



2010 43QGP Allegro Bus

4/3/2015

THIRTY-FIRST - coach modification. SADDLE BAG SHELVING, R2.

Bet you have no idea what I am talking about. In a few words, it is ventilated shelving hung on the outside of the chassis frame rails, hence saddle bags. For some time I have been searching for something lightweight yet strong enough to hold items suspended above the slide trays and at the same time be easily accessible. I found just the item at Tractor Supply Co. it is called Goat Panel it comes in a 4' x 16' section with 4" squares of 3/16" galvanized steel wire. Cost is \$55.00 per section. The plan is to cut the wire into 44" x 28" shelves for the four areas over the slide trays. I will use galvanized 1/2" chain link flat bar to make hangers to suspend the goat panel wire from the top of the frame rail. On the outer edge of the shelf by the compartment doors more galvanized chain link flat bar will be used to make hangers which will support the outboard edges of the shelving keeping the shelves more or less level. The outside hangers can be released which will allow the outer edge of the shelving to drop down for easier loading/unloading.





The shelving was cut 44" wide by 28" deep and is supported by three 14 1/2" straps bent to hook over the top of the frame rail and includes a reverse hook to capture the back wire of the goat panel (shelving). In the above picture the front two support hanging brackets have been removed from the shelving which allows the shelving to rest on the blue and clear tote's.



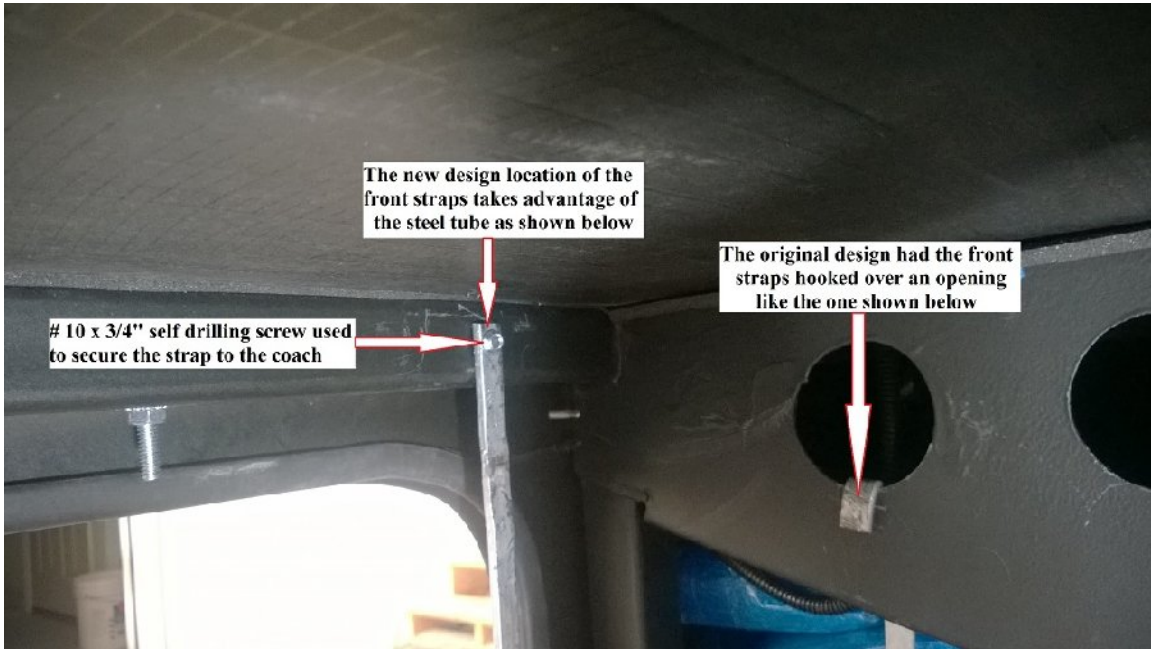
In the above picture the shelving is held in place by the three rear supports and the two front corner supports. With plenty of shelving wire left from the panel I plan on installing a smaller 20" wide by 28" deep shelf in the forward passenger side compartment.



