

# The MARATIME

Marathon Coach Club Magazine - *Summer 2017*

12

## "Fantastic Florida Keys"

Rally Review

54

## Questions and Answers

with 3 Marathon Craftsmen



60

Remembering  
**Bob Schoellhorn**



## STANDARD MARATHON ELECTRICAL FEATURES



## SEE THE ENGINEERING BEHIND OUR WALLS

Marathon's team of 12-plus engineers and 24 electricians are uncompromising when it comes to the quality and outstanding performance of your coach's wiring. We're not afraid to show off our neat and tidy, aircraft-style wiring.

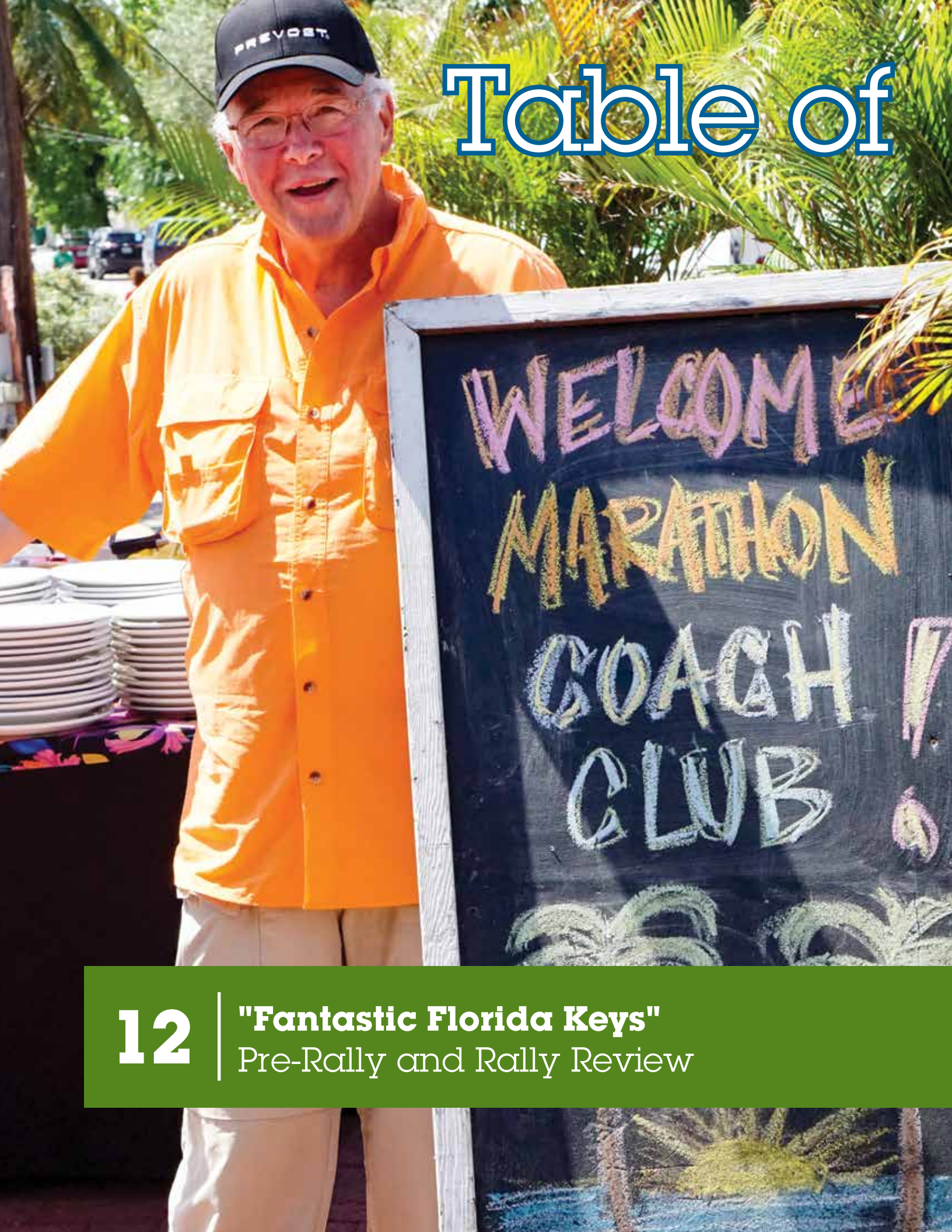
Stop by and see our production process from start to finish and see the engineering behind our walls.



- Each coach's wiring system designed by an engineering team.
- Every wire labeled at both ends.
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- Each coach undergoes two high-potential tests to confirm system strength.

[www.marathoncoach.com](http://www.marathoncoach.com)





# Table of

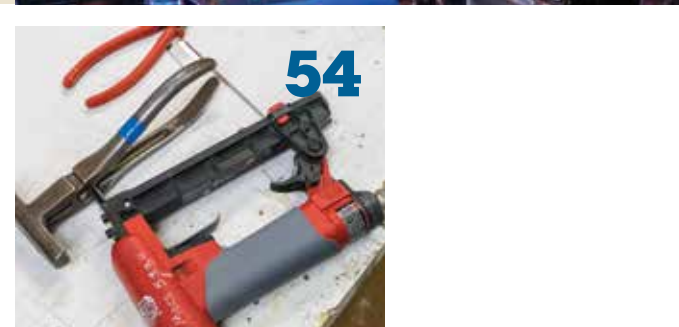
# Contents

## *The* MARATIME SUMMER 2017

- 7 **Message from the Club**
- 8 **News from Marathon Coach**
- 12 **"Fantastic Florida Keys"**  
Rally Review
- 20 **Be Prepared for Perfection**  
Cabinetry: Circle of Family
- 26 **Bus Conversion #1262**  
Better Living Through Design
- 32 **The Coaching Lifestyle**  
A Brief Look at the Possibilities
- 38 **Experience the Extraordinary**  
Exceptional Handling and Drivability
- 42 **Traveling Shoes**

- CLUB RALLY INFORMATION**
- 48 **Club Rally Schedule**
- 49 **Club Rally Registration Form**
- 50 **Delightful Newport Rally Itinerary**

- 54 **Meet 3 Marathon Craftsmen**
- 60 **Remembering Bob Schoellhorn**
- 67 **Coach Showcase**



**12** | **"Fantastic Florida Keys"**  
Pre-Rally and Rally Review



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MARATHON  
mondays with *Mal*



Each week we will bring you a LIVE look into the Marathon Luxury Coach environment with Mal, Mondays at 9 a.m. PST.

## the MARATIME

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*Special Thanks*  
**TO ALL OF OUR**  
*Contributors*  
**THIS ISSUE**



# Message from the Club

By Kit Thomson  
Marathon Club President

This is my last letter as President; my term expires in October. It has been a tremendous pleasure to work with such a dedicated Board of Directors and members who comprise the best RV club on the planet. Throughout my term, rally attendance has been steady, with lots of "First-Timers" experiencing this fun aspect of Club life.

The gathering to be at in May was the "Fantastic Florida Keys" rally. Prior to this event, Marathon President and Owner Steve Schoellhorn and staff hosted a three-day "Pre-Rally" at Marathon San Antonio, Fla. While the techs provided service and buses were washed, we enjoyed fun and unique activities, such as an ATV ride in the country and a treasure hunt in the quaint town of Dade City. The evening's entertainment in a street-fair atmosphere kept us busy as we enjoyed cuisine from high-end food trucks. And of course, the bar flowed with top-shelf drinks. Everyone was impressed with the quality of the event, but not surprised — after all, Marathon was the host! The Pre-Rally was the perfect way to get in the party mood before heading to the Keys rally at beautiful Bluewater Key RV Resort,

where everyone had a lovely site that we barely had time to enjoy due to the schedule of fun and interesting activities each day.

The rally wasn't only fun and games. After being approved by the Board, membership approved the new Nominating Committee: Bernie Slogotski, Betty Siegrist, Connie Portz, Guy Huta and Irmie Grundner. Then Chairman Slogotski presented the committee's nominees to serve the Club beginning in October: Walt Staltman for President; Alice Nelson Vice-President; Carol Gossman Secretary/Treasurer; board members Ken Byrtus, Guy Huta, Jacky Ayers, Kit Thomson, Connie Portz and Irmie Grundner. Membership will vote on these individuals at the October, 2017 "Delightful Newport" rally. If approved, they will be the next governing board, so be sure to cast your vote.

March 1-4, 2018, Marathon Coach, Inc. and Prevost will co-host a NASCAR rally at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. If you like auto races and the opportunity to meet drivers, owners and other racing enthusiasts, this is the event to attend.

See you down the road!



# News from Marathon Coach

Steve Schoellhorn



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Warm summer greetings! Whether you've been enjoying adventures on the road or pursuing other fun interests, I hope you've savored time with your friends and family and the playful happiness that summer provides.

