socket tool are used to engage and disengage rollers. **(17)** A remote control makes maneuvering the trailer a snap.



a smooth transition to full speed. The E-Go is capable of turning the trailer in almost military-tank fashion without harsh tire scrubbing. It's kind of like playing with a remote-control model car, which is fun for you and entertaining to onlookers.

The motors, with a direct gear drive, have a lot of torque and moved the test trailer, which weighs close to the safe working load of the system, with little effort. Careful consideration has been taken to keep the components resistant to corrosion, and all the parts are warranted for two years; the rollers have a lifetime warranty. While the four-motor system has a relatively

expensive price tag of \$2,999, it can be removed and reinstalled if the trailer is traded for a new one.

Eliminating solo hitch-up hang-ups by bringing the trailer to the tow vehicle via the remote control and maneuvering the trailer in places that normally create

driver frustration make the Purple Line E-Go a sound investment and much cheaper than repairing trailer body damage. 🚚

Purple Line

415-802-3734, www.purplelineusa.com



FULLHOUSE

DRV Luxury Suites is a name synonymous with ultimate luxury in full-time, four-season fifth wheel RVing. This reputation for quality and reliability has put DRV in a class by itself. Today, DRV introduces a product targeted toward the industry-coined "Toy Hauler" marketplace.



LUXURY ASSET HAULER



FullHouse LX450



WWW.DRVFULLHOUSE.COM

DRV | 0160 W 750 N • PO Box 235 • Howe, IN 46746 | 260-562-1075 | www.drvsuites.com | Follow DRV



Instant Power Wherever You Are.

People on the go like to go in style, with efficient, reliable, portable power from a Honda EU Series Generator. Whether you're camping, tailgating or RVing, you can rely on Honda power for your coffee maker, electric lights, TV, rooftop RV AC units[†] and just about anything else that'll make you feel right at home. EU Series Generators are easy to start, produce fewer emissions and are remarkably quiet. And with 19 generators in our lineup to choose from, Honda has a model that'll be the right match for your needs. Plus, they're covered by our Honda 3-Year Warranty*. So next time you go on a trip, don't forget to pack the power.



HONDA
GENERATORS

gen.honda.com



 facebook.com/HondaGenerators  youtube.com/Honda

[†]Requires two parallel-linked EU2000i generators. *Warranty applies to all Honda GX Series Engines and GX Series-powered Honda Power Equipment, 100cc or larger, purchased or put into rental service since January 1, 2009. Exceptions apply. See full warranty details at honda.com. Does not apply to EU1000 models. Please read the owner's manual before operating your Honda Power Equipment and never use in a closed or partly enclosed area where you could be exposed to poisonous carbon monoxide. Connection of a generator to house power requires a transfer device to avoid possible injury to power company personnel. Consult a qualified electrician. ©2014 American Honda Motor Co., Inc.



Honda Generators, Circle 126 on Reader Service Card

THE BEST PORTABLE WASTE TANK IS NOW EVEN BETTER



NEW!

SMARTTOTE²

Deluxe 4-Wheel Waste Tank

- Improved – More sanitary!
- Sewer Hose Cap and Sewer Elbow Nozzle included – nothing else to buy!
- Completely assembled – ready to use right out of the box!

Rugged rubber wheels

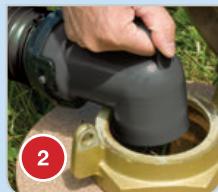
Front wheels are attached to handle for maximum maneuverability

LX models are available in 3 sizes: 18, 27 & 35 Gallon

SmartTote² 4-Wheel LX Models Feature:



PermaStore™ Storage compartment protects pre-attached hose and fittings.



90° Sewer Elbow Nozzle keeps the process quick, clean and easy at the dump port.



Large opening allows improved rinsing with a garden hose.



AutoStop™ Level Gauge speeds emptying and prevents overfilling.



No heavy lifting – handle hooks onto trailer hitch.



Standard 2-Wheel Waste Tank

Redesigned for 2015: 18, 27, & 35 Gallon

- PermaStore™ Hose always connected for a more sanitary process.
- Retainer Strap holds Hose in place.
- Improved venting speeds emptying.
- AutoStop™ Level Gauge prevents messy overfilling.

From the RV Sanitation Expert

THETFORD
Going Places

CA038014

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide



HOT STUFF

TRUMA INTRODUCES A POWERFUL INSTANT WATER HEATER WITH
PRECISION GERMAN ENGINEERING FOR AMERICAN RVs

It's another beautiful morning in your favorite campground. The sun's rays are shining through the edges of the pull-down shades, birds are chirping, and the aroma from the first cup of coffee permeates the interior. Time to hop in the shower to get the day going. Water is spraying at a comfy temperature, air guitar humming away, and the lyrics of your favorite song fill the bathroom acoustics. And then the song is suddenly interrupted by an agonizing screech, "The water's cold!"

Sound familiar? Most RVers have learned to deal with the limited quantity of hot water, especially those with 6-gallon water heaters, and no matter how judiciously the occupants practice

conservation, there are times when there's just not enough hot water. Case in point: When showering back to back with the lady of the house, er ... RV, and she wants to wash her long, thick hair.

The solution, of course, would be an appliance that provides unlimited hot water on demand — and Truma, Europe's leading provider of heating and water systems for RVs, has introduced one. The AquaGo is a new product designed and listed (certified) specifically for use in the United States and Canada.

What makes the AquaGo so unique is its ability to be retrofitted, without body modifications, into any RV with an existing 6-, 10- or 12-gallon water heater. Fit

and finish are precise, and the water heater has gone through countless hours of engineering and manufacturing scrutiny by highly trained experts. It's made in Germany, where precision is as much a pastime as it is a passion. And it shows. The AquaGo is a very sophisticated device that's assembled with high-tech and finely crafted componentry. Each step of the manufacturing process is monitored carefully; the major components are bar-coded and logged into a computer program that tracks the individual unit via a unique serial number. At the end of the line, every water heater is tested and receives the final labeling only if it passes rigorous protocol.

Water is heated by an LP-gas-fired burner, which is activated via a volume-flow sensor that detects an open faucet. The electronics, gas valve and flue fan operate on 12-volt DC power, and temperature is regulated not to exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit, a level that is hot but won't scald skin unless the body is exposed to the water for more than five minutes. Since the hot water is mixed with cold, there should never be an issue with skin scalding.

A specially designed exterior cover with a ventilation grid allows fresh air to flow into the burner and exhaust gas to exit the water heater. A number of safety devices have been built into the AquaGo, including flame monitoring, low-voltage shutdown, over-current protection, flue-fan monitoring and the aforementioned temperature stabilization. There's even freeze protection built into some models.

Truma offers three AquaGo models. The Basic unit is just that; it has an on/off switch and provides

water on demand. Hot water will likely flow behind some cold water, depending on the distance from the water heater to the open faucet. With a step up to the Comfort model, users have a choice of an Eco or Comfort mode. The Eco mode functions like the Basic model, but when the switch is in the Comfort position, water is automatically held at 102 F, which makes hot water available more rapidly. This model has freeze protection, so water is always held higher than 41 F, regardless of the mode.

A Comfort-Plus model will be offered only as an OEM product, since it requires specialized plumbing where the hot water is constantly circulated throughout the system. For this model, hot water at full operating temperature will be available instantaneously at all the faucets and showerhead.

When operating in the Comfort mode, boondockers need to be aware that the water heater will draw 2.5 amps to keep the water at a constant

102 F and will continue to use propane, although in small amounts. Nevertheless, it's best to keep the switch in the Eco position when 12-volt DC power is being conserved.

Serviceability really got our attention. To drain the water from the tank, a clever snout (Easy Drain Lever) is simply released and folded down, so the water, which will flow automatically, can be directed into a bucket. No muss, no fuss. And to make things even more practical, a reusable filter can be pulled out from the open Easy Drain Lever and cleaned when necessary.

Troubleshooting is done with the aid of a computer, and dealers will have a special device that connects to the water heater and reads out potential issues on the screen. Dealers who have been thoroughly trained by Truma and have mastered the installation and service procedures will be authorized to sell the AquaGo. The Basic model retails for \$1,099 and the Comfort model sells for \$1,199.

After attending training sessions at the Truma campus outside of Munich, Germany, and field testing the AquaGo in a motorhome at a popular campground near the Austrian border, we installed a Comfort model in a rig at home that was originally fitted with a 6-gallon water heater.

Having endless hot water (as long as the RV is hooked up to city water and sewer, of course) was heavenly. It was actually hard to break the habit of shutting off the water flow to the showerhead while soaping down because we've been indoctrinated to conserve hot water for so long. When hooked up, we leave the switch on Comfort to get hot water faster, but in reality, the wait time in the Eco mode is not a big deal.

While we were impressed with the German engineering and the high-quality components, we loved the fact that the AquaGo is very quiet when operating and the neighbors no longer have to endure the roar of the burner in our previous hot-water tank. And the swap took less than two hours.

Truma, www.truma-aquago.com

The Safest Sway Control Hitch now comes in four models

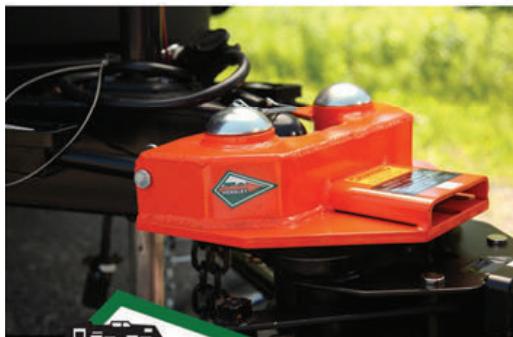
Visit HensleyMfg.com
to find the right
Hensley for you

- Eliminates 100% of Trailer Sway, Guaranteed.
- Models for Small or Large Trailers. Easy Installation.
- Lifetime Warranty.
- Free Shipping when you mention this ad.

Get on the road
to safety.

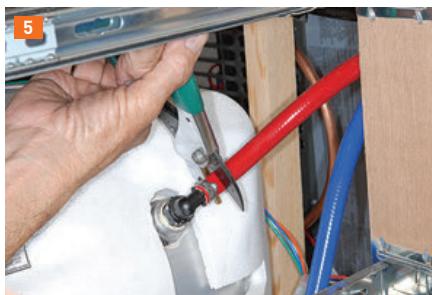
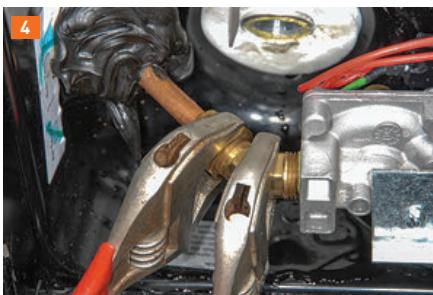
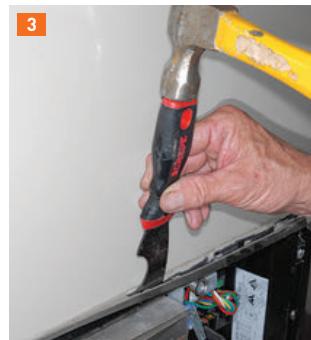
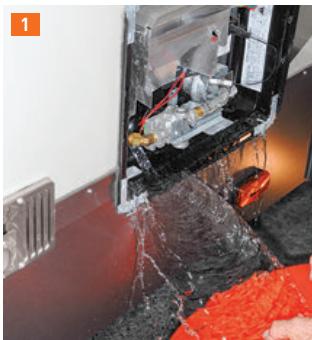
Call us today . . .

800.410.6580



HENSLEY

www.HensleyMfg.com



(1) The nylon plug is removed from the original 6-gallon water heater to drain the tank. Opening the pressure-relief valve facilitates the draining process, which can be a messy affair. (2) Mounting screws are removed to release the original water-heater housing from the side wall of the RV. (3) A scraping tool and hammer make it easier to break the putty seal between the original water heater and the RV side wall. (4) The LP-gas line is disconnected from the original water heater. Notice the big blob of sealer, which is required to close the hole around the LP-gas line. This prevents gas from entering the RV but can be difficult to remove. (5) Hot- and cold-water lines are disconnected before removing the original water heater. In this case flexible hose and barbed fittings were used instead of PEX lines and screw-on fittings. It was easier to cut the hose rather than pry it off stubborn barbs. (6) Power wires are also cut before the original water heater can be removed from the RV.



(7) Once all hoses and wires are free, the water heater is pulled out. This was a relatively new water heater, so the sealer was still pretty goopy. (8) A scraping tool is used to remove old sealing material. The tool can easily scratch surrounding gelcoat, so go slow and use light pressure.



