



2010 43QGP Allegro Bus

1/25/2013

76 – FYI – REPLACING THE ENGINE’S AIR FILTER. Two years ago we purchased our 2010 coach, two years is the standard time interval allotted for replacing the OEM paper air filter on the coach’s engine. At a 2004, FMCA RV rally we attended a seminar on replacing the coach’s standard paper air filter with a cotton air filter manufactured by K & N filters. Sales personal at that seminar were selling and installing the K & N air filters however the filter they were selling for our coach required annual cleaning with a special cleaner and re-oiling at the cost of nearly \$400.00. The air filter for our 2002 model coach cost us \$ 60.00, with replacement every two years, we could not see the value in making the change from paper to cotton.

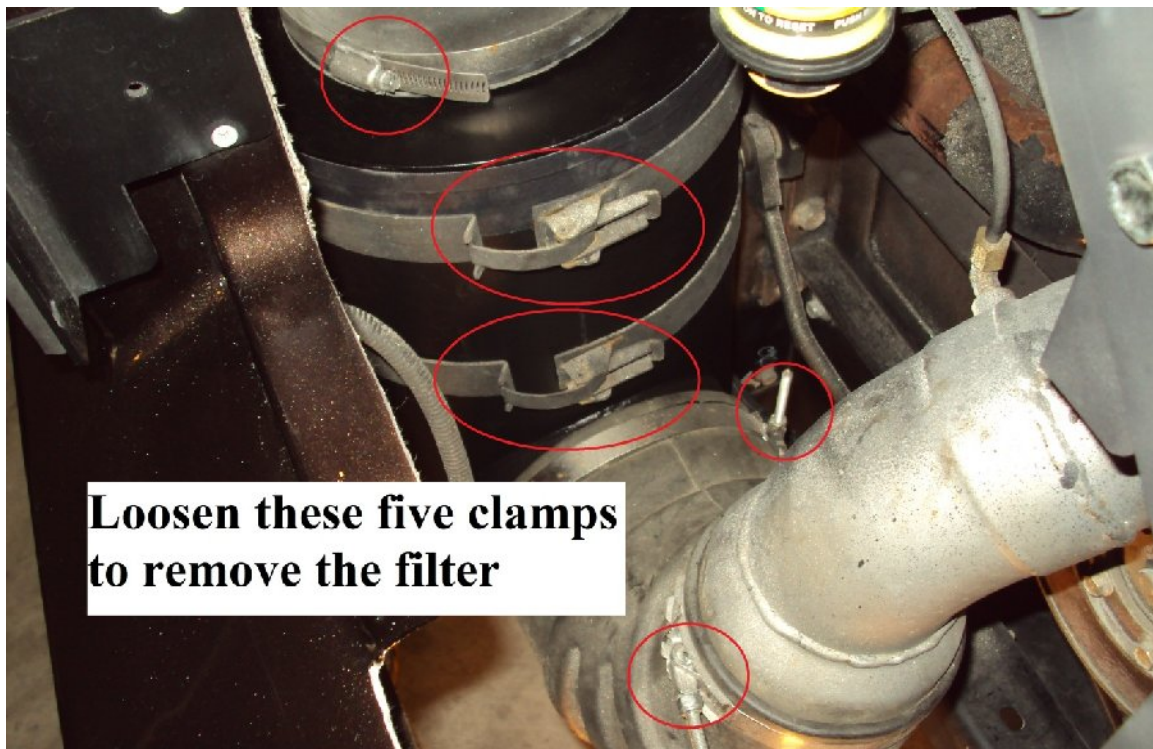
Recently after one of my posts, a forum member sent me a private message, the message told me I should contact Bob & Trish Donovan (havasu4us@msn.com) to obtain a discounted price on a K & N air filter.



**1/4 teaspoon of dirt was
found in this rubber elbow**

I did contact them about purchasing a filter, after reading the K& N air filter information we found the correct K & N air filter did not require oil, rather than a cotton filter it is a durable synthetic air filter media, according to the enclosed shipping information the filter is good for three years or 300,000 miles, however I also found written instructions stating the filter should be cleaned annually. The K & N filter requires a special cleaner @ \$22.00 per gallon, with free shipping.

From Bob & Trish the price for the **38-2009R** filter used in our coach is \$224.50 **INCLUDING** shipping, the best price found for the OEM filter is \$120.00 **PLUS** shipping. IMO, the cost difference makes this air filter upgrade cost effective and the filter's replacement was quickly completed.



First loosen the hose clamp on the top of the filter you may need to wiggle the rubber hose to get it to loosen prior to sliding the hose off the filter. Then loosen the two clamps on the rubber elbow enough to slide a butter knife or a similar flat narrow blade to loosen the rubber from the metal. After both ends of the filter have been loosened you can release the two clamps holding the filter in place, making sure to hang onto the filter otherwise it will drop. The old filter and rubber elbow was placed on my work table along with the new air filter, during the process of moving the rubber elbow to the new air filter a measurable amount of dirt was found in the rubber elbow. That dirt was found on the **FILTERED** air side of the old paper filter. This air filter

was replaced by Tiffin's Powerglide shop during February 2011 the only other time the pipe between the air filter and the turbo charger was removed was last year when the engine alternator was replaced. Could dirt have been sitting on top of the joint between the air filter's rubber elbow and the turbo pipe and fell into the elbow when the previous filter or the alternator was replaced, doubtful as the dirt would have already been ingested by the engine after so many miles. I suspect this dirt was sitting on top of the rubber elbow then dropped into the elbow when I was taking the turbocharger's piping loose from the elbow. I think when changing the filter you need to make sure there is no dirt on the rubber elbow to fall into the elbow or remove the rubber elbow to check and clean any dirt from inside it.



Other than the intake air hose and the output tubing to the turbocharger the two above bolts are the total support for the air filter and its metal mounting bracket. The metal at that point flexes allowing the air filter to move side to side not much but enough it could make a bumping noise.

I am not sure what can be added to stiffen the filters mounting, however the point circled in red is the corner of the radiator housing the adjacent point bolted to it is part of the air filter's mount. Further research found the K & N filter's canister appears to be thicker than the OEM canister which may be preventing the flex found with the OEM air filter.

I asked the Donovan's if they would honor the same discounted price they extended to me for other TRVN members to which they replied **YES** they would.