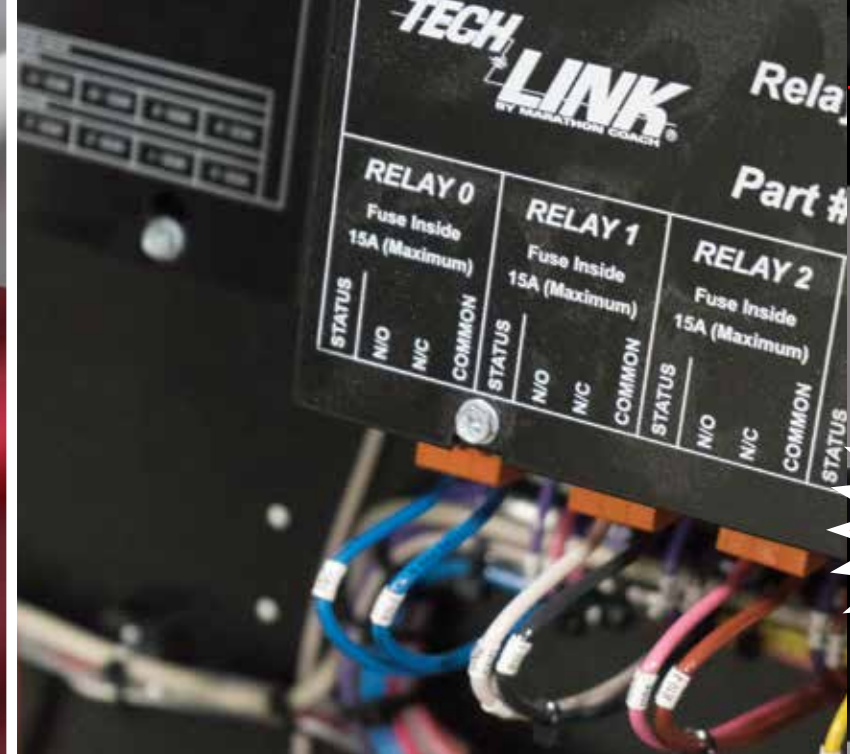
Thank you all for the outpouring of support as many of you learned about the passing of my father, Bob Schoellhorn. Dad was forever passionate about our Marathon family and was

blessed to count so many coach owners among his lifelong friends. He attended more than 50 rallies over the years, and always looked forward to the adventures and friendships that came with these events. Dad's impact on the luxury coaches and the lifestyle was legendary. Marathon built more than 1,000 bus conversions under his ownership, and his vision and energy helped drive the evolution

of our industry over the past 25 years. Upon acquiring Marathon, he quickly demonstrated his commitment by building our world-class, custom-built Coburg plant, now a recognizable landmark on I-5 in Oregon. Dad also strongly believed that the best way to serve our coach owners and ensure the ongoing high quality customer experience was to operate our own sales and service centers. We opened our custom-built Marathon Coach Florida facility in 1996 and then opened Marathon Coach Texas in 2001, giving us a strong national footprint. Bob Schoellhorn touched the lives of countless people and he will be missed greatly.

It's a pleasure to relay that Marathon is having another good year with steady growth in all areas. Our show schedule has been busy; we've already hosted and/or attended 45 shows and events this year, with many more to come. Marathon Coach Club's "Delightful Newport" rally this October in California promises to be terrific. If you're interested in attending, call the Club's Office Administrator ASAP to see if space is still available. Looking ahead to 2018, I'm excited to announce that Marathon will once again host a Las Vegas NASCAR rally,





BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!



March 1-4, at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Our NASCAR rallies are a ton of fun, so even if you don't consider yourself a big race fan I encourage you to give this one a try. This rally will sell out, so please see page 11 for more information to reserve your space now. Also happening in 2018 is our "Texas Two-Step" spring mini-rally at Marathon Coach Texas April 16-18. We timed this event to provide an excellent rendezvous point for those traveling eastward to the Club's "Charming Charleston" rally in late April. Preliminary details for the Texas event can be found on page 24.

Things are busy as ever at our Coburg, Ore. headquarters. In addition to the custom orders we have in process, we're crafting an impressive selection of double- and quad-slide H3-45's and double-slide X3-45's. We invite you to check out our new Show coaches sporting our latest floorplans, contemporary paint designs and latest innovations at one of our upcoming events. Speaking of innovations, it's TechLink's 20th anniversary. The first coach fitted with

our patented advanced electrical smart house control system was Marathon Coach #0469 in February 1997. After numerous generations of our proprietary technology, Marathon Show Coach #1269, scheduled for completion toward the end of summer, will be our 800th coach with this highly sophisticated system that far outpaces anything else offered in luxury coaches today.

Thank you again for your support and friendship. Happy and safe adventuring wherever your travels take you!

Warm regards,

Steve Schoellhorn  
President and Owner



## 2018 Marathon Coach LAS VEGAS NASCAR Rally

March 1-4, 2018

Las Vegas Motor Speedway  
Rally Fee TBD  
Contact Teri Moser-Ward for Reservations:  
[terim@marathoncoach.com](mailto:terim@marathoncoach.com)  
800-234-9991

- Luxury and grandstand seating available
- Autograph sessions
- Bonus activities
- Special guest appearances
- Private parking at Las Vegas Motor Speedway



## Marathon Coach Florida: The Perfect Jumping off Point for Adventure

# "Fantastic Florida Keys"

## RALLY REVIEW

Is there anything quite as dynamic as a good old-fashioned road trip? No matter the starting point, adventure lies everywhere on the route to Key West. This spring there was a geographical fusion, effectively extending the spring rally fun by both time and miles. Marathon Coach Florida's Pre-Rally was the perfect jumping off point for pleasure and rejuvenation before the Marathon Club's "Fantastic Florida Keys" rally began.

April 26, the official start of the "Spring Fling," greeted attendees with house-made biscuits, steaming frittata, cheese and strawberry sweet bread, gourmet coffee and other decadent treats. Soon after, Marathon Coach Owner and President Steve Schoellhorn and Prevost Business Development Director Steve Zeigler addressed the crowd, responding to questions along the way. After the technical session that followed, everyone set out for a "Not-So-Amazing" Race adventure in Dade City. Captains donned in

whimsical hats led their teams through the picturesque town as clues guided them to many of the area's finest shops, including Another Man's Treasure, Flint Creek Outfitters, Angel Tea Room, Dog Mania and Cats, Quilts on Plum Lane and Lunch on Limoges. Although there were plenty of laughs at the races, it was but a precursor to the laughter incited at the "Havana Night" event, which featured Steve's close friends Lucy and Ricky Ricardo. From slapstick dancing to playing nurse's aide to attendees, these characters stole the show as live music rang through the facility and Tabanero Cigars rolled stogies for the group.

Thursday delivered another delicious breakfast, followed by a guided ATV adventure and blackjack tournament. The day culminated in an enchanting, festive Florida street party. From street performers juggling glass globes to psychics sharing eerily accurate insights to numerous food trucks laced together with festive lights, this was an affair to remember. Early the next morning, the rally caravan was on its way to the southernmost tip of Florida for the April 30-May 6 "Fantastic Florida Keys" rally.





The First-Timers



**Key West: Endless Opportunities for Escapades**

The ever-present sun and laid-back atmosphere shape the cast of characters of Key West today as much as Ernest Hemingway ever did. From talented musicians, artists and chefs to tour guides, trolley drivers and baristas, they all have a story.

As rally goers arrived at Bluewater Key RV Resort, iguanas scurried across the sun-baked asphalt and the tall palms swayed lazily in the breeze. Those with bay front lots luxuriated in lovely views and immediate access to snorkeling and swimming, while others enjoyed the convenience and intimacy of the resort's canal and tropical lots.

Although Monday morning sent attendees in different directions, with some heading to the Board of Directors' Meeting at the resort's clubhouse and others exploring the area in



anticipation of another great rally kickoff, the evening brought everyone together. Before the 5 p.m. First-Timers' social, those with dogs created a pet parade as they made a bee-line for the resort's dog park for a group photo brimming with wagging tails. Soon after, steel drums, a well-stocked bar and passed appetizers welcomed the First-Timers and their Rally Buddies at the resort's clubhouse. By 5:30 other attendees arrived, visiting the upper level bar

or roaming poolside. The "island buffet" wowed the crowd with the dessert trio, featuring black bottom key lime pie, chocolate lava milk and strawberry shortcake.

After the Club's 2017 Spring General Business Meeting on Tuesday morning, rally goers hopped on quaint Old Town Trolleys for an informative tour of Key West. Along the two-lane roads, historical facts flooded the PA system as a plethora of stimulating sights flashed by; the group soon stopped at a waterfront buffet overflowing with local delicacies on the brickyard terrace of the Conch Republic Seafood Company. No one left hungry with the mountains of island-style conch fritters, Key West pink shrimp, key lime pie and so much more.

With a walkabout being the best cure for over-indulgence, after lunch everyone broke into groups and headed to their scheduled

tour. Literature fans made their way to Ernest Hemingway's house to walk his halls, see his studio and interact with the descendants of his six-toed cat, Snow White. Others opted for a peek of the Harry S. Truman Little White House, while still others went to the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, a nationally recognized research and archaeology institution, brimming with genuine treasure.

Before catching the transportation trolley back to the resort, many sought the city's soul, winding their way down Duval Street to Mallory Square, the commercial hub where Key West's party has no beginning and no end.

The festivities continued Tuesday evening as attendees spent another tropical night gath-

*"Fantastic Florida Keys"*  
**RALLY REVIEW**





ered around the resort's swimming pool, some quickly tossing aside their shoes to dip feet into the cool, blue water. Local musician Joel Nelson played guitar and harmonica throughout the social and dinner, even leading the crowd in rousing renditions of "Sweet Caroline," and the Club's version of Alan Jackson's song, "Mercury Blues," featuring lyrics such as, "If I had money, tell you what I'd do, I'd go to Coburg and buy a Marathon or two..."

Wednesday found attendees chasing sunshine and adventure in separate directions. Some pedaled through paradise taking in many of Key West's star attractions and historical landmarks on cruiser bicycles with Key Lime Bike Tours. Others began their day with a serene, eco-kayak tour with Lazy Dog Adven-

tures. Paddling through the sun kissed water, those on the excursion encountered a school of nurse sharks, a manatee, sea hare, queen conch and more. Rally goers who sought a generous dose of early morning adrenaline chose the Jet Ski water adventure with Key West Water Tours. Fast moving and full of excitement, this activity was awe-inspiring with participants gliding over both the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean at 40 miles per hour.

Everyone reconvened Wednesday evening at The Square Grouper. It is easy to understand why locals frequent this restaurant, but for this dinner, it was Marathon exclusive. It was more than just the remarkably fresh, local seafood with an innovative twist that made the visit to

this spot on Cudjoe Key special: It was also the proprietor. Early on, Owner and Chef Lynn Bell wooed the crowd, sharing her passion for food, the Keys, her staff and her restaurant's namesake. Lynn's key lime pie and key lime martini were two items not to be missed, and attendees all around could be heard raving about the parmesan dusted yellowtail snapper, the Key West pink shrimp pasta with key lime butter sauce and the prime rib au jus.