14th-Annual Charity Raffle

WIN

a New Winnebago Adventurer Motorhome
— or —



a Quarter of a Million Dollars in Cash!

All proceeds benefit Innovations Housing, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that builds affordable homes for low-income families around the world.

Raffle monitored by Redwine & Tegerstrand, CPAs of Redding, CA. State of California, Department of Justice Raffle Registration Number R-173. Must be over 18 to enter. Void where prohibited. Winner need not be present to win.

Winner will take home a new 38-foot Winnebago Adventurer motorhome or \$250,000.00. Winner responsible for taxes, title and license.

To purchase tickets with a Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express call
+1 (800) 764-8096 toll free or **+1 (530) 243-5693**.
 or mail a check to Post Office Box 991846, Redding, CA 96099-1846, USA.
 For more information visit www.innovationshousing.org.

Tickets Only
\$100.00 Each
No More Than 7,500
Tickets Will Be Sold
 Drawing Will Be
August 31st, 2015

Innovations Housing, Circle 130 on Reader Service Card



(9) The access-door assembly comes in white but can be painted, if desired. We chose semigloss black paint to match other exterior accessories. (10) A multimeter is used to confirm wire polarity before connecting to the AquaGo. (11) A special installation frame takes up the gap left by the larger, original water-heater housing. Butyl tape is applied to the inner and outer edges. (12) The installation frame is screwed into the wall using provided stainless-steel screws. (13) Butyl tape is used to seal the AquaGo to the installation frame. (14) Rather than sealing the gap around the propane line with another blob of silicone, Truma devised a unique grommet that's compressed with a yellow cable tie (provided).

America's #1 Choice for RV Protection

Protect Your RV From Damage

Dometic's RV Slide Topper Keeps Off Rain, Twigs, and Mildew

- Easy installation – save time and money
- Reflects heat to keep indoor areas cooler
- Anti-billow device keeps fabric snug – even when closed
- Time-tested reliability
- Vinyl or metal weathershield
- Polar white, black, or satin fabric and hardware colors



Sleeker Slide Topper hardware comes in polar white, black, silver, or champagne colors

LOWEST INSTALLED PRICE GUARANTEED
for Good Sam Club Members



Watch the
Slide Topper Video



**LOWEST
INSTALLED
PRICE GUARANTEED**
for Good Sam Club Members

Quality. Workmanship. Function.

THOMAS PAYNE
COLLECTION™



Mahogany

Crestwood Tri-Fold Sofa
Shown in Mahogany



Lexington Jackknife Sofa
Shown in Mink

Majestic
Chocolate

Bobcat Doe

Lasso

Mink



Melody
Walnut

Sierra
Beige

Rochester Tri-Fold Sofa
Shown in Sierra Beige



Richmond Jackknife Sofa
Shown in Walnut



Beckham Tan

Melody
Walnut



Majestic
Chocolate

Franklin Tri-Fold Sofa
Shown in Majestic Chocolate



Cambridge Jackknife Sofa
Shown in Perkins Brown

Brookwood
Tobacco

Shale

Winchester
Tobacco

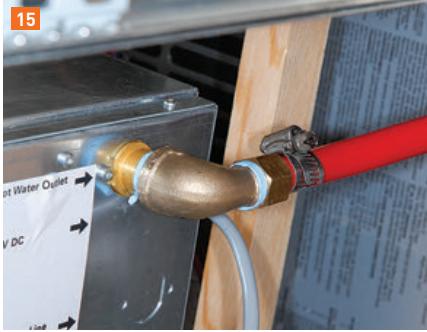
Perkins
Brown

RV DELUXE EURO TOP

- Twice-tempered steel coils provides medium-firm support for proper sleeping posture
- 2" euro top provides luxurious comfort and relieves pressure points
- ECOBLEND® fiber quilt layers enhance comfort
- Stretch knit cover is both soft and breathable
- 5-year non-prorated warranty
- Made in the USA



CA038210



15



16



19



17



18

(15) For this particular installation, a brass elbow and barb fitting were needed to accommodate the existing hot-water hose routing. (16) An extension hose (reinforced) was used to hook up the cold-water line to a straight barb fitting. Fittings are not provided with the kit. (17) Once the AquaGo is securely in place, the LP-gas supply is opened and the connection at the new water heater is tested for leaks using a soapy water solution. (18) The cover assembly is screwed into the installation frame; fit is very good, so additional putty tape or sealer is not needed. (19) A rotating latch holds the water heater access door securely to the cover assembly.

2015 NORTHWOOD

**SUPERIOR QUALITY
LASTING RELATIONSHIPS
VALUE ADDED FEATURES**





www.Northwoodmfg.com



Snow River



Fox Mountain



Desert Fox



Nash



Arctic Fox Camper



Wolf Creek



Arctic Fox
Silver Edition 5th



Arctic Fox Silver Edition TT



Arctic Fox Classic

Northwood Mfg., Circle 140 on Reader Service Card

NEW!

Winegard's 1st Fully Automatic Amplified Local HD and Digital Broadcast TV Antenna

WINEGARD® RAYZAR® AUTOMATIC



RZ-8500 WHITE / RZ-8535 BLACK

**No Guessing. No Hassle.
Free TV Made Simple.**



PLUS MORE!

■ Automatic Aiming Antenna

Eliminates time and hassle of searching for signals. Quickly identifies all available TV signals and stops where the most local broadcast channels are found.

■ High Performance Antenna Design

Utilizes state-of-the-art amplifier that provides unmatched signal strength for better picture quality.

■ Sleek, Ultra-Low Profile

Antenna is hardly noticeable at 7" dome height. Dome and elements fully protected from harsh environmental conditions.



All trademarks, registered trademarks and logos are the property of their respective owners; this is not an endorsement or sponsorship of this product or Winegard Co. by the respective companies. © 2015 Winegard Co



ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide



[20, 21] The finished cover assembly has a modern look; the vented door opens easily and provides complete access to serviceable components. **[22]** Switches that control Eco and Comfort modes are located behind the access panel. Lights above and below the switch indicate power and flash trouble codes. **[23]** The Easy Drain Lever is released and pulled down to drain the AquaGo, directing water into a bucket — without a mess. **[24]** The water-inlet filter pulls out when the drain is open. The reusable filter can be rinsed with water to remove debris. 🗑️



EXIDE RV BATTERIES

DEEP CYCLE:

Designed for Continuous Discharge and Recharge.

- Provides continuous operating time
- Increased reserve capacity
- Greater cycling capability
- Vibration resistant

DUAL PURPOSE:

Combines Deep Cycle with Starting Power.

- Higher marine cranking amps
- Balanced starting/cycling performance
- Reliable starting power
- Vibration resistant



Made in the USA with some imported components



StartPositiveStayPositive.com

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members
CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

WHEREVER ADVENTURE TAKES YOU.



POWERHOUSE IS THERE.

INTRODUCING: **The New Powerhouse PH4000Ri/E**

Powerhouse's first Electronically Fuel Injected portable generator is designed with the active RVer in mind. The new PH4000Ri/E delivers pure, clean inverter power that is safe for sensitive electronics, quiet enough to enjoy in camp and stingy with fuel. Ideal for high altitude or cold weather use, the 4000 also features remote electric start. See the new PH4000Ri/E at leading RV retailers, or visit powerhouse-products.com for more information.

*Powering life
in the great outdoors.™*

PH4000Ri/E

- Electronic fuel injection
- 4000 peak watts/3600 running watts
- Great high altitude performance
- Superior starting at cold temperatures
- Exceptional fuel economy
- Telescoping, wheelbarrow style handles

POWERHOUSE
INVERTER GENERATORS

CA038219

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide



Tapping In

Sometimes your truck's automatic transmission doesn't know which gear is best. The new TapShifter from BD Diesel Performance for 2008 to 2010 Ford Power Stroke 6.4-liter applications provides drivers with greater control, especially when towing. Utilizing factory connectors, the TapShifter allows the ability to manually select all five gears and control torque converter lock-up and overdrive function. It works with engine brake systems like BD's Variable Vane Exhaust Brake. The TapShifter kit includes a new OE-style 6.7-liter shift lever and a mini, dimmable gear-selection display. TapShifter is also available for early Chevy Duramax diesels.

MSRP: \$525

800-887-5030

www.dieselperformance.com

Circle 167 on Reader Service Card



Thanks a Watt

Enjoy all the comforts of home even when you're off the grid with the new PH4000Ri/E inverter generator from Powerhouse Products. Featuring enough power to run a 15,000-Btu roof air conditioner, according to the company, the PH4000Ri/E is the first Powerhouse portable generator with electronic fuel injection, which improves cold-weather starting, hot restarts and performance at high altitude. The self-priming fuel system also offers better fuel economy and cleaner emissions than a comparable carbureted system. Quiet enough to meet National Park Service guidelines, this generator also meets stringent air standards with EPA, CARB and CSA certifications.

MSRP: \$1,669.95

877-544-4449

www.powerhouse-products.com

Circle 168 on Reader Service Card



The Wheel Deal

The wheels and tires on your truck and trailer are like your shoes — when they look good, you look good. Trouble is, it's difficult to find a product that makes it easy to care for your rolling stock. The car care professionals at Eagle One solved this problem with A2Z All Wheel and Tire Cleaner, now available in a 64-ounce size perfect for RV use. Incorporating a detachable hose for hard-to-reach places, A2Z utilizes an acid-free formula that the manufacturer recommends for use on any wheel or tire. The thick foam easily removes grease, grime and brake dust from the wheels and leaves tires shiny black, according to the company. Available from a variety of retailers.

MSRP: \$15

800-832-6825

www.eagleone.com

Circle 169 on Reader Service Card



That's a Wrap

Cooking in your RV is fun, but who wants to be saddled with kitchen cleanup on a family vacation? Atwood makes cleanup easy with its new Stove Wrap, a patent-pending stovetop liner made of nonflammable, machine-washable and reusable material. Presewn and cut to fit, the Stove Wrap will fit any Atwood or Suburban range or three-burner cooktop. The Stove Wrap is easily installed by placing the three openings in the stovetop liner over the burner heads and fastening it to the feet of the grates in each corner. Available from a variety of retailers.

MSRP: About \$35 800-546-8759, www.atwoodmobile.com

Circle 170 on Reader Service Card



hello EXPEDITION



CAMPING WORLD

Say Hello to a Whole New World



New 2015 Crossroads

Z-1 218TD

MSRP \$20,670 SAVE \$4,675 NOW \$15,995*

\$137 PER MONTH**

Columbia, SC - Stk. #COL528871
Based on 10% down @ 5.50% APR for 144 mos.



New 2015 Forest River

WILDWOOD 27RLSS

MSRP \$31,093 SAVE \$8,505 NOW \$22,588*

\$193 PER MONTH**

Anderson, CA - Stk. #RED525219
Based on 10% down @ 5.50% APR for 144 mos.



New 2015 Jayco

EAGLE HT 26.5RKS

MSRP \$44,711 SAVE \$11,094 NOW \$33,617*

\$239 PER MONTH**

Bakersfield, CA - Stk. #SLV546978
Based on 10% down @ 4.99% APR for 180 mos.



New 2015 Keystone

CARBON 31

MSRP \$55,142 SAVE \$16,428 NOW \$38,714*

\$275 PER MONTH**

Syracuse, NY - Stk. #SYU539225
Based on 10% down @ 4.99% APR for 180 mos.



New 2015 Heartland

SUNDANCE 327ORES

MSRP \$56,115 SAVE \$11,381 NOW \$44,734*

\$319 PER MONTH**

Shelley, ID - Stk. #IDA615929
Based on 10% down @ 4.99% APR for 180 mos.



New 2015 Crossroads

ELEVATION 4212

MSRP \$96,367 SAVE \$36,372 NOW \$59,995*

\$356 PER MONTH**

Liberty Lake, WA - Stk. #SPO524282
Based on 10% down @ 4.99% APR for 240 mos.



