

## **SOME TRAILER ADVICE QUESTION:**

I have a 1990 Excella (29-foot) with a few problems:

The fresh water tank drain-hole flange is broken, so it obviously leaks. Various repair people have tried a number of different patches, but a recent trip up the Alcan Highway has proven their efforts ineffective at best. Now it really leaks! The time has come to replace the water tank. Is this a task a reasonably "handy" do-it-yourselfer can handle? How high off the ground do I have to have the trailer to get the tank out? Do you have any ideas where I can get a new (used) one? Will the water level sensor need to be replaced as well?

The bathroom (through the roof) exhaust fan plastic structure has failed and must be replaced. Recommendations?

The exterior aluminum protective coating appears to be peeling off, especially from the roof. What can be done about that? Is this something I should be worried about? Any advice, or further contacts, you can give me would be very much appreciated.

### **ANSWER:**

All Rite Custom Manufacturing (<http://www.all-rite.com/>) can supply any custom size tank. This is the only source that I have seen used, but there must be others. The water level sensor can be mounted in a similar manner as the current tank, but discuss this with the Tank supplier. Airstream may be able to supply a replacement tank. I can't help with the replacement process.

I have used Fantastic Fan's single speed exhaust unit on two of my friends' trailers. Much better operation and warrantied forever.

This is a common problem with vintage trailers. I don't believe there is any way to stop it. We vintage folks ignore it until it becomes aesthetically bothersome, and then we chemically strip the entire clear coat off. The more ambitious of us will then polish the trailer. Without the clear coat the aluminum will oxidize and turn gray. This is not a problem, but it doesn't look new or polished.