Very early Thursday morning, most of the group boarded the Yankee Freedom III Ferry, traveling 70 miles from Key West to visit Dry Tortugas National Park, one of the country's largest 19th century forts. Although the island is now known as an ideal day trip, this natural paradise was once a devastating and formida-

ble place to spend time: It was used as a prison during the Civil War. Lack of water combined with abundant heat and humidity, few supplies and less to do made everyday life a burden for the inhabitants, including Navy officers and troops, general laborers, and of course, slaves and prisoners. Upon arrival at the park, most attendees chose to take the history-rich tour of Fort Jefferson with the ferry's Naturalist, "Hollywood," nicknamed for his charismatic personality. Many returned to the boat occasionally to take shelter from the sun or to enjoy a wholesome lunch. Others spent free time snorkeling, taking photos or learning about the native birds. On the return trip, the bar was a popular

*"Fantastic Florida Keys"*  
**RALLY REVIEW**



destination when it opened at 2 p.m. Attendees engaged in a variety of activities: some visited, other napped and a few played cards and games. No matter what people were up to, when attendee Sylvie Boivin won the grand prize in the ship-wide raffle, everyone cheered.

A handful of other attendees chose to forgo the Dry Tortugas excursion, spending the day instead "fun-fishing" and sightseeing on the 28-foot "Inspiration" with Dream Catcher Charters. After thorough on-board lessons, this group of six found that fishing in Key West isn't that challenging with Captain Paulette at the helm taking them where the fish were plentiful.

Friday morning was all about flexibility and camaraderie when a storm blew in, cancelling the group's reef snorkeling activity. Redirecting their attention, the group disembarked the boat, taking their trolley directly to the Banana Cafe for a lively breakfast before returning to the resort to prepare for an afternoon filled with "on-your-own" activities: chasing happy hour at happening spots such as Margaritaville and the Green Parrot Bar; seeking history at the Key West Lighthouse Museum, Ernest Hemingway's Home, Harry S. Truman Little White House or the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum; or experiencing beauty in the Key West Butterfly and

Nature Conservatory.

The rally's final evening was spent savoring breathtaking scenery, top-shelf cocktails and decadent dishes on the private beach terrace at Pier House Resort & Spa in Key West. Grilled filet mignon served with blue crab-stuffed Florida lobster tail was the most popular dish of the evening. However, those who ordered the plantain-crust Mahi Mahi or the stuffed chicken breast were also very happy. After dinner, many couples took "selfies" as sailboats and vintage ships floated by on the water behind the beach terrace, while others danced the night away. Inspired by the talented Island

Time Steel Drum Band, a lively, unforgettable and undeniably fun conga line broke out before the evening ended.

Drenched in sunshine with an emphasis on signature experiences, delectable food, legendary views and a group who knows how to embrace adventure, after the rally concluded, it was no surprise that many attendees found that the "Fantastic Florida Keys" had settled into their systems to stay for a spell. 🌴

## *"Fantastic Florida Keys"* **RALLY REVIEW**



# Be Prepared for Perfection

## Cabinetry: Circle of Family

Marrying advanced technology and old-world craftsmanship, Marathon creates cabinetry second to none. Every cut, corner and curve has a reason and a story. With 150 years of combined experience in cabinet design among the eight people on the cabinet design team and 19 people in the cabinetry department spanning 17-30 years of experience each, it's no wonder that Marathon cabinet construction and installation has become functional art.

"It's a really involved process," explained Mike Wilson, cabinet builder with Marathon for 29 years. "They look really simple when they're done, but getting there's not easy. We do everything we can to ensure the quality's as good as it can be. Quality is what we're all about."

Our engineers and craftspeople have a true knack for creating cabinets that look simple but are designed for flawless performance day

in and day out. At Marathon, we know that good design makes our daily lives easier and our luxury motorhomes better. As you reach for your wine glass, your shoes or your secret stash of chocolate, our goal is to ensure that ease of use and longevity of the beauty and functionality of your cabinets are as great in year 20 as in year one.

"The people here aren't just construction professionals, they're craftspeople," said Divisions Production Manager Mike Perotti. "We're not about speed at Marathon, we're about quality first. We really do build the quality into the coach. Most everything has a variance of a 32nd of an inch. That's tight!"

We work together on every project, thinking through each room and cabinet, corner by corner without exception. With a track record as the industry leader, Marathon led the way

with curved cabinetry back in 1990. Industry exclusives including such things as a swivel-ing snack tray on the driver console that reveals hidden storage below, a hinged dinette back that exposes hidden storage behind, an air-powered pocket shower door, a commode cover that acts as a vanity stool, a bunks-to-wardrobe system that converts at the touch of a button, the headerless pocket door and a rear water closet that can be converted into a hanging clothes closet as necessary, continues to solidify Marathon's place as industry leader.

Modern materials usher you through the threshold to where beauty meets function in the case of a concealed refrigerator with no visible door pulls, plus a "hidden appliance kitchen" including dish drawer dishwasher, microwave and refrigerator concealed from sight with cabinet matching panels.

"Every cabinet door will be side-by-side and the grain will literally match," said Perotti. "Then the craftsman will find the pattern, and go back and forth until each little grain matches perfectly. In the coaches, we do grain match in vertical or horizontal. Sometimes it's just a little drawer and we have to go through a whole four-by-eight sheet and go all the way around to find that exact match to expose perfectly aligned grain. This creates a seamless flow throughout the coach."

Of course Marathon is driven by more than mere design, it's driven by quality. Completely sufficient, yet undeniably graceful, Marathon stocks an extensive supply of cabinet hardware to use in all its varied installations so the optimum hardware can be used for each cabinet design. For instance, it stocks more than a dozen different door catches to ensure each door



## Truly Customizable

A true custom cabinet shop, Marathon has completed dozens of coaches over the years where each cabinet in the coach has been individually fashioned. Here are just a few of the noteworthy cabinet and component designs that have been done:

- a. Convertible coach:** The galley and bathroom cabinetry sections were built on slides. The coach could convert to a private rear lounge by moving the two sofas in front of each section, sliding the galley and bath sections forward and placing the sofas to the rear to create the rear lounge. Even the pocket door moved with the two sections so the rear lounge could be private.
- b. Business to relaxation:** A double sofa with conference table in between that converted to a large bed at the push of a button
- c. Created for entertainment:** A Murphy bed that flipped up to view a 50" TV on the underside
- d. Time to study:** A convertible "bunk-to-desk" assembly
- e. Doggie door:** A trap door in the bottom of a wardrobe to let a dog outside without opening the front entry door
- f. Extra bedroom:** A trap door in the floor of the salon to let a child go down to their "basement" bedroom that had a mattress and television
- g. For the birds:** Custom bird cage
- h. Dog haven:** Custom dog kennel, as well as custom dog beds and custom feeding and water bowls
- i. Out of sight:** A cat litter box concealed in the bed pedestal
- j. Coach secrets:** Multiple hidden storage compartments to hide firearms, liquor, etc.
- k. Guest friendly:** Bunk pods that stowed up against the ceiling while traveling – a lever pull released them from the ceiling, dropped on a scissor mechanism to access when the coach was parked
- l. Inviting and warm:** A "see through" fireplace positioned between the bedroom and the bathroom so it could be seen from both sides

has the appropriate catch rather than indulging in a one-size-fits-all approach. Serviceability of components is also a priority in cabinet design. When applicable and possible, "toolless" fasteners are used on cabinet access panels for easy access by customers and service technicians to get to components for routine maintenance, trouble shooting or repair. Magnets, hook and loop (Velcro), snap fasteners, friction catches, hinged panels, etc. are all used. The faster that components can be accessed, and the faster a coach can go through our service departments for routine maintenance and repair, the sooner we can get our clients back to their lives of adventure.

Whether you consider your Marathon your private five-star hotel, your rolling beach cottage or your full-time home, it's a place where you strive to live your best days, be inspired, collaborate with the world at large, explore and share life's adventures. We don't take that lightly. That's why our team is all about the details. 📌



## Timeline

**1995:** Marathon began designing all the cabinetry in 2D AutoCAD

**2005:** Marathon purchased its first Computer Numeric Code (CNC) router and began cutting approximately 20 percent of all cabinet parts with the router

**2006:** Marathon began the transition from 2D AutoCAD to 3D solid modeling software (Autodesk Inventor)

**2008:** Approximately 50 percent of all cabinet parts were being cut on the CNC router

**2010:** All cabinetry has been designed in the Inventor 3D solid modeling software

\*Marathon maintains a digital record of the cabinet drawings so they can be reproduced at any time for any reason (replacement, repair or remodel requests)



# Texas Two-Step Spring Celebration

Hosted by Marathon Coach Texas



*Just Announced!*

*Space is Limited!*

## April 16-18, 2018

### Marathon Coach Texas Three-Day Event

- Complimentary to Marathon owners
- Activities, food and fun
- Details coming soon
- Invitations coming soon
- Contact the Texas location for information:  
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# Bus Conversion #1262

## Better Living Through Design: A Coach to Last a Lifetime

Brilliant design thoughtfully curated to invite personal touches makes this 2018 H3-45 double slide the optimal choice for those looking to keep a coach for decades, as well as those who prefer to keep their eye on resale value.

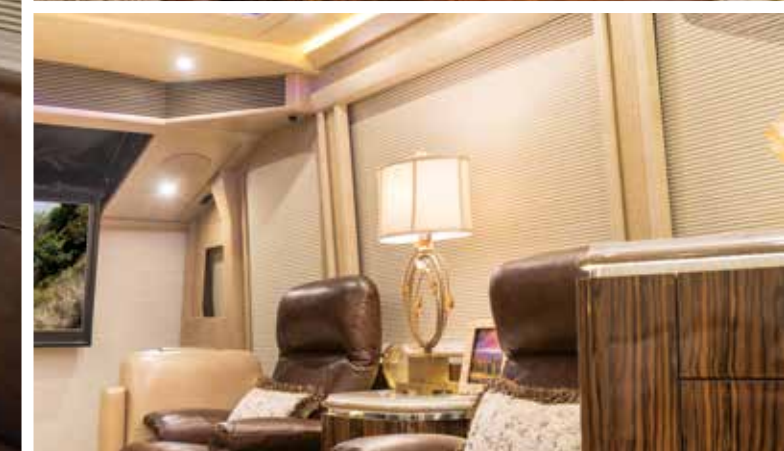
With innovative style seeped in simplicity with rarely seen reticent opulence, Marathon Show Coach #1262 is a study in contrast that's quietly luxe. With dark, rich cabinetry, wood flooring and Italian, chocolate leather seamlessly paired with creamy ivory walls, light countertops and ecru fabrics, design buffs will be kept stimulated.