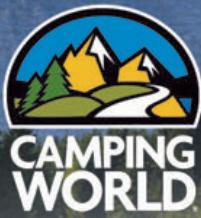
CAMPING WORLD RV SALES*

CALL **866-9-RV-CENTER** SHOP **CampingWorld.com**

*Government fees, state taxes, dealer fees and emissions testing charges as applicable will be added to comply with state vehicle codes. Freight and prep costs vary by state (Not applicable in CA, OH, TX, TN, GA or UT). Inventory and floorplans vary by location, not all advertised manufacturers available at participating dealers. New units will be delivered from the nearest authorized dealer. Contact your area dealer for availability. **All payments to qualified buyers with approved credit. Subject to lender terms. VIN numbers posted at dealership. Advertised inventory available at time of production. New unit photography for illustration purposes only. May not be combined with any other offer and not applicable to prior sales. Offers valid at any Camping World RV Sales or FreedomRoads dealer only. See dealer for details. Offers expire 5/6/15. FRO37994-0215

ASK HOW YOU CAN UPGRADE TO **Good Sam ELITE**





hello DEALS

ME



CLUB MEMBERS SAVE UP TO \$450 ON TRAV'LER ANTENNAS

CLUB SALE \$1297 Reg. \$1749

Trav'ler DISH® Automatic Satellite RV Antenna #37341
Stationary antenna is compatible with DISH® (SD & HD).
Let Us Install It—Club SALE \$312 | 🚚 | ♥

CLUB SALE \$1597 Reg. \$1999

Trav'ler DIRECTV® Automatic Satellite RV Antenna #68944
Stationary antenna is compatible with DIRECTV® (SD & HD).
Let Us Install It—Club SALE \$312 | 🚚 | ♥

CLUB MEMBERS SAVE \$120 OFF

CLUB SALE \$577 Reg. \$699

Carryout® G2 Automatic Portable Satellite RV Antenna
Compatible with DISH® (SD & HD), DIRECTV® (SD) and Bell TV™ (SD & HD). Works with a wide variety of receivers.
White #76528 Black (not shown) #77235
🚚 | ♥

CLUB SALE \$74.97

Reg. \$109.99

DISH® ViP® 211z Satellite Television Receiver #73912
Offers high-definition and DISH® Pay-As-You-Go Programming. Compatible with all DISH-specific antennas and most mobile satellite antennas. | ♥

Only Pay for the Months You Use!



FREE STARZ FOR 3 MONTHS!
with activation of DISH Pay-As-You-Go programming.



NEW!

NEW! My Book® AV DVR Expander #84114
Turn your DISH® ViP 211 or 411 series receiver into a DVR. Record up to 150 hours of HD programming. Simple USB connection (USB 2.0 interface). Requires one-time \$40 DVR activation fee.
Club SALE \$129.99 Reg. \$139.99 | ♥

*Important Terms and Conditions: Requires antenna and receiver purchase. Monthly fees and limits on number and type of receivers will apply. All prices, packages, programming, features, functionality and offers subject to change without notice. All charges, including monthly programming, pay-per-view and equipment upgrades, must be paid in advance; failure to pay by due date will lead to service disconnection within 24 hours. Offer subject to terms of applicable Promotional and Residential Customer agreements. State reimbursement charges may apply. Additional restrictions may apply. Premium Channels: Premium offer value is up to \$42; after 3 months then-current everyday price applies unless you downgrade. Offers end 6/10/15. © 2015 DISH Network L.L.C. All rights reserved. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC.

CLUB MEMBERS SAVE \$70 OFF

CLUB SALE \$277 Reg. \$349.99



EXCLUSIVE! Good Sam 7" RVND 7735-LM GPS Powered by Rand McNally® #77601

- **NEW!** Faster processor for quicker routing
- **NEW!** Robust lane guidance and junction views
- **NEW!** View toll costs and compare toll vs. non-toll routes
- **PLUS!** Displays 8000 privately owned RV parks and campgrounds, including 2100+ Good Sam Parks
- **PLUS!** RV Safe routing for 11 RV types, plus car mode
- **PLUS!** Wi-Fi® connected services: weather, fuel prices and more

♥



Good Sam Club

CLUB MEMBERS ONLY
LOWEST INSTALLED PRICE GUARANTEED OR IT'S FREE!*

*Offer valid on select products. For more installation information go to CampingWorld.com/install

GA ELECTRONICS SALE!

Sale Prices Expire May 3, 2015

CLUB MEMBERS SAVE
\$80 OFF



CLUB SALE
\$417 Reg. \$499

- Pathway X2 #72776**
- 21" H x 15" dia.
 - Powered by receiver—no separate power cord
 - DISH® SD/HD
 - Supports 2 receivers
 - Large reflector for better reception
 - Views western or eastern arc satellites
 - Weight 16 lbs.
- 🚚 | ❤️

CLUB MEMBERS
SAVE UP TO \$300 ON KING ANTENNAS



CLUB SALE
\$497
Reg. \$699

- Relay™ #68964**
- Stationary use only
 - Automatic satellite acquisition
 - DISH® SD/HD
- Let Us Install It—
Club SALE \$334
- 🚚 | ❤️

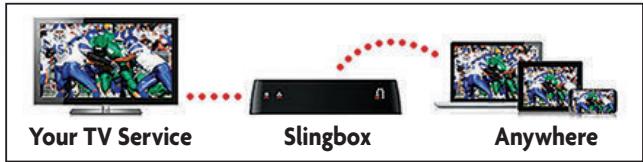


Rover™ works with Both DISH® & DIRECTV®!

CLUB SALE
\$597
Reg. \$899

- Rover™ #68965**
- Stationary use only
 - Automatic satellite acquisition
 - DISH® SD/HD
 - DIRECTV® SD
- Let Us Install It—
Club SALE \$334 | 🚚 | ❤️

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!



Watch live TV & control your shows anywhere, anytime

CLUB SALE
\$149.99
Reg. \$159.99

- NEW! Slingbox #82089**
- Wi-Fi®-enabled box turns your tablet, phone or laptop into a TV—all you need is an Internet connection. Works with DISH®, DIRECTV® and most cable systems. Requires cable or satellite receiver, router and high-speed Internet. Tablet or phone may require additional software, available separately. 110-volt. | ❤️

NEW!



CLUB SALE
\$64.97
Reg. \$84.99

- Winegard® Rayzar® Amplified Portable HD Antenna #68966**
- Embedded low-noise amplifier pulls in more channels. Delivers local broadcast programming in crisp, clear high definition! 12" x 13". | ❤️

CLUB SALE
\$26.97
Reg. \$33.33

Built-in weather radio

- Cobra Two-Way Radios #76584**
- Up to 16-mile range and 22 channels. NOAA Weather & Emergency Radio. Batteries and USB charging cord included. | ❤️



SATELLITE DAYS

SPONSORED BY DISH®

THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD
THROUGH SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH

Meet the Satellite Experts

& learn everything you need to know about Satellite TV

ENTER TO WIN A \$500 SHOPPING SPREE!

SAVE UP TO 65% ON EVENT ONLY SPECIALS!
VISIT A SUPERCENTER NEAR YOU!

SPIN THE PRIZE WHEEL
for a chance to **SAVE EVEN MORE!**

CA038783

sleep  number®

The RV Bed That Changes With You

**LOWEST
INSTALLED
PRICE GUARANTEED**
for Good Sam Club Members



Whether you're on the road or out seeing the sights, feeling well rested is an important part of your RV lifestyle. That's why you need a bed that will give you deep, restorative sleep. With the SLEEP NUMBER® RV bed, you'll make the most of the 8 hours you're asleep, so you can enjoy every minute of the 16 hours you're awake.

Sleep Number® RV Premier Bed

- Comfort layer for responsive and resilient support
- Wireless SLEEP NUMBER® remote

Fits Your RV Lifestyle

- Designed for your vehicle
- Decades of durability
- Energy-efficient operation
- Lighter on the road
- Several sizes for your RV



Discover the Sleep Number® Difference

Exclusive DualAir™ technology lets you adjust each side of the bed to your ideal level of firmness—your SLEEP NUMBER® setting. You can both wake up refreshed and rejuvenated, ready to face whatever the day may bring.

In clinical studies...

93% experienced back-pain relief *

89% reported improved sleep quality

77% found increased energy

Visit CampingWorld.com/sleepnumber

CA00677

Picture may represent features and options available at additional cost. *For a summary of clinical studies, visit sleepnumber.com. †Savings vary by bed model and size. ©2015 Select Comfort

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

Wheel Alignment and Balancing

The terms “wheel alignment” and “wheel balancing” are often misunderstood. While both affect ride and handling qualities — and are often performed at the same time by tire shops — they have little connection otherwise.

Wheel Balancing

Any of the rotating chassis components, including tires, wheels, valve stems, tire pressure monitoring system (TPMS) sensors, and brake rotors or drums, can contribute to imbalance. When tires are manufactured, there is a significant variation between the thickness and density of the rubber as it is molded into the final product. Some parts are heavier or lighter than others, and this leads to much of the imbalance that wheel balancing attempts to cure.

When one or more wheels are significantly out of balance, it may cause vibration at higher speeds, which can be felt through the steering wheel, seats and other parts of the vehicle. In reality, balance can never be made perfect on production vehicles, but as long as imbalance is a small fraction

of an ounce, it won't be noticeable on the road. Typically, the heavier the wheel and tire assembly, the more weight it will take to balance it.

Traditionally, shops used simple static bubble balancers to balance the wheel and tire assemblies. It's possible to static balance a tire and wheel by placing weights on one side to compensate for an imbalance. However, the tire may not be balanced dynamically and might vibrate when spun at high speeds.

Static balancing is outmoded and isn't anywhere near as accurate as modern high-speed spin balancers, which turn the mounted wheel-and-tire combination to highway speeds (or higher). Balancing tires at high speeds has the added benefit of finding serious defects, such as shifted belts that otherwise might

not show up at first. Modern off-the-vehicle spin-type computerized balancing machines are very accurate and easy to use. Some shops may still use on-the-vehicle spin balancers, which allow the operator to correct imbalance of brake drums or discs, as well as wheels and tires.

Lead weights have been the standard of wheel balancing due to the high weight of the metal. But they sometimes fly off, and lead is being phased out in favor of other materials that are less toxic to the environment. Generally, steel wheels with lips on the edges are balanced with clip-on weights, while light alloy rims are balanced using stick-on wheel weights.

A few ounces of imbalance will be magnified as speeds increase, which may cause the out-of-balance tire-wheel assembly to vibrate up and down to a point where it begins to hop off the roadway. These imbalanced forces can quickly overheat shock absorbers, shake parts loose and overstress components, not to mention cause an unpleasant ride.

Whenever new tires are mounted on wheels, they should be high-speed spin balanced, and this includes trailers. Tires that have lost their weights or are being remounted after flat repairs, etc., should be rebalanced.

Wheel Alignment

At the risk of oversimplification, wheel alignment consists of setting the operating angles of the wheels so they track perpendicular to the road and run parallel to each other. The goal of these adjustments is maximum



Modern high-speed spin balancers such as this one from Compass Automotive Equipment are easy to operate and very accurate for finding imbalance.

tire life and a vehicle that tracks true when driving along a straight and level road. When alignment is incorrect, it may cause rapid and uneven tire wear, steering pull to one side or the other and/or tracking problems. One common thread between wheel alignment and balance is that, when tires wear unevenly due to faulty alignment, they also tend to go out of balance.

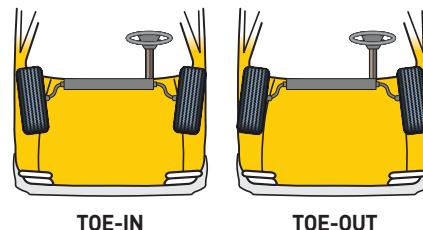
As vehicles accumulate mileage and the suspension parts wear, steering components go out of alignment. They may also go out of alignment if the driver hits a curb, pothole or other obstruction. Usually, misalignment is noticed by the driver because the vehicle pulls more to one side going down the road, wears tires rapidly/unevenly or darts back and forth in its lane. A wheel alignment can find any damaged parts and reset the front end to factory alignment specifications, after worn or damaged parts are replaced.



High-tech wheel alignment machines use laser beams to check for the proper position of wheels relative to the vehicle.

Toe

The toe measurement is the difference in the distance between the front of the tires and the back of the tires, measured across the vehicle. All steering systems have adjustable front toe settings. Toe is measured in fractions of an inch in the USA.



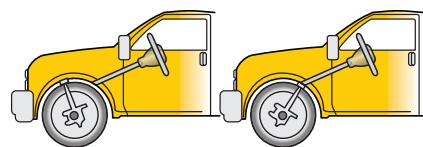
“Toe-in” means that the front of the tires are pointing inward (think of looking down at your feet while pigeon toed). “Toe-out” is the opposite.

Incorrect toe settings can cause uneven tire wear, which makes the tread blocks feel like saw teeth when you run your hand over them. Typical specifications call for a small amount of toe-in so that, as the vehicle moves forward and the tiny bit of slack comes out of the wheel bearings and steering linkage, the front tires will run virtually parallel when going straight.

Caster

A good way to understand steering caster angles is to visualize a shopping-cart caster wheel. The pivot on this kind of caster wheel intersects the ground ahead of the wheel’s contact point.

