

# Maintenance

**Cleaning the AC Filter** - Our unit was somewhat warm last night so this morning I cleaned the filter. The temp dropped significantly (about 5-8 degrees). To clean the filter I opened the cabinet above the bed and carefully twisted the filter and framework to maneuver and remove it. I vacuumed the filter (or take outside to rinse it clean - make sure it is dry before installing), then twisted the filter slightly and slipped it into the slot. Don't forget to vacuum the wire screen. (Lynn Hubbard) (#2, 09/03)

## **Weekend mechanic...**\_(Bruce & Rosemary Monte)

1. Check the water in the batteries.
2. While there, check the antifreeze level in the generator.
3. Check the fluid level (Dextron III) in the hydraulic levelers (located in the compartment behind the passenger side rear wheel.
4. Check the bolts on the hitch. Another brand has experienced loose and missing bolts from their hitch assemblies.
5. Get coach weighed at each corner if you have not done this yet.
6. Check the pressure in all tires. Inflate them to the pressure shown on the ~~new Michelin~~ tire manufacturer's chart, according to the weight being carried.
7. Check the caulk on the roof. It may look fine but you need to feel it to see that it is not brittle or loose. If needed, remove and replace with Dicor self-leveling sealant.
8. Check the clamps on the radiator hose. Lift bed, the hose is toward the front of the engine (rear of the bed)
9. Check folding chair, see if it is still comfortable to relax in. (#6, 09/04)

## **Emergency items...** (Bruce & Rosemary Monte)

1. Gallon of motor oil.
2. Spare fuel filter.
3. Gallon of transmission fluid. If you have Allison Transynd you must NOT use anything other than Transynd
4. Gallon of Fleetcharge antifreeze part #ALA 0003. And a method to add it to your radiator.
5. Quart of Dextron III
6. Comfortable chair (see Number 8 - above) . (#6, 09/04)

**EVERY SIX MONTHS - CRITICAL MAINTENANCE ITEMS.** [Believed to be Per Alfa] (#7, 12/04)

### LOCATION, INSPECTION, ITEM

- Sidewalls: Roof Sealant inspection - repair of any leaks or visual indication of a void.
- Slideouts: Slide out Seals - Clean and Treat with Protectant
- Front and Rear Caps: Clean and Wax
- Coleman Air Conditioner Exterior: Condenser Cleaning
- Kwikiee Entry Step: Lubricate per Kwikiee instructions

**EVERY TWELVE MONTHS - CRITICAL MAINTENANCE ITEMS** [Believed to be Per Alfa]

(#7, 12/04)

#### LOCATION, INSPECTION, ITEM

- Sidewalls: Roof - Old Sealant - removal and reapplication
- Slideouts: Old Sealant - removal and reapplication
- Front and Rear Caps: Old Sealant - removal and reapplication
- All Exterior Components: Old Sealant - removal and reapplication
- Penetrations, Seams, Joints: Old Sealant - removal and reapplication
- Windows, Skirts: Old Sealant - removal and reapplication
- Carbon Monoxide Detector: Annual Inspection and battery replacement
- LP Leak Detector: Annual Inspection and battery replacement
- Smoke Detector: Annual Inspection and battery replacement
- LP System: Inspection and pressure test
- Electrical System: Tighten contacts - at shore cord
- Stove: Follow instructions in Alfa Owner's Manual Critical Maintenance section
- Furnace: Follow instructions in Alfa Owner's Manual Critical Maintenance section
- Water Heater: Follow instructions in Alfa Owner's Manual Critical Maintenance section
- Fire Extinguisher: Check pressure and agitate powder
- Hydro-Hot: Follow instructions in Alfa Owner's Manual Critical Maintenance section
- Dometic Refrigerator: Annual maintenance by a Certified Dometic Technician/Dealer
- Windshield Wipers: Replace

These are a listing of the critical maintenance items on your coach. There are other items that should be addressed on a regular basis (both time and mileage). We suggest you review other manufacturer's recommendations provided with your coach.

The Chassis with all components - Freightliner, Caterpillar or Cummins, Allison; Generators by Generac or Onan, the batteries from Freightliner or Interstate - must follow the maintenance requirements in their specific manual.