Design authorities will stay inspired even when visiting the two water closets as their attention rests on the marble duo used, purposefully repeating the sophisticated contrast. Classic marbles, used for centuries but paired here in modern subway tile and a glass mosaic tile, make an undeniable statement in Crema Marfil paired with Emperador Dark. In addition, the mid-coach half bath has a modified vessel sink, keeping the natural beauty of a substantive stone sink, while customizing the cabinet to ensure no countertop space is wasted. The mosaic tile of marble, glass and carved leaves used in the backsplash of this space was also installed on the step risers for a beautiful hint of what's to come the moment someone opens the door.

The plush, neutral color combination thoughtfully crafted to rise in the forefront with the contrast of dark and light from

“Marathon Show Coach #1262 is a study in  
*contrast that's quietly luxe.*”





the salon to the master suite, piques interest in a way rarely achieved with such a timeless palette. Although able to withstand the test of time on its own, avid trend enthusiasts with flair for design can make this their canvas by flawlessly incorporating choice accent colors and treasures. Hues from soft aquas to rich reds blend flawlessly in this décor, making it

the perfect purchase for those looking for an adventure-ready motorcoach, as well as those looking to tailor their experience.

Abundant in textures and lit by sparkle via pulls, plumbing and details, the interior décor is a playground for the senses. From the upper doors of the galley and dining-area overhead cabinets showcasing custom leather inserts in soft cinnamon metallic, to the hair-on-the-hide

rug with undeniably chic gold details, this ultra-luxury RV is a classic beauty while still giving a nod to up-to-the-minute trends.

Impeccable divergence continues as luxury materials such as marble, polished nickel and decadent, but simple-to-wipe-clean leather, mingle flawlessly with stranded bamboo floors — eight times stronger than oak — and light colored but durable fabrics throughout.



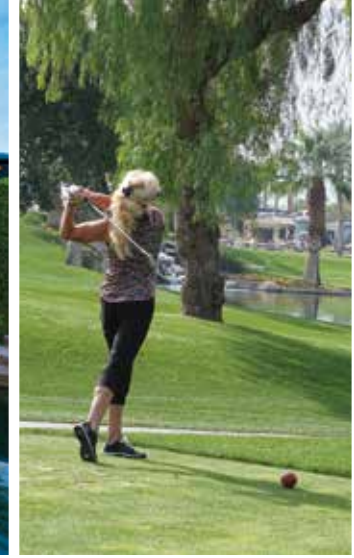
“Marathon Show Coach #1262 exemplifies *elegance, extravagance and opulence* in a beautiful, ageless and carefree way.”



Marathon Show Coach #1262 exemplifies elegance, extravagance and opulence in a beautiful, ageless and carefree way. Enjoy life's moments of beauty and let the good life unfold. 🐾







# The Coaching Lifestyle

## A Brief Look at the Possibilities

### Tailgating

Die-hard sports fans know that tailgating is about more than burgers and beer; it's the ultimate sporting social event. Marathon owners know that home is where you park it, and tailgating season creates some of the most interesting neighborhoods around.

Whether celebrating team pride or reveling in the party atmosphere, enjoy game day in comfort and style before, during and after the big game in a Marathon Coach. One Alabama fan elevated tailgating to an art. His triple slide H3 not only featured the crimson and white university colors, but also sported the words "Crimson Tide" in spectacular red lights across

the front of his coach — red under-coach lighting completed the look.

Although some of his friends — both old and new — enjoyed watching the game on one of the two televisions in his salon, most chose to congregate outside the coach. Between his entertainment bay with large screen TV and built-in barbecue grill, plus a refrigerator and coolers, this Marathon quickly became a true party bus.

Whether you bleed college colors or hues of the NFL, all that matters are the people you surround yourself with, your team spirit and, of course, a great menu.

### Resort Living

From the breathtaking waterfront lots at Bluewater Key RV Resort in Key West, Fla., where one can jump directly from the patio area into the water, to the natural wonder of Hearthside Grove in Petoskey, Mich., where visitors enjoy cooking classes with local chefs in a state-of-the-art clubhouse theater, it's easy to understand why people embrace the luxury RV resort lifestyle and all it has to offer.

Across the nation, each of these resorts has its own flavor of opulence. Take the StoneRidge Golf and Recreational Community nestled in Blanchard, Idaho, for instance. Located a stone's throw from Spokane, Wash., the 650-acre golf and recreational community flawlessly combines sleepy, serene surroundings and an active, vibrant community. With two lakes, 19-hole golf course, six championship pickleball courts, tennis courts and so much more, their state-of-the-art Motor Coach Village is an ideal retreat.

If a vibrant city pace is desired, there's always Las Vegas — known for neon radiance, world-class entertainment and endless choices

of casinos, shows and buffets. IVM Resort is a desert oasis complete with gorgeous backdrop and a relaxing atmosphere, all within minutes of the Las Vegas Strip. This luxury resort offers a myriad of amenities, including a 10,000-square-foot clubhouse, resort-style swimming pool, two whirlpools, tanning pool, nine-hole putting course, two lighted professional tennis courts, spa and fitness center and more than 400 perfectly landscaped coach sites.

Most coach owners know that when you're on a grand adventure, every day's a celebration. However, Premier RV Resort, located in Coburg, Ore., takes this idea seriously, celebrating summer with festivities and food. Tuesday brings 50-cent tacos at the Ducky Diner and an ice cream social in the afternoon. Friday features a Happy Hour with appetizers at the pool deck. Saturday is all about S'mores and Sunday features coffee and donuts. Plus, they host a BBQ every holiday weekend except Labor Day — that's reserved for the chili cook-off. Yes, our neighbors know how to have a good time.



## Equestrian

In 1993, Deborah Finney put a deal together and bought Marathon Show Coach #0275, keeping it for approximately 10 years before falling head over heels for a luxury RV that was being built, her current bus, Marathon Coach #0803.

Although now dedicated more to the journey and less to the activity, Deborah initially focused much of her time in the Marathon pursuing her equestrian dreams. Starting in about 1985, when her daughter Kelly won the California President's Cup for the Junior Horsemen's Association, Deborah showed and bred American Saddlebred five-gaited performance

horses. Although at times she towed a horse trailer behind her coach, she often hired someone to drive a truck with her horses, driving her luxury RV to meet the crew at the event site. With her own bed to sleep in each night, a fully stocked galley and all of the amenities of home, Deborah was able to enjoy her life on the go with ease and peace of mind.



## Ballooning

Forrest and Katie Griggs' Marathon may look like the quintessential luxury RV from the outside, yet it soon becomes apparent that this is a place of magic, a home-away-from-home with a foundation of adventure — ballooning.

It began in 1985 when Forrest donated propane to a small hot air balloon event in their hometown. When he was offered a balloon ride in recognition for his donation, he deferred, instead offering it to Katie and their two-year-old daughter. "And that was it," said Katie. "I crewed for the local pilot for six months and then found a used balloon for sale and was like, 'Wow, I can do this! That was 30 years ago.'"

After relocating from California to Lake Tahoe on the Nevada side, they found that having no jobs meant more free time than ever before. Enter Sushi, the custom-designed,

oversized goldfish that is often seen swimming through the sky wherever the Griggs find themselves. With puckered lips and a three-story-tall tail, this hot air balloon is impossible to miss.

"We decided we wanted to travel and we knew that buying a special shaped balloon would pretty much get us into just about any balloon event we wanted," said Katie, "so we used it as an excuse to wander. In the summertime, we'd be gone three to four months traveling from event, to event to event. They actually pay you to attend these balloon functions if you're a special shape."

The couple traveled extensively with the fish-shaped balloon for approximately six years, attending a NASCAR race or visiting Niagara Falls or the Grand Old Opry during off weeks. "We just had a ball," said Katie.

# Shooting



With eyes on the target, world class benchrest shooters Lou and Connie Murdica know all about profound concentration, aim and precision. However, these two award-winning sharpshooters keep their focus on what's important — their family, friends and those around them.

Although both are respected shooters in their own right, many people recognize Lou from the product and event posters he graces at industry affairs such as the Firearms Industry Super Shoot, which is no surprise with a resumé like his. With titles such as "World Record Holder," "Respected Benchrest Ace," "Expert Product Tester" and "Sniper King" just to name a few, this Marathon coach owner and his wife often find themselves the center of attention. Last July was Lou's second time entering the prestigious Sniper King competition and his second time winning the title.

Lou, who has been shooting competitively since the 1980s, attended the first ever World Benchrest Championships in Frejus, France in 1991. More than 30 countries participated, including Russia, Japan, Iran, New Zealand, Canada and Africa. "The people on my team were known to be wind shooters," said Lou. "Until the last day we were not considered a strong team. Then the wind started to blow hard. That last day, the day the wind came, we surpassed everybody. We did it and it was just the chance of a lifetime." The USA team won the "2 Gun Teams" trophy.

Lou has also held world records in almost all yardages including 1000-yard, 200-yard, 300-yard, 600-yard and possibly the 100-yard

— the process has been started and the information submitted. However, he's not the only sharp shooter in the family. Although Connie laughingly refers to herself as a fair weather shooter, she won the 600-yard National Championship not long ago. "I'm not a big competitor; I'm a fair weather shooter. I've shot in nine degree weather and really hot weather in Arizona. It's always for me, 'Well, do I want to shoot today or do I want to shop?' If I feel like shooting, I do."

The sharp shooting dynasty doesn't stop there: Lou and Connie's granddaughter Angelina has caused quite a stir in the benchrest shooting discipline. Because there are no separate divisions for women or children, all entrants shoot in the same competitions. Imagine the surprise of some of the nation's top shooters and Hall-of-Famers when a 10-year-old girl beat all but three of them, placing fourth in a 100-yard benchrest match in a Phoenix competition.

Lou and Connie often take their grandchildren on their travels. "We take our grandkids shooting," Connie explained. "They stay with us in our bus and that really makes it easy and comfortable. It's great to have a place to get out of the elements during the meets and a place close by to sleep at night. When you rent a hotel, it's miserable. But with our bus, we can finish shooting and go right into the bus to relax and fix our meals. Everything is just easier when you have your home right there. We also never have to worry about whether they'll have the feather pillows we like. Everything is exactly as it is at home."