As the steering wheel is turned,



NEGATIVE CASTER

POSITIVE CASTER

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BILL TIPTON

Elegance & Engineering

Luxury Fifth Wheels & Travel Trailers

★★★★★
America's highest rated fifth wheel manufacturer for over a decade

- Factory Direct Sales With The Best Warranty In The Business
- Custom Designed & Built From The Ground Up
- Superior Engineering For Four-Season Comfort
- Hardwood Cabinetry & Granite Countertops
- Many Options Available, Including Wood Floors



NEW HORIZONS

1-800-235-3140

www.HorizonsRV.com



Find us on Facebook

New Horizons RV Corp., Circle 139 on Reader Service Card

GOOD SAM ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

JUST



PER DAY.

**For just \$79.95, or 22 cents a day,
your family is protected for a full year.**

- Coverage for your spouse & dependent children at no extra cost
- Unlimited distance towing to the nearest service center
- Coverage for your RV, cars, vans, trucks, SUVs, and motorcycles
- Flat tire service, fuel delivery, and battery jumpstarts
- Dispatch of a mobile mechanic for minor RV repairs
- And much more!

CALL OR CLICK TO JOIN!

GoodSamRoadside.com

800-788-8567



Good Sam
Roadside Assistance

*Introductory rate for Good Sam members who are first time buyers. Benefits and services provided by Americas Road & Travel Club, Inc. for Members residing in Alaska, Alabama, Utah and Virginia; and by Affinity Road & Travel Club, LLC for Members residing in all other States. Note: All program benefits are subject to limitations set forth in the current Member Benefit Brochures, which can be found at goodsamroadside.com/mbbs. GRA35783 - 1114

the front wheels turn on pivot points attached to the front suspension. Caster is the angle of the steering pivot points, measured in degrees of arc, as viewed from the vehicle's side. When the top of the pivot leans toward the rear of the vehicle, the caster is positive. When it leans toward the front, it's considered to be negative.

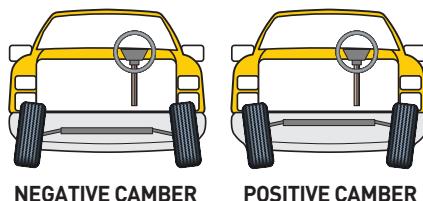
If caster is out of adjustment, it may cause straight-line tracking problems. When caster varies side to side, the vehicle will pull to the side with less positive caster. When caster is equal on both sides but too negative, steering will be light and the vehicle will be difficult to keep going straight. When caster is equal on both sides but too positive, steering may be heavy, and the steering wheel may kick back harder when hitting bumps.

Caster has little affect on tire wear. On some vehicles, caster is not adjustable, and if caster is out of spec, it means something may be bent or worn out and must be repaired or replaced.

The steering wheel should stay in the same position if the driver lets go of the wheel, which indicates the vehicle is not pulling to the side

Camber

Camber is the angle of the wheel, measured in degrees from vertical, when viewed from the front of the vehicle. When the top of the wheel leans outward, camber is positive. When it leans inward, camber is negative. If camber is too negative, a tire will wear on the inside of its tread. If camber is too positive, it causes it to wear the outside of the tread.



When camber varies side to side, it may cause steering pull to the side with more positive camber. On some vehicles, camber is not adjustable, so if it's out of specification, something is worn or damaged and must be repaired or replaced. On some front ends, such as beam axles, the axle must be precisely bent to adjust camber. On some other vehicles, including many 4x4s, special shims may be needed to bring camber within specs.

Steering axis inclination (SAI) is a measurement in degrees of arc of the steering pivot line, as viewed from the vehicle's front. SAI angle, added to the camber, forms the included angle. This angle causes the vehicle to rise slightly as the steering wheel is turned either way from straight ahead. This allows the vehicle's weight to return the steering wheel to center after making a turn. If SAI varies side to side, it may cause a steering pull at low speeds. Most alignment machines can measure SAI, but it's not adjustable. When SAI is out of specification, damaged parts are likely the cause. SAI is also called kingpin inclination on trucks and cars with kingpins instead of ball joints.

Four-Wheel Alignment

In addition to front-end alignments, there also are two main types of four-wheel alignments. With the simpler type, performed on vehicles that don't have alignment adjustments on the rear, rear toe measurement and tracking are checked to ensure nothing is damaged or misaligned. However, all adjustments are made at the front wheels.

A full four-wheel alignment is performed when there are adjustments that can be made to set the rear alignment. Then the front-end

TOWING UNINTERRUPTED

MAXIMIZE YOUR RANGE WITH A TITAN™ FUEL SYSTEM.

TITAN™

(800) 728-4982 | TITANFUELTANKS.COM

Trailer courtesy of Hathaway RV.

Titan Fuel Tanks, Circle 155 on Reader Service Card

alignment is adjusted. Full four-wheel alignments cost more than the simpler type, as more labor and time are required.

Centered Steering

The steering wheel should be centered when the vehicle is traveling straight down a level road. An off-center steering wheel is one of the most common complaints that drivers have before or after a wheel alignment is performed. The steering wheel should also stay in the same position if the driver lets go of the wheel, which indicates the vehicle is not pulling to the side.

Steering centering is controlled by the toe settings. First, the engine should be started and the steering turned both left and right several times to take stress off the power-steering spool valve. The steering wheel is locked in a straight-ahead position, while the front toe is set. After the toe is set, the engine should be restarted to check that the spool valve wasn't loaded due to tie-rod adjustments.

Final Thoughts

The front suspension and steering components should be checked for wear and damage before an alignment. A good wheel-alignment job should start and finish with a test drive by the technician who performs the alignment and the vehicle owner. Tires on the steering axle must be in good condition with even wear. Tires that are worn unevenly will affect the way the vehicle steers after an alignment.

Steering that pulls to one side is not always due to wheel alignment. Problems with tires, inflation, brakes and power steering can also cause pulling. A good alignment technician should be able to diagnose the cause. If switching the front tires from one side to the other causes the steering pull to move, it indicates a tire problem such as faulty belts or inflation. Sticking calipers, faulty steering spool valves, crowned roads and uneven loads can also affect steering pull. 🚚

**TV LIKE HOME,
WHEREVER
YOU ROAM.**

NEW!

**CONNECTING YOU TO THE THINGS YOU LOVE,
WHEREVER YOU GO.**

KING continuing to offer the best in satellite & over-the-air TV antennas.

RVING OUTDOORS HOME TAILGATING TRUCKING

KING
kingcontrols.com

All trademarks are the sole property of their respective owners.

King Controls, Circle 133 on Reader Service Card

We Fuel Your Adventures!™

Your journey can be as fulfilling as the destination when you don't have to worry about frequent stops for fuel. Upgrade to a larger replacement fuel tank or add an auxiliary fuel tank in the bed of your truck. Extra fuel on board means less stops and more fun!

tfi **TRANSFER FLOW, INC.**
The Leader in Aftermarket Fuel Tank Systems™

Made in the USA

transferflow.com 1-800-826-5776 info@transferflow.com

Transfer Flow Inc., Circle 157 on Reader Service Card

Command Performance

New low-profile fixtures emit 650 lumens of warm-color illumination from 22 LEDs

DIFFICULTY

1 2 3 4 5

TIME TO COMPLETE

15 MINUTES

TOOLS NEEDED

SCREW GUN, BIT, WIRE CUTTER, CRIMPER

Lighting the interior of an RV used to be a fairly boring subject. Incandescent fixtures were the norm, with a smattering of halogen bulbs used for more brilliant lighting and fluorescent tubes reserved for those who conserved amp hours. All three types of lighting played useful roles, but LEDs are now the rage, and with prices coming down, efficiency going up and the market flooded with a variety of products designed for just about any purpose, illuminating the inside of an RV has become a lot more interesting.

Double-bulb incandescent fixtures mounted on the ceiling are commonly used in RVs, and depending on your sensitivity to décor elements, may detract from the interior aesthetics. Flush-mounted ceiling lights look best, but cutting holes and recessing replacement fixtures can be a big job. A nice alternative is a low-profile LED lighting fixture offered by Command Electronics.

The Command oval surface-mount 22-LED light is only 3/4-inch deep and, with its smooth lines, simulates recessed lighting when mounted on the ceiling. These fixtures are also practical for use under cabinets, in closets and in storage compartments. A hidden on/off switch is activated by pressing the icon embossed in the lens, which allows the fixtures to be controlled independently or via a master switch, making them very versatile when bal-

(Right) The stock incandescent fixture is removed from the ceiling, which will expose the wires. (Below right) Once the wires are connected, the new LED fixture is attached to the ceiling, easily covering the original hole for routing the wires. The new fixture has 22 LEDs and a hidden switch.

ancing the lighting inside any RV.

While incandescent fixtures are rather bulky, they do provide lighting that looks warm and inviting; LEDs tend to go the opposite direction. What sold us on the Command lights was the 3,300-Kelvin warm-white color, which is much less harsh than those LEDs that emit daylight hues. They also deliver 650 lumens of lighting from 22 LEDs, drawing only 0.6 amps, which means a lot of light for little power. And the Command LEDs are dimmable when used with an optional wall switch, operating between 9 and 30 volts DC.

We replaced all 14 incandescent fixtures in a fifth-wheel with the Command LEDs, giving the ceiling a more integrated look while improving the lighting dramatically. There were no hot spots — just evenly distributed lighting that brightened up the interior, which in this case, was inherently dark because of heavy use of dark cabinetry, furniture and flooring and a lack of windows on one side of the rig.

Installing the LED fixtures was simple, requiring no modifications. The original fixtures were unscrewed from the ceiling, and the wire leads were cut and identified for polarity using a



multimeter. The wires were then connected using crimp-style terminals, and the fixtures screwed on to the ceiling.

We had only two minor hiccups during the installation process. One was figuring out how to cover two screw holes left by the old fixtures that were outside the 8.15- x 4.8-inch dimensions of the Command housings. We settled on small screws and caps to fill the holes. The other required rotating a couple of the lenses because a protrusion in the molding was depressing the switch.

The Command surface-mount LED ceiling lights have a \$34.95 MSRP and come in white or black. Command LED fixtures are made in the USA. 🇺🇸

Command Electronics

269-679-4011

www.commandelectronics.com

« **WARM LIGHT** The low-profile housing is only 3/4-inch thick, which makes it look like it's recessed into the ceiling. Command LEDs produce warmer light and deliver 650 lumens at a low-amp draw.

Great TV on the Road... Just the Way You Want It!

Wherever your RV takes you, DISH Pay-As-You-Go programming allows you to tune in to your favorite TV programs. PLUS—the **NEW** DVR Expander lets you record and watch your favorite programs anytime!

FREE
starz
FOR 3 MONTHS!
with activation of DISH
Pay-As-You-Go
programming.

CLUB MEMBERS SAVE
\$35 OFF

DISH ViP 211z Satellite Television Receiver #73912
Club SALE \$74.97 Reg. \$109.99

NEW! My Book® AV DVR Expander #84114
Club SALE \$129.99 Reg. \$139.99

With DISH Pay-As-You-Go programming*:

- Pay only for the months you use
- Only DISH lets you watch your favorite shows in HD
- No charge to start or stop monthly service
- Programming for **as little as \$49.99 per month!**

NEW! My Book® AV DVR Expander lets you:

- Turn your DISH® ViP 211 or 411 series receiver into a DVR
- Record up to 150 hours of HD programming
- Simple USB connection (USB 2.0 & eSATA interface)
- May require one-time \$40 DVR activation fee

Hurry! Sale pricing expires May 3, 2015.

Call Camping World at 1-888-875-1540 to activate your DISH programming!

*Important Terms and Conditions: Requires antenna and receiver purchase. Monthly fees and limits on number and type of receivers will apply. All prices, packages, programming, features, functionality and offers subject to change without notice. All charges, including monthly programming, pay-per-view and equipment upgrades, must be paid in advance; failure to pay by due date will lead to service disconnection within 24 hours. Offer subject to terms of applicable Promotional and Residential Customer agreements. State reimbursement charges may apply. Additional restrictions may apply. Premium Channels: Premium offer value is up to \$42; after 3 months then-current everyday price applies unless you downgrade. Offers end 6/10/15. © 2015 DISH Network L.L.C. All rights reserved. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC.

dish
AUTHORIZED RETAILER



CAMPING WORLD®

SuperCenters Nationwide | 1.888.875.1540 | CampingWorld.com

DISH Network, Circle 160 on Reader Service Card

INTRODUCING DUAL FUEL FOR ULTIMATE EFFICIENCY & VERSATILITY!

Runs on propane or gasoline and is RV-ready. Produces power to run an RV air conditioner on either fuel type.



