

NRVIA Member of the Month



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My RV Inspection

www.myrvinspection.com

Tampa, FL



WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN RV INSPECTOR?

In 2016, Lisa and I decided to buy an RV and live the full-time lifestyle. She had been a traveling Certified Surgical Tech in the past and we figured I could pick up odd jobs on the road. Our first assignment was in Tyler, TX and for 3 months all I did was work on the RV and take care of our daily chores. Our second assignment was more of the same in Columbia, SC. We then went back to Florida and I went back to my old job (Audio Video Lead Technician) for 3 months. During our trip back to Florida we came across an ad for the NRVIA. I did my research and contacted several inspectors to ask how it had worked out for them. From that point on I was hooked on the idea that this could be something I could do while we traveled. For our next, trip Lisa decided to go back to Tyler, TX because it was close to the RV Tech course I would be attending was. After several months of working as an inspector we decided to send Lisa to the class so we wouldn't be locked in to 3 month assignments and we could travel freely across the country. We now inspect RV's together and can promote the fact that customers get a set of level 2 trained inspectors inspecting their RV.

WHAT WAS YOUR RV BACKGROUND BEFORE BECOMING AN RV INSPECTOR?

Before becoming an RV Inspector we had only been full-time a little over a year. I had been trying to repair and maintain our own RV. Wow - did the NRVIA open my eyes to all the things I had been doing wrong or not doing at all. Now not only can I take care of my own RV, but I have a thriving mobile RV repair business and we also do RV Inspections.



DO YOU OWN AN RV AND IF SO, WHAT IS THE YEAR, MAKE, AND MODEL?

We do own an RV. Our RV is a 2006 Coachmen Mirada Class A Gas. When we bought our RV almost 2 years ago we didn't want to buy something too expensive. We had never tried living in such a small space and wanted to be able to test the waters before buying something newer and more expensive. We never thought about an RV Inspection when we purchased our RV and we just happened to get lucky that we didn't get a lemon.

WHAT TYPES OF MARKETING DO YOU DO ONLINE AND LOCALLY?

Google Adwords (example to the right) has been our best friend. We also have websites and business cards. I have magnets on the side of my truck which will soon be professionally lettered. We have also bought a 7x16 enclosed trailer that will be lettered. The magnets paid for themselves about 15 minutes after I put them on my vehicle. Being in RV parks all the time, the neighbors see the vehicle and come right to you.

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WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE INSPECTION/CLIENT EXPERIENCE AND WHY?

My most memorable experience, without a doubt, was helping Hurricane Irma Victims. The stories we heard from the people in the Florida Keys will stay with me forever. We spent nearly 3 months inspecting brand new RV's that FEMA was providing as temporary homes. It opened my eyes to the fact that even most new RV's come with problems that should be resolved before someone buys one. It was a great honor to be chosen to go down there and help.

WHAT TIP(S) WOULD YOU OFFER TO SOMEONE WHO IS CONSIDERING A NEW VENTURE IN RV INSPECTIONS?

If you are considering becoming an RV Inspector, the best advice I can give you is to contact several inspectors. If you are someone who just wants to do a couple inspections a month, there are inspectors out there just like you and can explain how that works. If you want to make this a full-time job, it can be done, and many inspectors do it. Just ask questions. Most inspectors will share their experience with you. This is not a turn key business. You have to work at it. If you love the lifestyle and helping others, it isn't really work. If you take the classes be sure to listen to Coop, Steve, and Howard. They are very smart men who give you a wealth of information. All you have to do is listen, learn and apply what they teach you. Meeting and learning from them has been one of the best things that's ever happened to me. Thank you for everything gentlemen!



HOW HAS BEING A MEMBER OF NRVIA HELPED YOU IN YOUR RV INSPECTION JOURNEY?

The NRVIA has so many tools available to the membership that it makes the journey easy. The leads generated by the NRVIA are invaluable. They do so much work marketing that their website is highly ranked in the search engines. The training they offer after becoming an inspector is also invaluable. The industry is constantly changing and we, as inspectors, need to keep up with it. When I was in the Florida Keys, I got to see how hard Stephanie works in the background, with multiple computer screens and printers. She deserves a lot of credit for the success we enjoy.