# Exploring

"Our motorhome isn't just a place to live when we're traveling. It is a mode of exploration and experience," explained Alice Nelson.

Meet Gary and Alice Nelson. The same sense of adventure that had this fascinating couple following an identical flight plan as Amelia Earhart, as well as spending quality time in Arctic waters, now has them reveling in cross country dry-camping adventures.

"A favorite activity in our coach is going to where there is a big blizzard, parking and enjoying the outdoor activities," said Alice. "Even with lots of wind and piles of snow, the coach is comfortable and the camping is not crowded."

Because their enthusiasm for adventure and love of cold weather, camping often takes them to more remote areas. In addition to the three 120-volt toekick heaters, the Nelsons have five heaters upstairs, with another five in the underbelly, plumbed into the fuel-fired heating system, thus ensuring their coach will be warm and ready regardless of the conditions. And

there's no need to worry about disturbing their neighbors no matter how close the quarters, how chilly the weather or how early the morning. With a quieter generator and engine, the Nelsons can start their coach, warm it up and get it on the road before dawn without waking the campers around them.

So just how do these two find themselves at the frozen Timberline Lodge in Oregon or following the Natchez Trace Parkway for hundreds of miles? "When Alice and I plan trips, we start with a mission, any mission. It may be to see a space shuttle launch, explore Newfoundland or go storm watching," said Gary. "Then we start filling in what to do on the way there and on the way back. The adventures emerge in that filling-in process. It seems to turn out that our best adventures were not necessarily the big missions — though we do enjoy our selected destination activities — our best adventures were often the discoveries along the way." 🐾



# Experience the **Extraordinary**

Exceptional Handling and Drivability

We hear it all the time: Once you drive a Marathon, you'll find nothing else compares. Come in, take a test drive. You'll find it's easier to handle and the ride is smoother than you've ever imagined. Prefer to skip the driving and hire a driver? We can assist you with that, too.

Our vehicles' directional stability, handling and quiet, ultra-smooth ride rival the feel of the world's leading luxury automobiles. The Volvo engine's quick response with a fully automatic transmission lets drivers maneuver with precision on winding roads, and negotiate tight spots with ease.

Marathon Coach Driver Dave Bash has worked in the motorhome industry 25 years and has been with the company for 18. "I came here because the quality was better than anything else I'd seen, and it still is," explained Dave. Aside from delivering coaches to Marathon's facilities in Florida and Texas, to new owners throughout the country, to event sites, etc., Dave also educates new owners on the finer points of owning a Marathon, including parking and set up, driving and everyday luxury RV life.

"Everyone told me, whatever you do, don't drive a you're doomed; you're going to get one no matter what,"

Marathon, *because once you drive one of these,* said Deborah Finney, a Marathon coach owner since 1993.





"One of my favorite features of our coaches is their drivability," Dave said. "They drive better than anything else out there. We have a lot of customers who trade in fiberglass coaches after driving one of ours. Before the test drive, they didn't know this kind of ride existed in a motorhome. It's just very, very smooth, as if you're in a Lincoln or a Cadillac. One of the things I like about the chassis and the drivability is that the airbags for the air suspension compensate as you turn corners."

For generations, professional drivers have celebrated Prevest coaches for their unmatched drivability, precise and secure dynamic qualities, and superior ride characteristics. Prevest is, quite simply, the coach preferred by those who drive for a living.

#### **Ergonomically Friendly Driver's Environment**

Employing a sophisticated "multiplexed" architecture, the Prevest driver's environment provides the kind of long-distance comfort and fatigue-free operation that makes an all-day journey a pleasure.

"Marathons has driver-side, passenger-side and rear-facing cameras, which provide many benefits to the driver, such as additional visibility and back-up safety assistance," said Marathon Coach Sales Consultant Mal Williams.

"There's great visibility, not just because of the cameras, but also due to the precisely placed mirrors and oversized windows."

Prevest places frequently used controls such as cruise control, shifting, engine braking, horn actuation and electric sun visor adjustment on the steering wheel for easier driver access. A pneumatic steering column and ergonomically angled steering wheel ensure that all gauges and indicators are easily readable regardless of driver and steering-wheel position. The result is a driver's environment designed to optimize intuitive operation, safety and comfort.

#### **Optimal Control**

Prevest's Electronic Stability Program (ESP) electronically compares performance models to actual vehicle movement, ready to provide instant intervention in an emergency maneuver to help a driver maintain control. ESP helps keep the vehicle in proper alignment and reduces any tendency to slide. It also provides improved stability — a safety advantage in high-friction conditions involving curves or sudden steering directional changes.

#### **Exceptional Handling**

"Everyone told me, whatever you do, don't drive a Marathon, because once you drive one


of these, you're doomed; you're going to get one no matter what," said Deborah Finney, a Marathon coach owner since 1993.

Prevest's independent suspension includes precisely sized and tuned stabilizer bars on not only the front, but also the drive-axles. This design, engineered to complement the ZF Servocom® power steering, provides exceptional directional stability, confidence-inspiring road feel and best-in-class handling precision.

#### **Impressive Performance**

The Volvo D13 engine delivers impressive performance with excellent low-end torque. The result is more driver control, great load management and remarkable drivability with outstanding fuel economy and very low impact on the environment.

#### **Prevest Aware-Adaptive Cruise Braking by Bendix**

Keeping a safe distance behind a vehicle is one way to avoid collisions. Prevest Aware-Adaptive Cruise Braking by Bendix assists in maintaining a safe following distance. If the distance between the motorcoach and the vehicle it's following becomes unsafe, the system provides warnings, and when cruise control is engaged, initiates brake applications to assist in keeping a safe distance between both vehicles. 

**PREVOST**

The ultimate class.

### **24/7 Technical Support for Peace of Mind**

With Prevest Action Service System™ (PASS™), you have 24/7 access to immediate call center assistance. PASS offers many services, including finding the nearest qualified road service, securing emergency maintenance assistance and towing, scheduling emergency service appointments, and ordering parts. PASS is available 24/7, 365 days a year, by calling 1-800-463-7738.

### **Prevest Service Network**

The Prevest Service Network includes Prevest Parts & Service™ Centers throughout North America: more than 175 trained and certified Service Providers and Parts Customer Service Centers in the U.S. and Canada. In addition, a large team of mobile service trucks are available in high-traffic areas and at special events to expand upon the work of our service centers.

Prevest Parts & Service Center personnel are skilled specialists, certified to perform bumper-to-bumper maintenance and repair on all Prevest vehicles. They're recognized for their extensive training and job tenure, and they stay informed on the technical advances that will keep your coach on the road and on schedule.

# Traveling Shoes



If you and your *traveling shoes* find yourselves somewhere *interesting*, be sure to snap a photo and send it to our Assistant Marketing Manager Miki Markovich...



## Ron LeClaire

Ron LeClaire, welder at Marathon's Florida facility, brings us Florida-style traveling shoes from where else but Marathon Key. While fishing and lobstering with his friend Ryan, they were visited by a pod of dolphins.



## Joe Stefanczuk

When you live in the Tampa Bay area, you don't have to travel far for memorable moments. Marathon Coach Florida Service Manager Joe Stefanczuk showcases his Traveling Shoes while visiting the dentist, at a Tampa Bay Lightning Hockey game and then at Sand Key just over the bridge from Clearwater Beach.



## Gary and Alice Nelson

There were plenty of photogenic opportunities for the Nelsons as they meandered to the "Fantastic Florida Keys" rally via Chickahomony Pond, Ore.; Ogden, Utah; Rawlins, Wyo.; Littleton, Colo.; Trinidad, Colo.; Palo Duro Canyon, located in north Texas; Marathon Coach Texas, located in Grand Prairie; Canyon Lake, Texas (Alice's brother's house); College Station, Texas (George Bush Library); Galveston, Texas (to see the Houston Space Center); New Orleans (for food!); Fort Pickens, Fla.; Marathon Coach Florida, located in San Antonio; Fort Meyers, Fla. (to see Linda and Jim Brann — Alice's relatives); and, of course, Bluewater Key RV Resort, Fla. for the rally. We can only imagine what they saw on the return trip. Pictured here are Gary and Alice's feet at the Colorado History Museum, Gary's feet at Palo Duro Canyon State Park and Gary's shoes at Trinidad Lake State Park. We're told Gary gets more camera time because his feet are larger and show up better in photos as a result.

## Michele Connor

After an adventurous morning swimming with manatees and snorkeling Three Sisters in Crystal River, Fla., Marathon Coach Florida Sales Assistant Michele Connor relaxed on the Crystal River Watersports tour boat.



## Miki Markovich

While visiting Indio, Calif. to assist with Marathon events at Desert Shores and Motorcoach Country Club, Assistant Marketing Manager Miki Markovich hiked Indian Canyon twice, once with Marketing Manager Pete Sutton on the first day of the trip and once with her sister Jenna and Marathon Videographer James Strecker. Here she is standing in a natural oasis complete with California Fan Palm trees, waterfalls and streams.



## Betty Siegrist

Betty Siegrist teaches us that sometimes the best place to wear traveling shoes is at home planning for the next adventure. Here she is sipping cappuccino and admiring her Hong Kong Orchid tree while contemplating what she's going to cook up for the cross-country trip to the Florida Keys rally. 🐾

# Life. Style.



MOTORCOACH LIVING in the  
HEART of the NORTH



When you purchase a lot at Hearthside Grove, you make a lifestyle choice. You choose a life of adventure, of closeness to nature and camaraderie with neighbors who soon become friends. It's a life of activity and relaxation surrounded by blue-water beaches, lush forests, fresh air and mild weather. Take a beautiful drive Up North and spend a night or two on one of our unique lots in our classic resort town: Petoskey, Michigan. We'd love to show you how we're redefining motorcoach living in a place unlike any other.