27.8" L X 28.7" W X 26.4" H
built-in TT-30 and 14-50R receptacle



26.3" L X 24.8" W X 22.9" H
built-in TT-30 receptacle



NEW! Champion 7500 Watt Dual Fuel Portable Generator

- 9375 starting watts/ 7500 rated watts on gasoline
- 8400 starting watts/6750 rated watts on propane
- Runs up to 8 hours at 50% load on one tank of gasoline
- 439cc Champion OHV single cylinder, 4-stroke air-cooled engine
- 6.1 gallon gasoline fuel tank
- 3.3' LPG hose with regulator included
- 74 dBA from 23'
- Electric or recoil start
- Mfr. 2 year limited warranty
- Weight: 203.9 lbs.

NEW! Champion 3800 Watt Dual Fuel Portable Generator

- 4750 starting watts/ 3800 rated watts on gasoline
- 4275 starting watts/3420 rated watts on propane
- Runs up to 8 hours at 50% load on one tank of gasoline
- 224cc Champion OHV single cylinder, 4-stroke air-cooled engine
- 3.4 gallon gasoline fuel tank
- 3.3' LPG hose with regulator included
- 68 dBA from 23'
- Electric or recoil start
- Mfr. 2 year limited warranty
- Weight: 119 lbs.

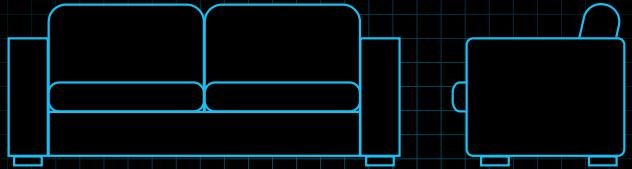
RV FURNITURE

Q We have a 2008 Dutchmen Victory Lane toy hauler. We no longer ride motorcycles and want to turn the back into a den. The trouble is, where do we find RV furniture? We would like to get an L-shaped couch and replace the bench-type dining table with a table and chairs.

Tim and Claire Kirkland, Richmond Hill, Georgia

A A Google search for “RV furniture” will reveal many places that specialize in RV furniture sales, and you can check the Camping World catalog as well. Dining room tables and chairs are available everywhere in many sizes. Dave and LJ’s RV Interior Design in Woodland, Washington (www.daveandljs.com), sells RV furniture and can even redesign the garage for you. (See “Interior Motives” on page 103.)

Given the kind of space you have to work with, regard-



ing the L-shaped sofa, you could also look into the use of conventional residential-style furniture, although you may need to do some extra searching to find products small enough for your trailer. Specialized RV furniture will likely be lighter in weight and could also include the types of tie-down hardware you’ll need to be sure the furniture doesn’t move around while driving. — **Jeff Johnston**

TRAILER BRAKE CAPACITY

Q I have owned numerous travel trailers and now have a Forest River Cedar Creek 36RE fifth-wheel. There have been no braking issues, since I have a diesel with an Allison transmission and an exhaust brake, but before owning this pickup, I had challenges with stopping. I weighed the fifth-wheel on platform scales at a truck stop, and I know the weight of the truck with it full of fuel. This fifth-wheel is just about to gross weight. This was true of previous campers and tow vehicle combinations I’ve owned. I am familiar with the importance of matching the tow vehicle to the hitch weight and wheelbase for proper handling.

My question is, are trailer brakes rated for the gross vehicle weight of the trailer? If so, should the tow vehicle need the braking capacity to stop just itself and its load (passengers and supplies) but not the trailer weight?

Rob Dill, Homer City, Pennsylvania

A A trailer’s brakes are rated to handle its full gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), Rob, just as any other vehicle’s brakes are rated. With a properly adjusted brake control, which is a far more important aspect of this matter than towing with a diesel-powered truck, the trailer handles its own weight when stopping.

A vehicle manufacturer tests a lot of parameters when assigning a tow rating, including braking capacity. Because engineers need to take emergency situations into account, such as a detached trailer wiring plug or complete trailer brake failure, they also test for stopping the combination using just the tow vehicle’s brakes. This is done at the tow vehicle’s full gross combination weight rating (GCWR), because the trailer brakes could fail and the vehicle must be capable of stopping the load.

Ideally, you should adjust the brake control so each vehicle provides its own braking in a balanced way, without the

trailer pulling on or pushing the tow vehicle.— **J.J.**

REFRIGERATOR INVERTER USE

Q We have a 2015 Jayco Pinnacle we just purchased. It came with an 18-cubic-foot Samsung residential-style refrigerator. When not plugged in, it is designed to run off the 1,000-watt Xantrex Pro 1000 inverter. We were told that the batteries would hold up for a day and a half. Fully charged, they last only seven hours without anything else on before the warning beeper comes on, which registers 11.1 volts. Fully charged, it registers 13.2. Is this normal?

Rudy Rodriguez, via email

A A residential refrigerator draws more current than most people expect, Rudy, and I’m not sure that anyone can say exactly how long a given bank of batteries will last under that kind of load. It depends on a lot of factors including the state of charge of the batteries when you begin, the battery age, the thermostat setting in the refrigerator and other factors. I think the operation as you describe it is about right, with the Xantrex warning you when the available current is get-

THE TECH TEAM



KEN FREUND: Ken is a former ASE Certified Master Technician, service manager and shop owner who has authored numerous books on automotive repair.



JEFF JOHNSTON: Jeff served as technical director of *Trailer Life* for 20 years and has been an RV enthusiast, mechanic and writer since he could hold a wrench.

Lifetime No-Leak Guarantee
on RV FlexArmor®Roofs!



For almost a decade, RV FlexArmor® has been providing RV owners with peace of mind.

**No More Leaks, No More Caulking,
No More Tears
or Punctures!**



We complete 3-5 roofs a week providing you with unmatched roof experience and a roof that is unlike anything else in the industry.



Find out what makes our sprayed, truly seamless roof stand out from all the rest.

HOW WITH 2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU!

RVROOF.COM, INC.

3236 Highway 17

GREEN COVE SPRINGS

FLORIDA 32043

Sales@RVRoof.com

1-904-814-2104

ELITE RV

1671 12 St. East

PALMETTO

FLORIDA 34221

Sales@Eliterv.com

1-941-981-5366

f VISIT RVROOF.COM TODAY!

RVRoof.com, Circle 149 on Reader Service Card

**GOT ODOR/SENSOR PROBLEMS?
LOOK NO FURTHER!**

**T-5
SQUEEZE
& POUR**
SUPER
CONCENTRATED
TOILET
CHEMICAL
NON DYE &
FORMALDEHYDE
FREE

Monochem, Circle 150 on Reader Service Card

ting too low for effective operation.

You can do several things to help your situation. First, add more batteries to the system, preferably 6-volt “golf cart” batteries wired in series to deliver 12 volts. Make sure your trailer’s converter or inverter is fully up to the task of charging the batteries when you’re plugged in. If you depend on your tow vehicle charging the batteries while you drive, it’s doubtful they’ll ever come up to full charge to start with. It’s also important to have an efficient onboard charging system (converter/charger or inverter/charger) that will condition the batteries properly.

Finally, consider adding a healthy solar-panel array and a good charge controller to your trailer. Something in the 400- to 600-watt range of solar panels would go a long way toward keeping the batteries charged enough for longer-term operation. For more specific advice on a solar array, check your local solar-power supplier or try AM Solar in Springfield, Oregon (www.amsolar.com). — J.J.

get a good view of the frame area before drilling. A small opening to allow a visual inspection may be all that’s required and can easily be reattached. If there is a need to cut some of the material away, any gaps can be sealed with EternaBond tape and/or exterior silicone rubber sealant.

While you’re at it, be sure to have your trailer tires balanced. That, too, can smooth your ride and help reduce trailer and tire wear and tear. — J.J.

FURNACE FIX

Q I read Jeff’s answer to Fred Kirchhoff’s “Furnace Flightiness” question in the February 2014 issue. I wanted to tell you that I had the same problem with my RV’s furnace heating up for a few seconds and then going out without reigniting. When I finally pulled it out and took the burners apart, I found a gnat that had gotten in the line when I changed the propane cylinder. It was stuck in the orifice of the burner. I removed that, and it worked perfectly from then on.

Steve Meeker, via email

TRAILER SHOCK ABSORBERS

Q We are purchasing a travel trailer that has a loaded weight capacity of 7,000 pounds with spring suspension and tandem axles. How do you feel about the installation of shock absorbers on such a trailer? Will they improve the ride for trailer and contents, or would they be detrimental? The product being considered is the Joy Rider shock system by RV Improvement Systems.

Because of the trailer’s fully enclosed underbelly, one of my primary concerns is drilling into something that might be running along the frame, such as gas lines or electrical wiring.
Lee deVries, Crawfordsville, Oregon

A Shock absorbers are terrific for trailers, Lee. They improve the unit’s ride and reduce excess bouncing on the road that can save wear and tear on the RV. The system you have in mind is a good option.

You’re right, it’s important to know where you’re drilling. You should detach part of the underbelly material to

A Thank you for the suggestion, Steve. Critters have a way of getting inside propane-fired hardware, and they can affect the tiny burner orifices and the like. For others who have this problem, it’s worth checking. — J.J.

SUSPENSION UPGRADE

Q I just read the February 2015 article on suspension upgrades, “Rolling Smoothly and Safely.” We had a 2003 Thor fifth-wheel before our current one, and a leaf spring broke and put a hole in the frame. It ended up with all new springs, shackles and equalizers, as the bolts were frozen in all of the components.

The total loaded weight of our current trailer is 8,640 pounds. My wife and I figure we have put about 8,000 miles on the trailer since buying it new and are planning a big trip with it this year.

I installed the MOR/ryde heavy-duty shackle kit, which I was very impressed

READER SERVICE

with. I like the idea of thicker shackles and brass bushings. Most of the nylon bushings that I took out were worn through, and there were shackles that were starting to get the holes enlarged and a couple of bolts that were already frozen in the springs. The MOR/ryde kit is only \$100, and it sure takes the worry out of having problems. I grease them about every six months; that way I do not have to worry about mileage.

Bill Allender, North Hills, California

A Replacement greaseable shackles are an aftermarket accessory that we encourage everyone to investigate, Bill, for exactly the same reasons you've discovered. Many stock trailer suspensions are functional as they leave the factory, but some components are subject to premature wear. The greaseable bolt shackles help avoid those problems. Thank you for the comments. — **J.J.**

STABILITY AND ROUGH RIDE

Q We drive a 2014 Ram 3500 SLT regular cab 2WD truck with an 8-foot bed. We added the Air Lift LoadLifter 5000 Ultimate air-suspension system and run the airbags at 40 to 45 PSI. We tow a 2005 Keystone Montana Mountaineer 335RLBS travel trailer with an estimated loaded weight of 9,300 pounds. Its estimated tongue weight is 1,040 pounds. We have a Reese weight-distributing hitch with 1,200-pound-rated square spring bars. We have an 1,100-pound Honda trike on the back of the truck.

A local RV dealer told me that friction-type sway control is ineffective on my 35-foot trailer, and I tend to agree. The air springs lift the rear of the truck a good inch with the trike loaded. The truck does not feel light in the front when on the highway. The trailer will sway in a good wind but otherwise follows OK.