These are items on our yearly maintenance service that we do at Alfa:

#### **ROOF**

- Seal Main Roof (around vents, moulding & drip rails)
- Seal T-mold on slidouts, inner rubber flange & moulding

#### **EXTERIOR OF UNIT**

- Windows (remove excessive putty around windows and seal frames)
- Seal complete exterior of unit (doors, moulding, skirting, etc.)

#### **CITY WATER SUPPLY**

- Clean all strainer
- Adjust water pump pressure (Clean water pump strainer)
- Seal faucet bases for leaks
- Clean and inspect P-Traps

## APPLIANCES

- Test and adjust stove as needed
- Test AC, clean filters and inspect relay connections
- Test and service furnace
- Perform LPG system leak test
- Test water heater

## AWNING

- Adjust and lube main awning
- Adjust and lube all window awnings
- Recenter and realign slideout covers and adjust as needed

**Cleaning the Roof** - Although it requires some work, a solution of Spic & Span powder mixed 1 cup to 1 gallon of warm water will do an excellent job on the rubber roof. It also removed all the mildew that was on the rubber trim just below the roof line. In about 45 minutes I was able to restore the bright white color to our fifteen-month-old coach's roof. Scrub a 2 x 4 section and then wipe with a wet towel, then wipe with a second towel, let air-dry. Avoid solution dripping down the side of the coach. When you are finished, realize that your hands are very slippery. Dry them thoroughly before descending from the roof. (Bruce Monte) (#4, 03/04)

**How do I reach the top of the walls for cleaning and waxing?** Last year when insurance inspectors checked our home after hail damage they used a collapsible ladder made of aluminum (OSHA approved). Camping World offers a 10 ½ foot but a 12 foot is much more useable in servicing the SeeYa. A search of the web located a 12-foot at a reasonable price. In traveling position it is 5" thick by 28" wide by 32" high. (Jim Huber) (#4, 03/04) (Editor's note: These are called "telescoping ladders". Home Depot carries one on their website (@ \$180). Though supposedly available in some of their stores I have yet to find one. I ordered one shipped (free shipping).)

**Replacing and protecting wiper blades.** Do you need new wiper blades on your 2003 SeeYa? The Alfa part number is 19-26. They are difficult to locate here in northern CA. A tip to protect your wiper blades when stored in summer heat, use some of that foam rubber that you put on your pipes at home to prevent ice in pipes. - (John Henrickson) (#6, 09/04)

**Replacing Caulking** From the Yahoo web site - Last September Brian from Alfa Customer Care wrote in response to a member's inquiry about using mineral spirits to remove caulking.

Mineral Spirits are not a good idea, they can attack the finish. What we do here is:

- 1) Use a nylon scraper to remove most of the caulking. (It will usually pull off in strings)
- 2) Wipe and clean with lemon oil to get rid of the residue.
- 3) Clean with soap and water to remove the lemon oil residue.
- 4) Reseal (#9/6/05)

**Roof Caulking:** Owners should regularly check the condition of the caulking on the roof. One spot easily missed is the caulking at the edges of the rear fiberglass cap. The cap wraps around both sides

and there is caulking located there. Easily missed, it can result in water stained bedroom ceiling. (#9, 06/05)

**Removing Caulking on Sidewalls:** When we were at the FMCA International Area rally in Lebanon TN this April, we were shown a product that easily cleans the coach fiberglass. It was especially good in removing caulking (NOT for use on rubber roof). Manufactured by PPG, the product is used by auto paint shops just prior to applying a new coat of paint to a vehicle. You must then wax the area since it will remove existing wax. DITZ-O DX 440 is the product reference. It should be available at automotive paint supply houses. The product was shown to us by John Morris, the Service tech for Almond RV, Memphis TN. I expect that any similar product would achieve the same results. (Bruce Monte) (#10, 09/05)

### **Replacing Caulking -**

- 1) Use a nylon scraper to remove the old caulking.
- 2) Wipe and clean with lemon oil to remove the residue
- 3) Clean with soap and water to remove the lemon oil residue. (#12, 04/06)