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CLASS A LOTS FOR SALE ▪ mid-\$100s to mid-\$400s ▪ EASY BANK FINANCING



## Welcome to the Marathon Family

*Marathon Coach would like to congratulate  
and thank the following  
for purchasing our coaches!*

### NEW OWNERS

- |   |                           |                            |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jim & Jackie Anderson                   | Nathan & Jackie Finkel    | Andy Pargh                 |
| Tim & Janet Belich                      | Clark & Colleen Haberlach | Doug & Karen Petersen      |
| Larry & Jane Bolton                     | Polly Hix                 | David & Carol Romersberger |
| Charlie & Katie Boyer                   | Bob & Jill Jones          | Dan & Bonnie Savard        |
| Charlie Cantrell<br>& Dr. Rachel Wagner | Tom & Colleen Leighty     | Lloyd & Linda Schmeusser   |
| Jim Case                                | Glenn & Lorraine Matherly | Nathan & Alyson Sims       |
| Alan & Bonnie Cleaver                   | David & Tracey Maxwell    | David & Belva Smith        |
| Fred & Kathy Compton                    | Tom & Caroline Metzger    | Bob & Marsha Spence        |
| Ken & Diann Dangelo                     | Wayne & Liane Nishimura   | Amy Vickers                |
| Dave & Juli DeWitt                      | John & Theresa Nogueira   | Charles Whitmore           |
| Donnie & Donna Eatherly                 | Kim & Karen Orendorff     | Gary & Lee Wood            |

### ENCORE OWNERS

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tom & Carol Gossman   | Jesse & Milo Kirk           |
| Jesper Hansen         | Al & Sharon Roozen          |
| Devin & Jill Hull     | Lars & Carina Strom         |
| Jerry & Geneva Keeton | Shelly Ward & Sandy Kincaid |



Charleston, South Carolina  
April 22-28, 2018

*If you've never been to this beautiful part of the country, here's your chance. Space is limited at the campground, so send your deposit soon if you want to attend.*



*We are planning this amazing rolling rally for either mid-August, 2018 or early September, 2018, right after Labor Day. Firm dates and details to come soon!*

# Caring Thoughts

OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU

On an ongoing basis, Marathon Club members and friends are faced with challenging personal issues: loved ones have passed on, illnesses have been diagnosed and major surgical procedures have been performed. Marathon Coach and the Club wish to acknowledge these people.

**Their strength and courage are an inspiration to us all.**



**Robert "Bob" Schoellhorn**, former owner of Marathon Coach, Inc., died peacefully on January 11 at the age of 88 (see obituary on pages 60-63).

**Richard Fondessy**, of Naples, Fla. and Curtice, Ohio, passed away February 14 at the age of 87 after a brief illness. He is survived by his wife Brenda.

**William "Bill" Smith**, of North Palm Beach, Fla., lost his battle with cancer on March 19 and passed away.

**Clifford "Cliff" Gadway**, of Cottage Grove, Ore., passed away April 5 at the age of 72. He is survived by his wife Linda.

**Leslie "Les" Lessard**, of Springfield, Ore. and Mesa, Ariz., passed away April 19 at the age of 81. He is survived by his wife Sherry.

**Ken "Kenny" Silvestri**, of Penngrove, Calif., passed away at his home on May 3.

**Laura White**, of Greeley, Colo., was recently diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing radiation and chemotherapy treatments. Please keep Laura and Bruce in your prayers.



# Rally Registration



Check the box(es) for the rally/rallies you plan to attend!

## 2017

### "DELIGHTFUL NEWPORT"

Newport Dunes Waterfront  
Resort & Marina  
Newport Beach, California  
October 15-21, 2017  
Rally Fee: \$2,075 Per Couple

Please  
Call to Check  
Availability  
Before Sending  
this Deposit.

## 2017

### "DELIGHTFUL NEWPORT"

Newport Dunes Waterfront  
Resort & Marina  
Newport Beach, California  
October 15-21, 2017  
Rally Fee: \$2,075 Per Couple

Please  
Call to Check  
Availability  
Before Sending  
this Deposit.

## 2018

### "CHARMING CHARLESTON"

Charleston, South Carolina  
April 22-28, 2018  
Rally fee to be determined.

### "CANADIAN SPLENDOR"

Banff to Jasper, Alberta  
Mid-August or Early September, 2018  
(exact dates TBD)  
Rally fee to be determined.

## 2018

### "CHARMING CHARLESTON"

Charleston, South Carolina  
April 22-28, 2018  
Rally fee to be determined.

Space is  
Limited:  
Reserve Yours  
by Sending  
a Deposit  
Soon!

### "CANADIAN SPLENDOR"

Banff to Jasper, Alberta  
Mid-August or Early September, 2018  
(exact dates TBD)  
Rally fee to be determined.

The rally fees are due in full at least 60 days prior to the first day of the rally you are attending.

A reminder will be sent before the fees are due.

Please fill out this form completely, write your deposit check, payable to "Marathon Coach Club" (\$150 for each rally you are signing up for), and mail to:  
Marathon Coach Club  
Attn: Deb Johnson  
91333 Coburg Industrial Way  
Coburg, OR 97408

Note that rally deposits are non-refundable.

Phone: 800-234-9991  
Email: debj@marathoncoach.com

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day/Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Length \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Towing Trailer:  YES  NO      Towing Car:  YES  NO

Do you require handicapped parking?  YES  NO

Is this your first Marathon Coach Club Rally?  YES  NO

Total number of rallies you are sending payment for today \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount of money enclosed \_\_\_\_\_



Phone: 800-234-9991 • Email: debj@marathoncoach.com

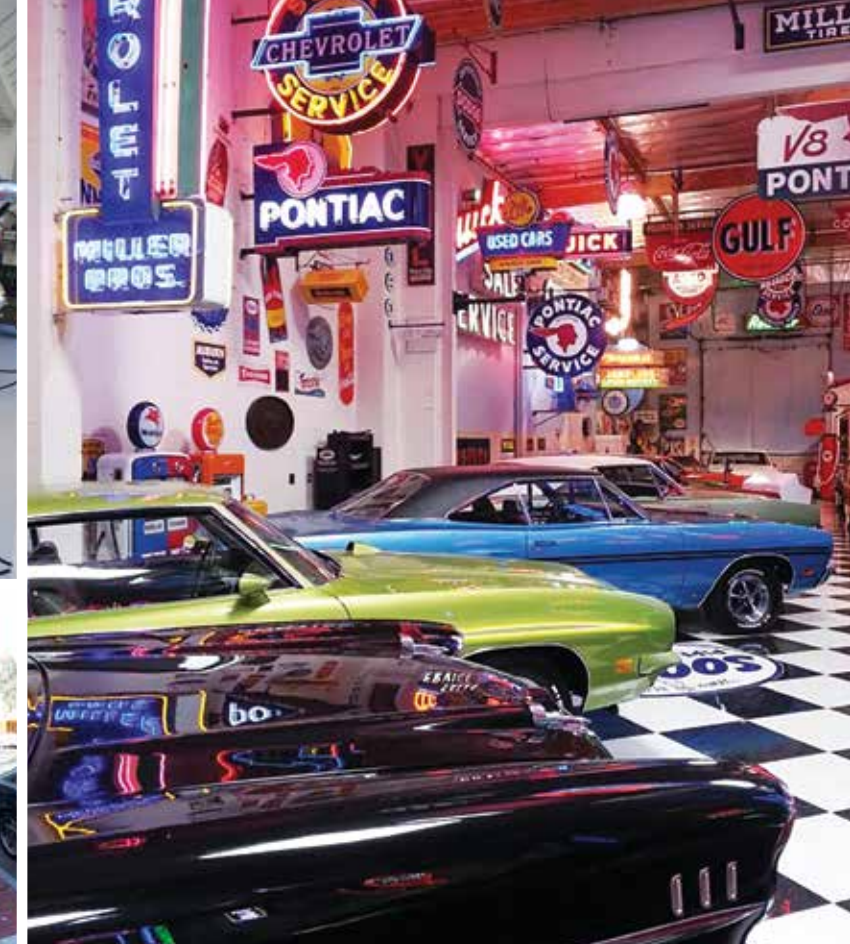




# Delightful NEWPORT

## RALLY

Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort  
Newport Beach, California  
October 15-21, 2017  
Rally Fee: \$2,075 Per Couple  
**Preliminary Itinerary**



### Sunday, October 15

- **Early-Arrival Day at Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort & Marina in Newport Beach.** Sites will be ready for arrival at 2:00 pm. Because the rally doesn't begin until Monday, the only activities today are afternoon meetings for those who volunteer to help with Club Rally Registration and Parking.

### Monday, October 16

- **Rally Registration** in the Resort's Clubhouse (9:30-10:30 am)
- **Spring 2017 Board of Directors' Meeting** in the Clubhouse (11:00 am-12:30 pm)
- **Exclusive Welcome Social for the "First-Timers," their "Buddies" and Board Members** on the Resort's Beach Pavilion (5:00-5:30 pm)
- **Social Continues for All Attendees** on the Resort's Beach Pavilion (5:30-6:15 pm)
- **"Welcome to Delightful Newport" California Beach Party, Dinner and Entertainment** on the Resort's Beach Pavilion (6:15-9:00 pm)

### Tuesday, October 17

- **Fall 2017 Club General Business Meeting** in the Resort's Clubhouse (8:45-9:15 am)
- **Guided Tour of the Lyon Air Museum:** [www.lyonairmuseum.org/](http://www.lyonairmuseum.org/) (9:45-11:30 am) Founded by Major General William Lyon, this exceptional museum is located on the west

side of John Wayne Airport in Orange County. It comprises authentic aircraft (transport plane, bomber, training plane), military vehicles and automobiles (Hitler's personal car, 1929 Duisenberg, 1930 Cadillac V-16 Roadster, 1931 Buick Phaeton), military motorcycles and related memorabilia, with emphasis on World War II. In addition to the immaculate exhibits and knowledgeable docent guides, the museum has a small movie theatre and a Cessna 172 Flight Simulator.

- **Lunch Cruise in Newport Harbor aboard the "Wild Goose,"** the 136-Foot-Yacht John Wayne Owned from 1962 to 1979 (12:00-2:15 pm)
- **Dinner at Family-Owned "Avila's El Ranchito"** Mexican Restaurant in Corona Del Mar (5:30-7:30 pm)

### Wednesday, October 18

- **Stroll Crystal Cove State Park's Historic District and Balboa Island with a Local Tour Guide** (9:00 am-12:30 pm)  
After boarding our transportation bus and departing the Resort, you'll soon find yourself in Crystal Cove's Historic District, where the charming beach cottages date back to the 20's and 30's. This locale's spectacular sandy beach connects to the Pacific Ocean; the district is also the site of the 1988 Bette Midler movie, "Beaches."