Interstate highway travel is tiring because of the stiff ride. The air springs take some of the jolt away, but there does not seem to be any flex between the truck and trailer. It feels like

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

RS#	ADVERTISER	PAGE#
	Arterra Distributing	36
161	Aqua-Hot	48
158	AquaGo by Truma Corp	55
102	Augusta RV LLC	10
103	B&W Trailer Hitches	27
104	BD Brake	22
105	Big Pine Key/Lower Keys	57
106	Blue Ox	75
108	Bully Dog Technologies	43
	Camping World	129-131
109	Carefree of Colorado	44
	Carpenter	106
	Century Chemical	28
	Champion	140
110	Chevrolet Motor Division	2-3
111	Classic Transport	13
	Classifieds	150-151
	Coast Powerhouse	127
	Coleman	86
160	DISH Network	139
114	DRV	116
	Destinations	149
	Dometic	34, 53, 62, 80, 122
	ETL	107
115	Escape Trailer	18
144	Equalizer	58
	Exide	126
116	Fast Master Products	13
143	Fastway Products	58
117	Firestone Industrial Products Co.	7
	Furrion	93
118	Geico	37
119	Giraffe G4 Systems	144
	Good Sam Extended Service Plan	50
	Good Sam RV Loans	97
	Good Sam Roadside Assistance	135
	Good Sam Travel Assist	112
	Good Sam Travel Guide	153
	Good Sam Visa	77
128	HWH Corporation	39
	Harbor Freight Tools	91
120	Hatchlift LLC	145
121	Heartland Recreational Vehicles LLC ...	9
122	Hensley Manufacturing Inc.	120
123	Hensley Manufacturing Inc.	145
125	Highland Ridge RV, Inc.	5
	Honda Generators	83-85
126	Honda Generators	117
113	Husky	156
	ITC Corp	108
142	iBall Hitch Cam	146
129	Icon Technologies	46
130	Innovations Housing	121
127	Insight	56
131	Jayco/Alante	30
132	KZ Inc.	155

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

RS#	ADVERTISER	PAGE#
	King Controls	81
133	King Controls	137
134	Lance Campers	25
135	Lippert Components	33
136	Lippert Components	65
	Lippert Components	115, 123
137	MOR/Ryde	29
150	Monochem	142
139	New Horizons RV Corp.	134
140	Northwood Mfg.	124
141	NuWa Industries	99
101	Onan Corporation	73
	Phoenix USA Inc.	47
145	Progressive Insurance	23
146	Protect All Inc.	12
112	Purple Line USA	78
148	RV Armor, Inc.	38
	RV Buyers Guide	66
149	RVRoof.com	142
138	RVT.com	45
107	RVawningsmart	146
	RDK	59-61
	RV Designer	89
	RV Marketplace	147-148
	Rand McNally	98
147	Rear View Safety	144
	Select Comfort	132
151	SpaceCraft Mfg.	39
152	Starcraft Recreational Vehicles	35
	Stromburg	49
	TRC	109-111
154	Theftford Corporation	14
	Theftford Corporation	94, 118
155	Titan Fuel Tanks	136
156	Torklift International	26
157	Transfer Flow Inc.	137
	Ultra Fab	101
	Valterra	82, 92
124	Viking Cylinders by	
	Hexagon Ragasco	71
153	Warrior RV	40
	Westland Sales	100
	Winegard	125
	Xylem	105
159	Yamaha Outdoor Power Equipment ...	19
	Yara	102

EDITORIAL PRODUCT INDEX

170	Atwood	128
167	B D Diesel Performance	128
166	Crossroads RV	79
169	Eagle One	128
165	Forest River	63
168	Powerhouse Products	128

While every effort is made to maintain accuracy and completeness, last-minute changes may occasionally result in omissions or errors.

one long unit pounding down the road, and I'm not so sure that playing with the hitch system will help. Any ideas on how I can improve the ride comfort?
Jim Learned, Utica, New York

A I'm not sure I understand why you're finding it necessary to run the airbags at such a high pressure, Jim. You didn't state whether or not this truck is a dually, but even the single-

rear-wheel model has a payload of at least 4,080 pounds. Assuming your hitch weight and trike calculations are correct, that puts 2,240 pounds in the back of the truck — this should pose no problem for a 3500, even with single rear wheels.

Be sure your weight-distributing hitch is properly adjusted, and you may find it helps to tighten the spring bars and remove a bit of air from the airbags, as that will help transfer more

weight to the front suspension. You might be able to get some relief by reducing the air pressure in the tires, but before that can happen you'll need to know the weight carried by each tire. It's best to find a place that has individual wheel scales rather than using a truck scale to get axle weights and dividing the number by two or four (dually). Once you have the individual loaded wheel weights, you can check the tire manufacturer's load/inflation charts and use only as much tire pressure as you need to carry the load. Good aftermarket shocks such as Bilsteins can help smooth things as well.

As far as sway control is concerned, any travel trailer is going to be pushed around by the wind. The larger the trailer, the more it's going to be affected, due to the greater wall area. No trailer automatically "needs" a friction-type sway control. That device is a partial cure when a sway condition can't seem to be solved by any of the usual means, such as making sure the trailer is properly loaded, adjusting the weight-distributing hitch properly and so forth. Due to its greater weight and inertia, a larger trailer will put more of a load on a sway-control device, but it can still be effective. Some users even go so far as to add a second set of mounting points on the ball mount and trailer frame to accommodate a second sway device, but that's for more extreme situations. — J.J.

POWER-DRAW SOLUTIONS

Q In regard to the John Kester's "Mystery Power Draw" in the February 2015 RV Clinic, I had a problem with the RV battery being drained after the trailer sat for two weeks. I found that the display for the tank levels has a small red indicator light that stays on all the time. This was running the battery down over time. I also left the radio on one time with the volume turned down, and, of course, that ran down the battery. I installed a key-operated cutoff switch to the positive leg of the battery to prevent this problem. I found the switch at NAPA Auto Parts store.
Wayne Bishop, Christiansburg, Virginia

Giraffe G4 Systems, Circle 119 on Reader Service Card

Rear View Safety, Circle 147 on Reader Service Card

- ▶ Commercial grade, weather resistant with IP68 and 20G impact rating
- ▶ 7" TFT-LCD Digital color monitor with mirror image capability
- ▶ 4 Channel quad view monitor
- ▶ 130° ccd camera with 18 infra-red illuminators night vision with gridlines
- ▶ Automatic system switch, built-in high gain microphone

Don't forget to mention Trailer Life magazine where you saw our ad!

CALL US TODAY 1.800.764.1028

Q I had a similar problem to the one described by John Kester in February's "Mystery Power Draw." The solution was shutting off my Dometic refrigerator's self-defrost feature. There's a switch inside the fridge door, so it's easy to shut it off and stop the power drain.

Dick Bennett, Ontario, Oregon

A Thanks, guys, for two more solutions to the battery-power-drain problem. Not all RV refrigerators will have a self-defrost feature, but it's worth checking. — J.J.

ANOTHER POWER-DRAW SOLUTION

Q Reading February's RV Clinic, I found the "Mystery Power Draw" letter just like a problem I had. In fact, I owned two trailers that had the same problem. After much testing, I found that the carbon-monoxide detector was the reason the batteries went dead in storage. It's on all the time, so I put in an on-off switch with an indicator light and turn it off during storage.

Charles Bayne, Chehalis, Washington

A Thanks for writing and sharing your experience, Charles. The main reason these detectors don't come with an on-off switch is because it will not meet code. Manufacturers of these critical devices don't want people to forget to switch them on. Therefore, it's best to install a master battery disconnect switch that can isolate the batteries from the RV when it is stored.

— Ken Freund

NOISY HITCH

Q There is a problem with my trailer hitch. When I turn left or right, the noise is so loud that I can hear it in the enclosed cab of the truck. I have an Equal-i-zer hitch with the four-point sway-control system. The hitch is rated at 10,000 pounds. The trailer weighs 5,772 pounds empty, carrying capacity is 1,649 pounds, hitch weight is 658 pounds, trailer length is 30 feet and axle weight is 5,114 pounds. The truck

is a 2012 F-150 EcoBoost rated to pull 9,800 pounds. The hitch was set up by a dealer when I bought the trailer, and it didn't make the noise that it does now. No adjustments have been made to the trailer, truck or hitch. Any suggestions?

Mike Reyes, Kerrville, Texas

A According to Equal-i-zer's website, www.equalizerhitch.com, "The steel-on-steel friction of the Equal-i-zer

hitch will always generate some noise. This is not bad or a sign that there is something wrong with the hitch or setup. In fact, it usually suggests that your hitch is working just like it's supposed to. You can do several things that usually reduce most of the hitch noise: 1. Try using a set of Equal-i-zer Sway Bracket Jackets on your L-brackets. These were specially designed to help reduce the noise at this joint, without

Hatchlift Products

Bedlift Kits

Hatchlift Door Kits US Patent 8,839,559

Replacement Springs

RV Door Repair Kits

Mounting Bracket Kits

www.hatchlift.com

A Smooth Air-Ride 5th Wheel Hitch
in an easy to remove package

HENSLEY

Introducing!

TRAILERSAVER

BD3 5th Wheel Hitch

- Eliminates 97% of road shock
- Solid Holland-Binkley style head
- 1 1/8" thick jaws that completely encircle the kingpin
- Assembles in two pieces for easy installation and removal
- Fits standard rails

Call 1-800-410-6580 for more information

HENSLEY *The Name Says It All*

800.410.6580 • www.TrailerSaver.com

Hatchlift, LLC., Circle 120 on Reader Service Card

Hensley Manufacturing Inc., Circle 123 on Reader Service Card



RVAWNINGSMART.com

**QUALITY RV AWNING
FABRICS & ACCESSORIES
AT UNBEATABLE PRICES!**

AWNING FABRICS

AWNING ACCESSORIES

SLIDE-OUT FABRICS



SUN-SHADES

AWNING MISTING

AWNING LED LIGHTS



(574) 584-3451
www.RVAwningsMart.com

RVawningsmart, Circle 107 on Reader Service Card

the mess of using grease. 2. Keep your hitch ball mount and the sockets lubricated. 3. Readjust the angle of your hitch so that the arms sit more parallel with the trailer frame. For example, when your hitch is hooked up, if your spring arms angle up slightly from the ball mount back along the trailer frame, try adding a spacer washer to the ball mount and lowering the L-brackets one hole. This will give you the same weight distribution but make the arms more parallel to the frame of the trailer.”

Equal-i-zer sells lubricant for its hitches and states that other hitch lubes can be used. — K.F.

BATTERY LIFE

Q This past summer I purchased a used 2003 SunnyBrook fifth-wheel from a private party. The owner stated that the trailer had an 8D battery installed, and it was about 11 years old. How do I tell when the battery is no longer serviceable? So far, there have not been any electrical problems that I can tell. This is a gel-type battery.

William Weime, Sierra Vista, Arizona

A Gel-type batteries typically last considerably longer than flooded wet cells. In addition, larger batteries with more robust internal plates seem to hold up better. For long battery life, it's important to charge them properly and fully, and don't allow them to sit partially or fully discharged. This battery has probably been properly maintained, resulting in its unusually long service life. Most batteries are good for five to six years. — K.F.

Hook it up Yourself with a WIRELESS CAMERA!



iBALL 

Wireless Trailer Hitch Camera

- 100% Wireless & Portable
- Easy—Installs in Seconds!
- Magnetic & Submersible Camera
- Trailers (Boat, Camper, Horse, ATV, Livestock and More!)

Info/Buy Now: 1-877-298-2055 or
visit our website at:

\$149⁹⁵ w/Free US Shipping
SAVE \$15 Today! Use Promo Code TL515

www.iballhitchcam.com

iBall Hitch Cam, Circle 142 on Reader Service Card

NITROGEN WORRIES REVISITED

Q In response to George Berr's letter, "Nitrogen Worries," in the February RV Clinic, I had the same thing happen on my 2012 Forest River Rockwood Windjammer 3008W on the curbside front tire. My trailer has the same size tires, and when it blew out, it did a little body damage that I was able to repair myself when I got home.

I also replaced all (continued on page 149)



**HELPER SPRINGS
AIR SUSPENSION
SWAY BARS
END LINKS
AND MORE**

LOAD & SWAY CONTROL ★ **MADE IN USA**

HELLWIGPRODUCTS.COM
1-800-367-5480

RV Trip Wizard™

BEST EVER RV TRIP PLANNER



**Fast
Easy
Fun!**

Plan trips the way you want. Over 17,000 parks, including private, city, county, state, and national parks and more...

Highlight your memberships. Take advantage of discounts.

Try our FREE Demo!
www.RVTripWizard.com

HONDA GENERATORS



**EU3000i
Electric Start
Extended Run Time**

EU2000i & EU2000i Companion

All units are shipped pre-serviced and tested for output with extra spark plug.

Free shipping continental U.S. No sales tax. No insurance charge.

Get your back-up power now!

Ball POWER EQUIPMENT
Full Line Honda Dealer
Lightweight • Super quiet • Eco throttle • D.C. charging
Couple 2 units together to Double output

Kansas City, MO
(877) 225-5200 Toll Free

For optimum performance and safety, we recommend you read the owner's manual before opening your Honda Power Equipment. Connection of a generator to house power requires a transfer device to avoid possible injury to power company personnel. Consult a qualified electrician.
©2005 American Honda Co., Inc.

Idaho Tote

"NO JACKKNIFING!"



The IDAHO TOTE is attached and not drawn as a regular trailer.
Simply put:

"YOU DO NOTHING BUT DRIVE!"

- 3000 lb GVW
- Pressure sensing steering axle
- Steers traveling forward or backing up

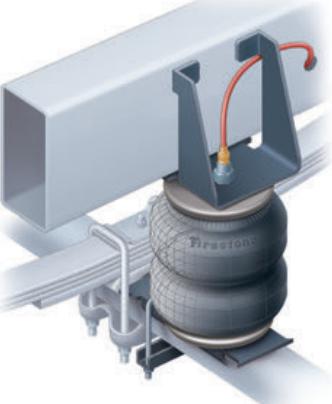


IDAHO TOTE DOLLY, INC.
www.idahotote.com
Call 208-276-3203 or 509-751-6297

TS TRUCKSPRING

SUSPENSION SPECIALISTS +

Your Source for Firestone Air Spring Kits and Accessories



**Eliminate Suspension Sag
No Drilling Kits
Competitive Prices
Quick Shipments
Free Shipping**

CALL 1-800-358-4751
OR ORDER ONLINE AT
WWW.TRUCKSPRING.COM

DUAL WHEEL CONVERSIONS

The DYNAMIC DUAL



Convert your Pick-up or Suburban to dual wheels the Arrowcraft way.