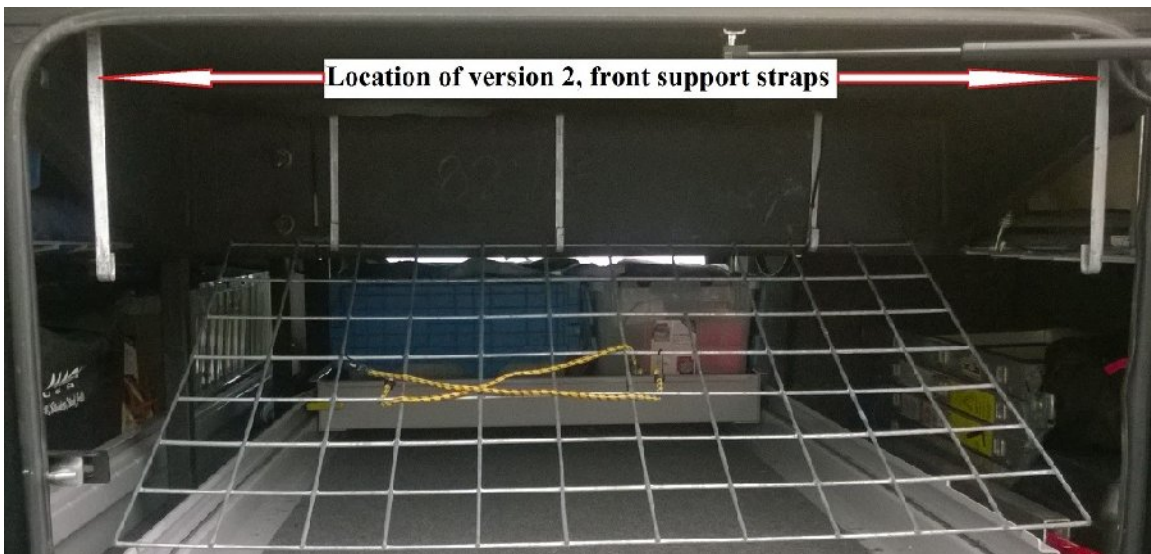
The above picture has four folding chairs lying on the shelving. Small bungee cords were installed to prevent the chairs from sliding around or making noise.



The frame hangers are each 14 1/2" in length. The bends are at 3/4" to catch the inside frame rail lip, 4 1/4" crosses the top of the frame rail, then 13" which takes the hanger to the bottom edge of the frame rail where a reverse hook was bent to capture the shelving wire.

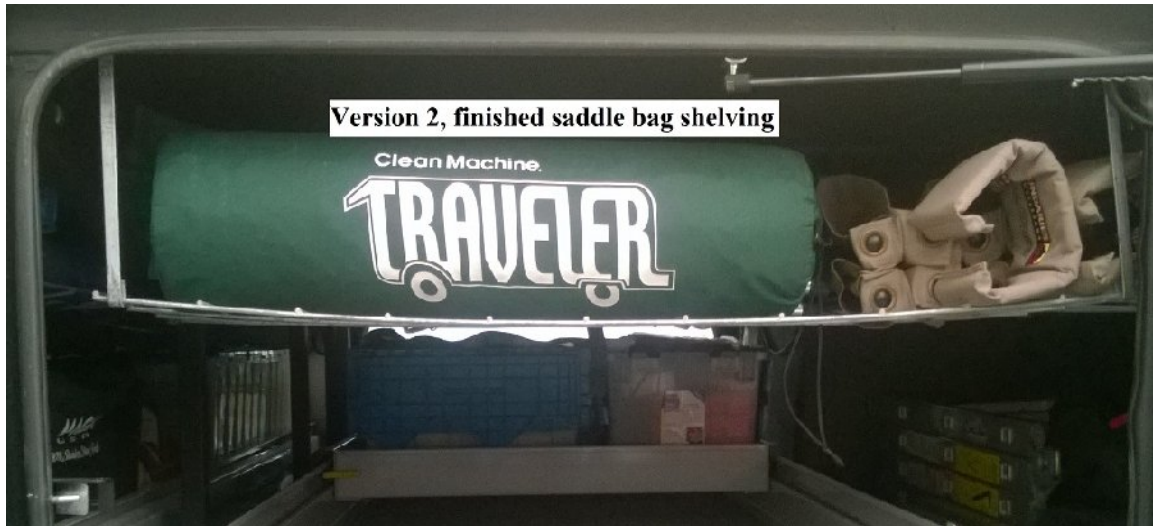


Version 2 moved the front support straps to the square tubing supporting the coach flooring. The same chain link fencing tension bar was used in this revision. I suggest not making the screws tight rather allow a turn or two for the strap to be moved freely.



The two straps used to support the shelving on the passenger side of the coach are each 12 inches long with a 1 inch bend to capture the wire shelving.

One method to load or unload the shelf could be to lower the shelving as shown in the above photo or you can have the shelf fully supported as seen in the below photo before loading the shelf.



A photo of the finished shelving seen from below.



After installing the ventilated shelves on our coach we have an additional 38 square feet of **USABLE** basement storage or 32 cubic feet of **USABLE** basement storage, storage space normally lost with the addition of two basement slide trays.