After leaving Crystal Cove, the bus will drop everyone at Balboa Island, where your guide will stroll you down Marine Avenue, past charming boutiques, shops and restaurants. On the island you'll also see cozy cottages, stunning homes, yachts and sailboats. You'll then take the three-minute ride across Newport Harbor on the small ferry to Balboa Peninsula, where lunch is just a few minutes away.

- **Lunch with an Expansive View of Newport Harbor at "Harborside Grand Ballroom"** in Balboa Pavilion (12:30-2:00 pm)
- **Tonight is On Your Own: Enjoy!**

### Thursday, October 19

- **Choose One of Two Activities Today:**
  1. **Take a Two+-Hour Guided Walking Tour of Outside Public Art in Laguna Beach, Followed by Lunch in Laguna Beach.** (Depart RV Resort 9:00 am, walking tour 9:30-11:45 am, lunch 12:00-1:30 pm, return to RV Resort 2:00 pm.) **Note: You'll walk 2+ miles on this tour; 30 is the maximum that can participate.**
  2. **Participate in a Friendly "Iron Chef" Cooking Competition Followed by Lunch –or– Take a Hands-On Cooking Class and Eat what You Made for Lunch –or– Do a Wine Pairing Activity Followed by Lunch,** all at "The Wine Artist" ([www.thewineartist.com](http://www.thewineartist.com)) in Lake Forest.

**Note: Which activity is chosen depends on how many sign up to participate: 30 is the maximum for the cooking competition, 22 for the cooking class, 30+ for the wine pairing.** (Depart RV Resort 10:00 am, activity is 10:30 am-1:30 pm, return to RV Resort 2:00 pm.)

- **Enjoy a Delicious Four-Course Meal by the Harbor Upstairs at the "Rusty Pelican"** in Newport Beach (5:30-8:00 pm.)

### Friday, October 20

- **Marathon "Tech Talk" Session** in the Resort's Clubhouse (8:30-9:30 am)
- **View an Immaculate, Private Collection of Restored Vintage Vehicles, Signs and Other Interesting Memorabilia at "Surf City Garage"** (<https://surfcitygarage.com/>) in Huntington Beach (9:30-11:30 am)
- **Aloha! Lunch at "Duke's Huntington Beach"** (11:45 am-1:30 pm)
- **Farewell Social, Dinner and Entertainment** in the Resort's Bayview Room or Outside on the Lawn and Patio (5:30-9:00 pm)

### Saturday, October 21

- **Thank You for Coming!** Please depart from your site by 12:00 pm.



HANDY INFORMATION FROM THE MARATHON COACH SERVICE DEPARTMENT

# LED Ceiling Lights

## Brighter, Yet with Less Heat and Power Draw

*Finally – an easy replacement for tungsten lights. Let our service department take the worry out of the transition. Rest assured your light sockets will remain the same, yet you'll enjoy higher quality, more energy efficient lighting with LED ceiling lights.*

65% LESS HEAT

87% LESS POWER



- Brighter
- 65% less heat
- Five times longer lifespan than traditional bulbs
- Changes to the Crestron programming may be necessary on some coaches
- Less power draw (47 watts for the original bulbs; 6 watts for the LED bulbs)
- Dimmable

**SERVICE DEPARTMENT**



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**FLORIDA SERVICE: 800-437-8295**  
**TEXAS SERVICE: 800-448-8881**

Visit Us Online at: [www.marathoncoach.com](http://www.marathoncoach.com)



# Untamed Luxury Unlimited Adventure

# RUN!

to Mountain Falls  
Luxury Motorcoach Resort

*There are still a few  
lots left on The Ridge.*



**MOUNTAIN FALLS**  
LUXURY MOTORCOACH RESORT

Luxury Clubhouse & Amenities • Hospitality Services • Live Entertainment  
Active & Inviting Property Owners • Weekly Outdoor Pursuits & Group Events  
230 Site Luxury Class A Motorcoach Resort • Panoramic Mountain Views  
Custom Coach Cottages • Ownership Opportunities

20 Resorts Boulevard, Lake Toxaway, NC 28747 • (888) 466-9350 • [Mountain-Falls.com](http://Mountain-Falls.com)

Questions and Answers with

# 3 Marathon Craftsmen



## Mike Wilson

Time with Marathon: 29 years, started June of 1988.

For Marathon Coach employee Mike Wilson, affectionately referred to as "Big Mike," there's more to hunting than catching his prey. It's a retreat from the everyday, an exercise in challenge.

### **What is your favorite thing about working at Marathon?**

Probably the group of people I work with and the quality of the coaches. You know, it's not always easy getting there, that's for sure, but we get there no matter what it takes.

### **What is your favorite movie?**

That would be, "The Others." It's a Nicole Kidman movie. It's kind of obscure, but it's very interesting.

### **What do you think people should know about Marathon?**

I think we're unique because we have a group of people who have a lot of experience, as well as some talented newer people. In the end, that makes for a great product.

### **What is your favorite childhood memory?**

I grew up next to Fern Ridge Lake, and my brothers and I used to spend all summer long swimming and fishing and whatever else we were doing. That was great. Those were good times.

### **What is your favorite free time activity?**

Most of my hunting has been for deer with a muzzle loader — I make my own bullets for those. I've taken a couple with a bow and about half a dozen with a hand gun, so I try to make it a little difficult for some challenge there. I've even made seven or eight laminated long bows. I hunt ducks, as well. I've been doing that since I was a teenager.

### **What do you do at Marathon?**

I do cabinetry, but there's some lamination involved in that, working with different hardwares and fabrics at times, prototyping occasionally.

### **Who was your favorite singer/band in high school?**

Don Henley.

### **Who is your favorite singer/band now?**

Don Henley.

### **What brought you to Marathon?**

I worked at another coach manufacturer before here, and hearing about it and seeing the quality (again, going back to the quality), I wanted to get involved with Marathon.

### **Star Wars or Star Trek?**

Actually, Star Trek was one of my favorite shows as a kid, so Star Trek.

### **Oregon Ducks or Oregon Beavers?**

Since they're both from Oregon, I root for both of them. I know that's not a very popular way to be.

### **What has been your most memorable vacation?**

A motorcycle ride or two my wife and I have taken. We lived in Bakersfield years ago and came up here on a motorcycle a few times. That was pretty exciting.

### **What has been your most memorable camping trip?**

Odell Lake with my family in the early '70s. That was a lot of fun.

### **What sets Marathon apart from other luxury RVs?**

The quality, of course. We have to have that, which we do. Our employees also set us apart. As well as having the experienced guys, we've had some new people come on during the past six months or couple of years that are very skilled and talented. That's very exciting.

### **Watch sports or play sports?**

At my age anymore, I watch.

### **If you were stranded on a deserted island, who would you want with you?**

That's pretty easy — my wife.

### **Where do you most want to travel but have never been?**

Probably Alaska for the fishing and hunting opportunities.

### **What is your favorite memory?**

The day I got married.

### **How would your friends describe you?**

I guess it depends on who you ask. I'm pretty driven at my job, and I like to play hard and work hard.

### **What is your favorite book?**

One that was memorable I read as a kid was "Moby Dick."

### **What is your favorite song?**

It would be the Don Henley thing again, probably "Desperado" by the Eagles.

### **Who was your favorite teacher growing up and why?**

My favorite teacher was also my track coach, Jim Brown. He was my shop teacher, as well. He also got me started in the cabinetry thing. Definitely him.





## John Thompson

Time at Marathon: 21 years, started June of 1995.

When wanderlust strikes, Marathon Coach team member John Thompson hits the road. From motorcycle adventures in his own backyard to racing cars, he knows how to rev things up.

### What is your favorite thing about working at Marathon?

I really enjoy the people here. I've cultivated many friendships. However, for several years I did the racing thing. That's my favorite thing of the whole deal. I enjoy working on the coaches, but when they approached me to do the historic racing thing, I said, "You'll pay me to do this?" That's one of those things you'd almost do for free. The fact they paid me and that I was able to bring my family along sometimes, that to me was the best thing about being here. I've been here 21 years now, but that was the pinnacle.

- Drove: Jeff Gordon Lumina stock car as well as Charlie Meyers' STP Pontiac.

### Who would play you in a movie of your life?

I kind of like to think Steve McQueen might play me because we have very similar interests.

### What do you think people should know about Marathon?

That we build the finest motorcoaches in the world. If you're the king of Saudi Arabia and you want a "camper," we will take care of you.

### What is your favorite childhood memory?

Camping with my parents, and hiking and climbing South Sister with my father.

### What is your favorite free time activity?

Riding motorcycles. I got my motorcycle endorsement in 1978 and I've been riding ever since. That's always been one of my loves, something to do since graduating from high school. I started doing the Sunday morning ride to Fifth Street Market when I was young and that has blossomed into all kinds of different motorcycles, as well as riding some of the most incredible roads we have in the country, right in our own backyard. I have a reputation that when it's sunny, I get out. Getting out into the woods, my wife likes to call it meditation in motion, and that's really what it is for us.

### What do you do at Marathon?

When I first started I was a service tech and basically did more of the mechanical part of service. Now I'm in production, and I concentrate almost entirely on electrical.



### Who was your favorite singer/band in high school?

The Beatles and Led Zeppelin.

### Who is your favorite singer/band now?

Tedeschi Trucks Band.

### Star Wars or Star Trek?

Star Trek.

### Oregon Ducks or Oregon Beavers?

Duuuucks.

### What has been your most memorable vacation?

My most memorable vacation involved a little bit of racing. We were able to stay in a coach at Laguna Seca in Monterey three or four days, just my wife and me. It mostly involved work-related things just because that gave me the opportunity to see and experience things I never would have. We went to the aquarium and went sea kayaking; We had a great time.

### What has been your most memorable camping trip?

It's a different kind of camping trip, but when we rode motorcycles to the races at Laguna, we would camp on the way down, three nights, and then we camped on the way back. Those were some of the most memorable ones I've taken.

### What sets Marathon apart from other luxury RVs?

The fact that we're handmade — we have old-world craftspeople, which are hard to find anymore.