- No Axle Changes
- Easy Installation
- Steel or Aluminum Wheels
- Custom Styled Fenders

For More information:
Arrowcraft Products, Inc
5022 Leafdale Blvd.
Royal Oak, MI 48073
(248) 280-0210 Fax: (248) 280-1679

Web Site: www.arrowcraft.com
E-Mail: dualies@arrowcraft.com

KSH Fuel Products

www.kshmarine.com
 We Don't Dabble We Specialize!



- Toolbox/Tank combos in 45, 60, and 98 gallon Capacities.
- Auxiliary Fuel Tanks in 30, 50, 70, and 100 Gallon Capacities.
- Custom Fuel Tank Fabrication.
- Installation Kits for Chevy, Dodge & Ford.

KSH Fuel Products
 1675-103 Kiowa Ave.
 Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

tel 928-680-6610
 fax 928-680-7379 email: kshmarine@rraz.net

M4 Retrofit LED Lights

Easy Retrofit LED Bulbs for all Motorhomes & Trailers

Save 80% of your Battery Power and Reduce Heat!



Elite Series to Economy
 Round & wedge base, tube lights, halogen replacements, festoons, plate lights, reading lamps, and more.
 Priority Mail Shipping!

Made Specifically for RVs
Quality Circuits, Realistic Prices
 detailed informative website
<http://m4led.com>
 5% off code: t15 818.717.8840

Park it with Power Caster!

Maneuver your trailer easily in limited space, around corners, forward or reverse with the flip of a switch!



SAFE to use:
 Chain guard
 Ground wire

The Original Trailer Mover!
 Manufactured since 1967.

Made in the U.S.A.
 Since 1967

POWER CASTER INC.

(800) 773-3833
 (626) 287-6117
www.powercaster.com
 5001 Encinita Ave., Temple City, CA 91780

CalMark Cover Co. Since 1982
 has your RV **sunbrella®** covered!

100% USA Made



FSR® Construction
 Zipper Doors
 Full 6 Year Warranty
 100% Guarantee

TRAILER READERS CHOICE AWARDS 2014

- Highest UV Rated
- Water Resistant
- Breathable
- Mold/Mildew Resistant
- 100% Non Abrasive

Made by Glen Raven Mills

1-800-838-7236
calmarkcovers.com
info@calmarkcovers.com

Specializing in all types of RVs, Horse trailers & more!

WaterKing USA

SAVE YOUR RV PLUMBING!

Soft Water and Great Drinking Water

Water-KingUSA has designed the WK-RV specifically for use in Motorhomes and Recreational Vehicles.

Whether you are a full-time RVer or Vacationer, calcium deposits can permanently damage your water heater and plumbing fixtures.

Protect your RV or Motorhome no matter where you travel. Enjoy soft water as well as good drinking water with the new WaterKing water softener.



Contact us Toll Free
1-800-808-1974
sales@WaterKingUSA.com www.WaterKingUSA.com

HONDA GENERATORS

When Quiet Counts, Count on Honda



SHIPPED SAME DAY EU2000i

LOWEST PRICES ANYWHERE!!

VISA 800-832-7365 MasterCard

MOTOSPORTS OF UKIAH

1850 N. State St. Ukiah, Ca. 95482
www.motosportsofukiah.com

Calif. residents add 7.25%. For optimum performance and safety, we recommend you read the Owner's Manual before operating your Honda Power Equipment. Connection of generators to house power requires transfer device to avoid possible injury to power company personnel. Consult a qualified electrician.

TRAILER LIFE.com

The online resource for the RV enthusiast



McKesh Portable Towing Mirrors



6" x 9" Mirror
 Optional Spotting Mirror
 Easy on - Easy off
 No Vibration
 Extends to 20"

HensleyMfg.com
1-800-410-6580

NEVER WAX AGAIN

Easy 2-step process. Wipe on, let dry. Looks like new, lasts over 12 months.



Restore and protect. No rubbing or buffing.

SEE our video demo on our website!
www.poliglowproducts.com
800-922-5013

GUARANTEED

Good Sam Club

Join today at
GoodSamClub.com
 or call 1.800.234.3450

RVing Women

Fun
Support
Adventure
Friendship
Education



480-671-6226
www.rvingwomen.org

Parkit360
Power Trailer Dolly
Simple Parking For Every Trailer

1.888.926.5517
www.parkit360.com

Dealers & Destinations

ARIZONA

THE GOOD "RV" LIFE STARTS HERE
Over 1400 Camping Sites & RV Sites in AZ

Cattail Cove SP
Kingman, AZ

Extended Stay 84 Days.

Lake Havasu
Cattail Cove
River Island
Buckskin Mountain

Lake Havasu City
Alamo Lake

Available Online 24/7 at AZStateParks.com
or Call (520) 586-2283 (8 am to 5 pm MST)

Learn more & watch videos!

Arizona State Parks
AZStateParks.com

ARKANSAS

Mississippi River State Park

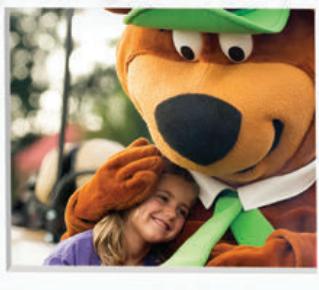
Your backyard adventure

Arkansas State Parks

ArkansasStateParks.com

US & CANADA

Fun, Affordable Family Vacations



From resort-style amenities to family entertainment, Yogi Bér's Jellystone Park™ Camp-Resorts are great vacation destinations!

CampJellystone.com

80+ Campgrounds in the U.S. & Canada

facebook.com/campjellystone

twitter.com/campjellystone

TM & © Hanna-Barbera. (s15)

(continued from page 146) five tires with new ones, but I stepped up from ST load range C to ST load range E tires. In my opinion, if you are towing a trailer 30 feet or longer, as I am, you need load range E tires, or you're asking for trouble.
Hubert Plaster III, Stephens City, Virginia

As long as the trailer was not overloaded and the tires were inflated to the correct pressure for the load being carried, the load range C tires should have been fine. However, it does not hurt to move up to a heavier tire, provided that the wheels' maximum pressure rating is not violated when the new tires are inflated to their stated maximum pressure. Weigh the trailer, loaded for a typical trip, to determine actual loading conditions.—**K.F.**

TIRE TROUBLES

QIn the fall of 2009, I bought a used KZ New Vision 3453 fifth-wheel trailer that weighs 12,500 pounds, as I had it weighed. I was advised that the tires were six years old and should be replaced. The tires on the trailer were eight-ply ST 235/80R16. I was told the replacement tires were 10-ply, but I was never told the sidewalls were three-ply. In the next three years, we had six blowouts.

I sat down with my local Goodyear store manager to solve this problem, as there was body damage, and my wife was ready to sell the trailer. My local Goodyear store told me they would never put those tires on a 12,500-pound trailer and that they would only put 14-ply tires on. Now the price on the 10-ply rated tires averages \$150 to \$170 each; the 14-ply are in the \$350 range. But two years later, we have not had a single problem with these tires, and my wife now feels safe again. I do not move the trailer without making sure the required air pressure is in each tire.

A number of our Good Sam Club member friends have gone to an LT-type with a true 10-ply or greater rating.
Ernie Thayer, Conyers, Georgia

AKeep in mind that a fifth-wheel trailer typically carries about 18

ACCESSORIES



12-Volt Cooling for RVs

TurboKool Evaporative "Swamp" Coolers Powered by Battery and/or Solar. Cools your RV (up to 29 °) without "plugging in"! Quiet and Affordable 1-800-326-4410 free brochure www.turbokool.com

LEAKY ROOF? Liquid Roof® goes on like paint -- cures to a sealed EPDM rubber membrane. UV & Ozone resistant -- good to 300° F. 5-year warranty. 800-467-7135 www.AdvancedRubberCoatings.com

CAMPGROUND MEMBERSHIPS FOR SALE

CAMPGROUND MEMBERSHIP OUTLET-SINCE 1991

To buy 800-272-0401
To sell 800-952-0401.
Any Membership-Nationwide. Best prices ever.

PRIVATE RESORTS LOCATED IN THE BEAUTIFUL

Black Hills of Western SD & historic bluff country in SE MN, offering many amenities and much more; Personal membership for sale \$4,000. 605-390-8497

Year round Coast Deluxe US and Canada

Camping membership. Southern Pines, NC and Gettysburg, PA home park included. Camp for \$10-15/night. Betty 919-796-3915.

HELP WANTED

DELIVER MOTORHOMES. DRIVERS NEEDED!

Pick up new motorhomes and deliver to dealers. Top pay. Choose your own trips-drive as much or as little as you like all across US & Canada. Free orientation & training.

See video: www.classictransport.com.
For app & more info call 866-724-1606 or email Lisa at LKratzer@classictransport.com

SO DAK'S FAMOUS PIONEER AUTO SHOW needs

couples spring-summer. Clerks, sales, maint, cln, motel, cafe. Wages/full space. Love people/hospitality. Murdo, SD. Dave or Tennie 605-669-2691 pas@pioneerautoshow.com

Earn While You Travel. Up to 65% Commission.

Complimentary RV Site While Working. Need self-motivated people with computer & sales experience. Adventure Awaits!!! 800-832-3292 • SoutheastPublications.com

TRAILER
LIFE.com

HOMES FOR SALE



#1 RATED RV RESORTS - S. Texas
Retama Village & Bentsen Palm Village
RV Lots \$20s, RV Casitas \$120s.
956-380-6500 www.bentsenpalm.com



TOP RATED RESORT - S. Texas
Retama Village - Supersites \$50s.
RV Casitas \$120s RV Port Homes \$170s.
956-380-6500 www.bentsenpalm.com

INVESTMENTS

EARN 9.6% INTEREST

PER ANNUM
1 (855) 306-3223 Toll Free
Not available in some states.

LOTS FOR SALE

46x85 Site at Traverse Bay RV Resort, MI.
Paver patio, professional landscaping, sprinklers, lighting, 10x10 shed, decorative finished pad. Negotiable. 810-597-7346

MAIL FORWARDING

AMERICAS MAILBOX Forwarding in SD
LOW Rates/NO State Income Tax/Save \$\$\$
NO Wheel Tax/NO Safety Inspect / 866-747-3700
www.Americas-Mailbox.com/TL Call us first!

PROPERTY FOR SALE



KOOSKIA, ID RIVERFRONT PROPERTY ON
Clearwater River. 2 Adjacent RV lots - 1 lot with park model home. Complete package for \$105K. For additional info/pictures call 208-559-3368.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES FOR SALE

RV REGISTRY

www.rvregistry.com
Motorhomes, Trailers & Fifth Wheels
For Sale by Owners
No Sales Commissions
Buyers/Sellers 800-546-8457

SERVICES

Let us help you BUY YOUR RV ... TAX FREE!
We guarantee BEST service and price
Receive \$100 Gas Card & FREE Mail Fwding
Call 888.430.3388 www.MontanaRV.net

ACTION SERVICES, LLC

Consult a Licensed Montana Attorney
No Sales Tax in MT -- Low License Fees
Financing & Insurance -- For Professional Service
Call 800-481-0013 www.actionservices-mt.com

#1 IN SALES TAX SAVINGS

PAY NO SALES TAX! We have helped 1000's save over the past 18 yrs. Call & talk to a CPA for professional, friendly service! www.rvtax.com
Mountain States Consulting 800-565-4504

TOURS



RV CARAVANS AND RALLIES

Enjoy hassle free RV Travel to amazing destinations across North America. Get your FREE RV Vacation Catalog today. 800-952-8496 www.fantasyrvtours.com



RV Tours & Rallies across North America
Alaska • Canada • USA • Mexico • Overseas
Visit www.AdventureCaravans.com or
call for your FREE Catalog **844-872-7897**



Good Sam Club

Join today at
GoodSamClub.com
or call **1.800.234.3450**

For advertising information contact **Katey Purgatorio**:
Phone 847-229-6756 Fax 270-495-6278 Email Katey.Purgatorio@goodsam.com
Mail Attn: Trailer Life Classified Department, 3431 S. 257th Street, Kent, WA 98032

TOW VEHICLES FOR SALE



2006 MED DUTY TRUCK, RV, MC LOADER/CARRIER
275 auto, 43K mi, Condo w/sink, stove
back seat-bed, gen. \$59K. 33' 5th wheel
Load MC, Quad, Rhino \$15K. 623-451-7121



1999 F 450 FLATBED RV TRUCK, CREW
7.3 Diesel, 6 spd, 123k mi, receiver hitch,
5th hitch, goose ball. Seats 6, clean & tidy
great seats. \$15K 623-451-7121

TRAVEL TRAILERS & FIFTH-WHEELS

True 4 Season Camper (Sub-Zero Rated)



NEW 2015 DRV MOBILE SUITES 36RSSB3: Loaded
Only \$102,800 New units-Cust order avail at no chg.
Guar Best Price! More info at 877-643-7532. View
Full Line of New/Used Units. www.rvsforless.net

True 4 Season Camper (Zero Rated)



NEW 2015 Heartland Landmark
Bath and 1/2. Loaded Only \$87,900. Guar Best
Price! 877-643-7532 New units-Loaded. Cust order
avail no chg. View/New/Used Units www.rvsforless.net

Classified Rates

Private Parties: \$32 per line, four-line minimum. Add \$65 for color photo. All red text add \$25.

