



2010 43QGP Allegro Bus

6/9/2013

EIGHTY-THIRD - coach modification – **LOWER REAR LADDER STORAGE.** I wish I could take credit for this ladder storage idea, I cannot and I do not remember who should have the credit. So whoever you are **THANKS.**

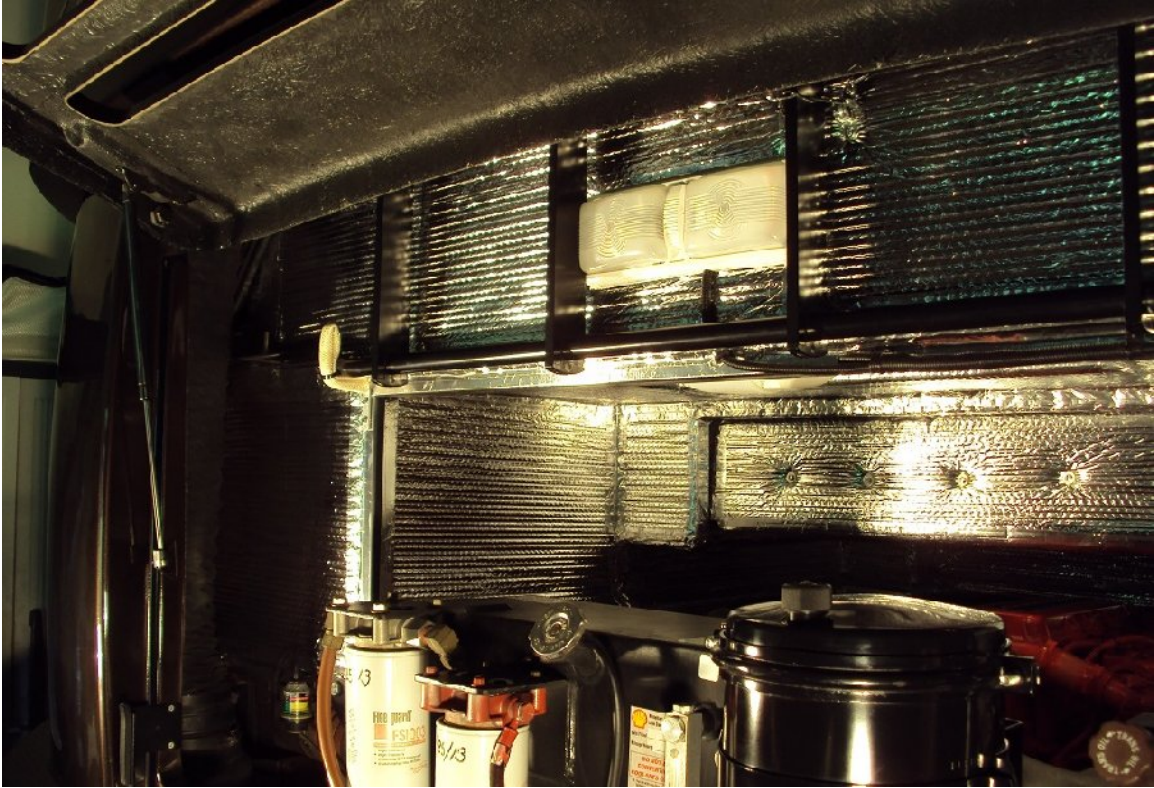
While working on Crusingator's Modification # 80 "Heat Shield Installed in the Engine Compartment", I saw a mental re-run of a member's lower ladder storage above the engine inside the rear cap. I decided to plagiarize his idea, again if anyone knows the idea's owner let me know.

I was not sure the lower ladder section would fit inside the rear cap, so I decided to give it a try. It turns out if the lower portion is inserted into the area behind the right side brake/tail light assemblies with the two ladder stand-off legs pointed toward the rear, the ladder will almost fit perfectly. I needed to push the three condensate PEX lines to the left a couple of inches to allow the top ladder hooks to clear on the left end. After that it was just a case of manufacturing a couple of hooks for the ladder to rest in. Those hooks were made using a piece of galvanized chain link fence 5/8" tension bar. 2 hooks were made by cutting two 7" pieces of tension bar then bending them to make a hook 2" tall with a 2 1/2" offset then a 2 1/2" vertical. Both 2 1/2" sections were covered with an old piece of white water hose then lapped back over the hook to prevent damage to the aluminum ladder while being stored. The hose position was secured with a couple of black wire ties.



Two 3/16" holes were drilled thru the lower 2" tall portion of each hook. The hooks were installed one on each side of the framed engine access opening of the steel framing for the rear cap. The hooks with the water hose covering them provide a tight padded support for the steel lower ladder section. Two 1/2" pipe clamps were mounted to the rear cap on either side of a ladder rung and centered on the length of the ladder with four self-drilling screws. A solid piece of insulated copper wire was run across the center ladder rung then used to pull the ladder tight to the rear cap.





Not much more needs to be explained. For two years this section of ladder has been stored in our garage because I did not desire to give up the coach storage space to carry it. Ladder storage space is no longer a problem.