### Where was the most interesting place you camped as a kid?

The headwaters of the Rogue River in Southern Oregon.

### Watch sports or play sports?

I watch a lot of sports and play a little sports. We are huge Blazer fans and we don't miss a game.

### If you were stranded on a deserted island, who would you want with you?

My wife.

### Where do you most want to travel but have never been?

I would love to travel to Europe (my wife has family there), as well as Australia and the Far East.

### What is your favorite memory?

Work related, my favorite memory is when we won the first San Jose Grand Prix with the cars and got to stay at the hotel. The race track was around the hotel, so we'd wake up in the morning with Indie cars running in front of the place. It was pretty spectacular.

### How would your friends describe you?

Easygoing, I hope.

### Which of your parents are you most like?

Dad.

### What has been your best birthday?

When I turned 16, I got my driver's license.

### What is your favorite song?

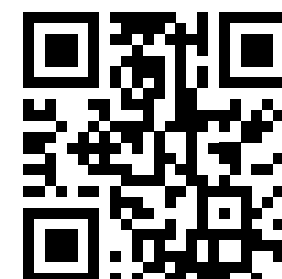
"Anyhow" by Susann Tedeschi.

### Who was your favorite teacher growing up and why?

They were all really good. I always enjoyed school, especially grade school. I'd have to say in high school, the auto shop teacher, Mr. Schneider, was one of my favorites.

### Who was your first celebrity crush?

Farah Fawcett.



<http://bit.ly/2sq4M0j>

Watch all three video interviews on Marathon Coach's YouTube channel



## John Farley

Time with Marathon: 20 years, started March 17, 1997.

The luck of the Irish has accompanied John Farley wherever he has gone. Aside from having the Irish name Farley, Marathon's upholstery manager graduated from Sheldon High School, of the Sheldon Irish, and was hired at Marathon on St. Patrick's Day — their lucky day. Even his house has a bit of Irish flair; it's on the corner of Shannon and Dublin.

### **What is one of your favorite things about working at Marathon?**

I think it's the passion for the quality of work that Marathon expects. I also want quality. I'd rather have people take a little more time to do something and have it come out right, than to have to do it over.

### **Who would play you in a movie of your life?**

Probably Matt Damon. I like the "Bourne" trilogy where he's gone off on his own and then he's brought back into things. That's kind of what happens to me. I get brought back into a lot of things.

I like to just keep doing what I'm doing, but I keep getting dragged into other things.

### **What is your favorite movie?**

I like the "Bourne" trilogy. But also I like "Pirates of the Caribbean" movies.

### **What do you think people should know about Marathon?**

It's the quality of work and how Marathon takes care of its customers from both the production end as well as the service end. That's really what I like: Marathon takes care of their customers. To me it's a family atmosphere here. That's what I've always enjoyed about Marathon.

### **What is your favorite childhood memory?**

Probably when my brother and I went to Ohio with our grandma and grandpa. We went in the car to visit relatives back there. I still remember that trip.

### **What is your favorite free time activity?**

Gardening and taking care of the yard; I've always liked that.

### **What do you do at Marathon?**

I run the upholstery department, but I also help the service people with upholstery. My department also helps the Florida and Texas locations.

### **Who was your favorite singer or band in high school?**

I would say Bob Seger.



### **Who is your favorite singer or band now?**

I still listen to the old music: Bob Seger, James Brown and stuff like that.

### **What brought you to Marathon?**

I owned a business for seven or eight years and had seven employees. I was working 12-hour days, seven days a week. Business was very good, but it wasn't me. I had too much paperwork and I'm a hands-on person. I like to do the work. At the time, the manager of Marathon offered me a job because he knew I wasn't happy, so I decided to close my shop and take the job. I don't regret it.

### **Star Wars or Star Trek?**

Star Trek.

### **Ducks or Beavers?**

Oregon Ducks.

### **What has been your most memorable vacation?**

There've been quite a few of them: I've been to Tahiti, Bora Bora, Moorea. My first wife had a brother in the Navy. He was a commissioned officer and he got stationed back in Washington, DC at the White House. We traveled there and he took us all over the place, to see the history of the Civil War battlefields and everything. That still sticks in my mind because it was the country and the history of the country.

### **Tahiti or Bora Bora?**

Bora Bora.

### **What has been your most memorable camping trip?**

We've been to Yellowstone and to the Grand Canyon. Both of

them were very nice. The Grand Canyon was probably a bit more memorable because I hiked down into the canyon for a day and that was extremely nice.

### **What sets Marathon apart from other luxury RVs?**

I would think it's the quality that goes into them.

### **Watch sports or play sports?**

I do watch some sports. I watch the Ducks when they play. I used to play a lot of softball; I played on three teams, playing six games a week.

### **If you were stranded on a deserted island, who would you want with you?**

My wife.

### **How would your friends describe you?**

Probably as quiet and reserved, which I am and I know that.

### **What is your favorite book?**

I have a set of "Clan of the Cave Bears" and I always remember those.

### **What is your favorite song?**

Probably the Bob Seger song, "Running Against the Wind."

### **Who was your favorite teacher growing up and why?**

The one I remember most is my social studies teacher in seventh grade. He got me started running cross country, where I ended up winning the district title three years in a row.

### **Who was your first celebrity crush?**

She was a news anchor on NBC: Jessica Savage.

### **Inland or waterfront?**

I've always been very lucky. My grandparents owned a beach house, and we had a house on the Sandy River. We were always on the water or next to the ocean, so I always had some place to go. Now we have friends up at Crescent Lake, where they have a secluded spot on the creek: It's private, with a full RV hook-up for us. We go camping up there. So that's always been kind of nice.

### **What is one of your greatest high school accomplishments?**

In high school, I got talked into going out for wrestling, and I had never wrestled before. I ended up becoming an All-Star wrestler my senior year. I actually got to wrestle a Japanese national champion when there was a tour going through the West Coast. I also qualified for the state championship, although I didn't do very well. I always excelled in running. In fact, I was District Five AAA champion, placing sixth in the state, which I was disappointed in. I just didn't run a good race that day.





# Remembering **Bob Schoellhorn**



January 11, 2017, Marathon Coach lost a visionary and trailblazer that helped shape Marathon Coach into the company it is today. During his extraordinary life, Robert "Bob" Schoellhorn touched the lives of those around him, including employees, customers, family and friends.

Born in Philadelphia, Bob completed his studies in chemistry after serving in the United States Army. Graduating from the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Sciences, he soon went to work for American Cyanamid, an industry leader in its time, where he stayed for 26 years. Late in 1973, he joined Abbott Laboratories,

a major pharmaceutical company. After 17 years of service, including more than 10 years as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, Bob retired. However, many adventures lay ahead after Abbott as Bob's passion for luxury coaches would impact the industry for more than 25 years.



“He developed close friendships with many coach owners and employees, and words can't express how much he *enjoyed spending time* with innumerable people over the years. *He will be greatly missed.*”



Bob's First Coach, #9175

Upon retirement he pursued an interest in RVing, seeing the country and experiencing a new lifestyle. He first purchased a traditional class A motorhome, but after several journeys realized that he desired higher quality and better drivability. When he stumbled upon Marathon in Oregon, Bob was greatly





Bob's Second Coach, #0307



impressed with the advanced bus conversions, which were similar to private jets and custom yachts. He bought his first Marathon in 1991, and was so impressed with his new coach that shortly thereafter he purchased a minority share in the company. He became sole owner of Marathon Coach in 1994 and used his worldwide business expertise and investment to accelerate Marathon's expansion by many years, including building the company's state-of-the-art headquarters in Coburg, Ore. During Bob's tenure, the company built and distributed more than 1,000 custom bus conversions.

"Dad was always passionate about our Marathon family and the beautiful coaches we create," said Marathon Coach Owner and President Steve Schoellhorn. "He developed close friendships with many coach owners and employees, and words can't express how much he enjoyed

spending time with innumerable people over the years. He will be greatly missed."

Bob Schoellhorn is survived by his wife Kay; three children, Robert W. Schoellhorn, Jennifer Kovalenko and Steve Schoellhorn; many grandchildren, other family and countless friends.

During his life he served on the board of Pillsbury, International Telephone & Telegraph Corp., and Shell Oil Company. He was past-chairman and director of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Association and the Health Industry Manufacturers Association. In addition, Mr. Schoellhorn was committed to numerous charitable organizations, including the Cradle Society, University of North Carolina REX Heart and Vascular Hospital Campaign, and The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. 🐾



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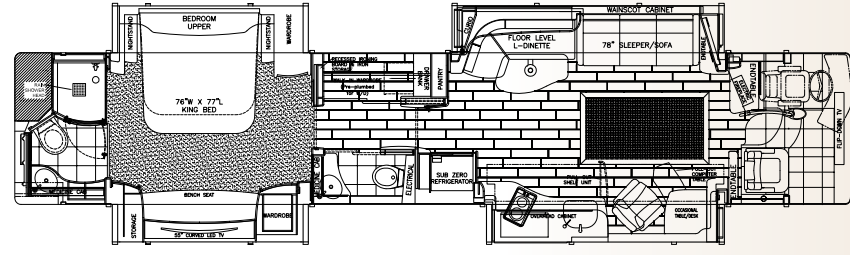
# coach showcase



#1258 | 2017 Marathon Quad Slide-Out H3-45

**TOP FEATURES:**

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- Liquid Crystal Privacy Glass Shower Door
- Valid Leveling System
- Under Floor Heating



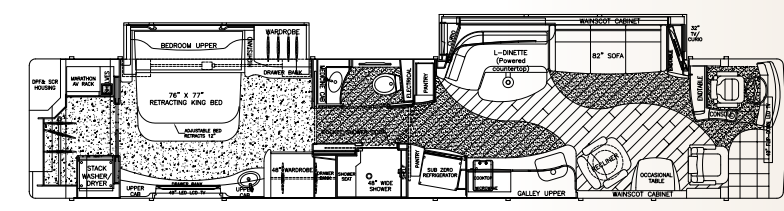
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#1261 | 2018 Marathon Double Slide-Out X3-45

**TOP FEATURES:**

- Adjustable Bed
- New Bay Design
- Under Floor Heating
- Girard Nova Awning Package
- Valid Leveling System



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