Commercial: \$74 per line, four-line minimum, 40 characters per line. For photo ads (limited to RVs and real estate), add \$95 B/W or \$115 color. For logo add \$95 B/W, \$115 color. No category limitations for logos. All red text add \$50.

Display Advertising: 1" ad B/W \$395. 2" ad B/W \$675. Add \$75 for color. Frequency discounts apply.

Payment: Check, VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express.

Email: katey.purgatorio@goodsam.com

Phone: (847) 229-6756

Fax: (270) 495-6278

Mail: Trailer Life
Attn: Classified Dept.
3431 S. 257th Street
Kent, WA 98032

to 20 percent of its total weight on the hitch. If you take 12,500 pounds, 20 percent would be 2,500 pounds. That would leave about 10,000 pounds on the trailer tires and about 2,500 on each tire.

Before load ranges were adopted, ply ratings and/or the actual number of carcass plies were used to identify the relative strength. Higher numeric ratings or plies identified tires featuring stronger, heavier duty construction. Today's load range ratings do not count the actual number of body ply layers used to make up the tire's internal structure but rather indicate an equivalent strength compared to early bias-ply tires. Most light-truck tires, even those with heavy-duty ratings (E, F, G), actually have only two or three synthetic plies or one steel-body ply. — K.F.

MICE ADVICE

Q We have a 2011 Jayco RLS we bought brand-new. Last summer we had trouble with mice getting in it. It is all enclosed underneath, and the only place we know they might get in is at the corners of the slideouts when they are extended. How can we keep them out? We have put mothballs, rubber snakes and peppermint inside the camper.

Rex Norton, Marshall, Illinois

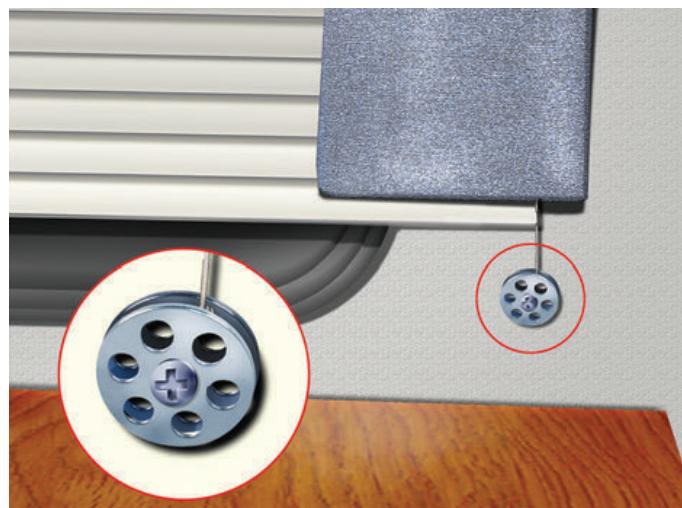
A Mice can get through very tiny openings and gaps. You'll need to crawl underneath the trailer and carefully inspect every area. Check where wiring, plumbing and LP-gas lines go through walls and floors. Use wire mesh screwed or stapled into place to close off gaps; mice won't chew through that. Make sure that no food is left inside the trailer, including packs of dried food, boxes of cereal and condiments. — K.F. 🐭

HAVE A QUESTION? » Email our experts at RVclinic@trailerlife.com or write to RV Clinic, 2750 Park View Court, Suite 240, Oxnard, California 93036. Please include your hometown. No phone calls, please.

Twist and Lock

We have a 2010 31-foot Flagstaff 831RLBSS travel trailer. Installing the brace to keep the slideout from moving while under way was inconvenient. I got tired of holding up a 42-inch locking brace over the slideout while twisting it to hit the 6-inch sticker on the wall that indicates proper positioning. Since this had been bothering my wrist and hand for a long time, I have been trying to come up with a way to hold one end of the brace while tightening the other. I built a U out of 1/2-inch wood to hold the weight of the brace while easily making the proper adjustments.

Don Green, McAllen, Texas



Sturdy Spool for RV Shades

One of the pet peeves I have with our RV's day/night shades is the plastic piece that holds the cords tight and is held in place with a screw in the wall. Over time, the plastic piece will break. I solved the problem by using an inexpensive metal sewing-machine bobbin that I bought at a sewing center. The bobbin will last forever, and the screw that comes with the original spool fits through the bobbin. Just thread it the same way as it was on the original plastic piece. I have now replaced all of the plastic ones in our RV with metal bobbins. Now if I can just figure out a way for the cords not to break, I won't have to repair them again.

Carol Nofftz, Savoy, Illinois

QUICK FIX

Break Camp, Not the Antenna

Here's a little tip that was passed on to me. We attach a clothespin to the handle of the TV-antenna crank in our trailer. When we put the antenna up in camp, we attach our car key or key holder to the clothespin. That way we cannot hook up and take off with the TV antenna up. Just want to help out fellow RVers. — **Chris Shields, Greenville, Maine** 📍

To send your submission, write to: 10-Minute Tech, 2750 Park View Court, Suite 240, Oxnard, California 93036 or email: 10minutetech@trailerlife.com. Please include an illustration or photo, if applicable. *Trailer Life* will pay you \$35 for original 10-Minute Tech ideas.

YOUR MUST-HAVE RV TRAVEL RESOURCE FOR 2015!

Good Sam

80TH EDITION • \$29.95 US
100% Satisfaction Guarantee

2015 NORTH AMERICAN RV TRAVEL & SAVINGS GUIDE



CLUB SALE
\$11.95

Reg. \$29.95

2015 Good Sam RV Travel & Savings Guide #80233 |

13,000+ Campgrounds & RV Parks To Visit
Featuring Over 2,100 Good Sam Parks
Trusted 10/10 + 10 Good Sam Rating System
Over 435,000 Listing Updates

WHAT'S NEW!
Family Camping Fun!
RV Trips of a Lifetime, Snowbird Destinations,
The Best Camping Accessories Ever

OVER \$1,000 IN COUPONS!
Special Savings at Camping World
See Page 22 for Great Values!

**PLUS UP TO \$500
IN OFFERS**

Dining, Shopping & Travel Savings For You!

POWERED BY

Page 29

■ **OVER \$1,000 in Camping World coupons!**

■ **2,100+ Good Sam RV Parks & Campgrounds!**

■ **NEW! UP TO \$500 in SAVINGS** on Dining, Shopping and Travel—Powered by Entertainment®

■ **TRAVEL** with easy, user-friendly, full-color state & provincial maps

ON SALE NOW for Good Sam Club Members

CampingWorld.com | 1.888.857.6625 | SuperCenters Nationwide

Transported Through Time

Stretching 40 miles through the Ozarks, Branson's historic railway opened the way for development in what's now the Live Music Show Capital of the World



In North America we have more than 300 tourist trains. I've ridden maybe 30. Most of them include leisurely, scenic rides in hundred-year-old passenger cars. Some are dinner trains. A few, like the Grand Canyon Railway, provide round-trip travel to a destination, and some even offer different classes of service. It's rare to find one

still using a steam engine.

Like small-town museums, most of these old trains survive with a workforce of volunteers. The key people in the operation get paid, although those jobs are often seasonal.

We as a nation travel by plane, yet the spirit of America seems to remain a country of railroads. I suppose in time this will diminish, and these old trains will disappear. But for now, we have more of them running in the continental United States than in all the rest of the world combined. And each one is unique.

The *Ozark Zephyr*, mid-last-century vintage, operates out of Branson, Missouri — rightly called the Live Music Show Capital of the World. Where else do you find 50 live-performance musical theaters, some of them offering three shows a day?

Riding the *Ozark Zephyr* is a different experience from riding those trains that stop midjourney to accommodate masked train robbers. I call the *Zephyr* an unadulterated train ride, not a theme-park adventure. It has the feel and ambience of a 20th-century train. And, although it's officially known as the Branson Scenic Railway, it goes faster than the pokey scenic rides. The reason it can whip along at 25 MPH is that the track is owned and maintained by the Union Pacific Railroad, which it uses daily to haul empty coal cars.

The *Zephyr* goes south into Arkansas or north up to Galena, Missouri — the direction is determined daily by traffic on the UP line. The train is made up with two diesel engines, one on each end. Some days the engineer doesn't



Trainman Ralph Craig is always available for pictures with kids after the *Ozark Zephyr* returns to Branson, Missouri. The train's two dome cars offer the best views as the *Zephyr* winds through the Ozark foothills.

know which engine to hop into until it's time to leave.

Using the UP track may make a day's work a bit uncertain for the engineer, but it makes for a more comfortable ride for the rest of us. The UP roadbed is in top shape, not the norm for tourist trains. Both routes are 40 miles round-trip. They go through the Ozark foothills, over trestles and in and out of tunnels, some as long as half a mile.

"The kids love to be in a dome car when we go into a tunnel, when everything suddenly goes black," Ralph Craig told me. He is a trainman. His uniform is that of a conductor, right down to the gold chain hooked to a pocket watch. His job, as I saw it, is talking to everybody, punching their tickets and shouting "All aboard!" at the right time. At age 76, he brims over with the energy of a guy who loves what he does.

"My wife and I came here from Kansas seven years ago," Ralph said. "I wanted a job and I told my wife, 'I'm going to let the Lord pick it out for me.' A couple days later, I was walking by the train depot. I had a tap on my shoulder. I turned around, and nobody was there. So I said, 'OK, God, I'll go in and look.'

"I asked the lady inside if they needed anybody. She said, 'Maybe yes, and maybe no.' Since I had it on good authority that the answer was really yes, I filled out a job application.

"The following Friday I got a call asking me if I could ride on Monday. They said be there by nine. I was there at eight. I have felt blessed ever since."

Welcome to America's Outback. 🚂



SOME FAVORITE VACATION SPOTS...



D325RLT



D315RKD



G372BHF



G366FBT



G366FBT

KZ takes the phrase 'favorite vacation spots' to a whole, new level. Simple finishes, soothing neutral tones and natural wood provide a peaceful backdrop conducive to relaxation. Living spaces are creatively thought out.

Storage areas are generous and multi-functional. Floorplans are imaginatively planned.

Durango fifth wheels are presented in three lines, and all offer casual, yet sophisticated, style.

All in all, we think you'll find each of our Durango fifth wheels to be the perfect family getaway package.



G380FLF

QUALITY . RELIABILITY . INNOVATION
kz-rv.com

NEW!

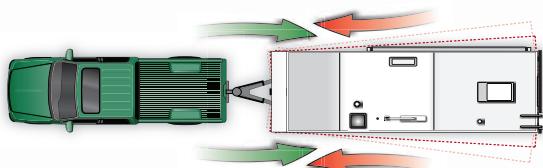


Every Dog Has Its Day.

INTRODUCING THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE HUSKY PRODUCT LINE



Center Line TS replaces products that have been relatively unchanged for more than two decades. The result is the most dynamic new weight distribution system on the market today.



CENTER LINE™ TS Superior Performance and Value

Center Line TS is a new, advanced, lighter, and more compact design based on the award winning Center Line HD. Lift brackets, head and spring bars all work together to deliver a very smooth and highly responsive ride – a ride that is noticeably quieter than other products on the market. Trunnion style spring bars are matched to popular weight ranges, delivering integrated weight distribution and sway control, superior performance, and an unmatched value.

RUGGED IS STANDARD EQUIPMENT.

Husky manufactures a comprehensive offering of innovative, leading technology towing products including 5th Wheel Hitches, Brute Power Jacks, and the Husky 10 Composite Glider, all designed to enhance your towing experience.

LEARN MORE: huskytow.com



Husky, Circle 113 on Reader Service Card