



Volume 2 Number 4



October/ November 2015

### President's Message

#### NOT A GAMBLER, BUT A CASINO CAMPER

We like to camp in state parks, USFS campgrounds, and other out of the way places. It was amazing to have 65 Treks boondocking in the desert thanks to the SW Trek Fun Club last January at Quartzite..

We have also discovered casino camping. The Native Americans (First Nations) have discovered that there is money to be made in gambling and casinos have multiplied. We don't gamble because we know someone is making money and it is not the gamblers – except for a few winners. We do have friends in RV clubs who frequent the games of chance.

However, casinos in the Northwest have some of the best RV camping options available. **Seven Feathers** (Canyonville, OR) has one of the best RV campgrounds in Oregon. The indoor pool and hot tub are very relaxing. The Trucker's special in the café is a very reasonable steak dinner. Seven Feathers is a great place for a rally – one of our clubs meets here each year.

On the way to Sequim for a rally, we stopped at the **Lucky Eagle** (Rochester, WA). The RV park is located away from the casino and reasonable at \$25 per night. Be sure to go on a Monday night when the buffet dinner for seniors is only \$8.95 per person.

FMCA has held its NW Area Rally at the **Mill Casino** (North Bend, OR). Nice, clean restrooms and a shuttle service direct to the front door. We have enjoyed the Indian salmon bake and other community events at the Mill.

NWTFC has had a rally at **Yakama Nation RV Park** (Toppenish, WA). Other friends have stayed at the **Wild Horse** (Pendleton, OR). **Little Creek** (Shelton, WA) has a nice RV park and is very reasonable.

If interested, you might check out [www.casinocamper.com](http://www.casinocamper.com). It is another option for traveling and adventure.

### 2016 RALLY SCHEDULE

(To be Wagon Master for a rally, contact Helen Anderson, Rally Coordinator, at [helen-anderson@comcast.net](mailto:helen-anderson@comcast.net))

- May 21 - 28 Traveling Rally  
Lake Chelan > Grand Coulee  
Dean & Sue Bjornson  
Ken and Helen Anderson  
(see pages
- June Pre-rally to FMCA NW Rally  
Willamette Valley near Albany  
**Open**
- June 23 – 26 FMCA NW Area Rally  
Albany, OR
- August 11 – 14 Port Townsend, WA  
Ron Mahugh/Mary Burchett
- Fall Joseph & Wallowa Lake, OR  
Bill & Paula Shull  
Richard & Nancy Harris  
John & Marie Turner

**Be a Wagon Master & share the fun!**

## OFFICERS NOMINATED FOR 2017

Ballots for the election will be sent out shortly. Please send in your ballot as soon as you can – one vote per coach (F number).

President – Steve Webber-Plank  
Secretary – David & Sue Pierce  
National Director – Al Zimmerman

Nominations Committee for 2016  
Dean Bjornson – VP & Chair  
Paula Shull, Bret Medbury.

## NEWS FROM FMCA NW PLANNING MEETING

FMCA NW met in Bonney Lake, WA September 22 – 24.. NWTFC was represented by Al Zimmerman (president) and Ken Anderson (alternate national director).

2015 Coos Bay NW Rally was a success. Financial profit for the association and few complaints. **(Special thanks to NWTFC volunteers.)**

FMCA Governance Board met in Madison, WI.

- Motion from NW to provide advance info on proposals was not adopted. Revised proposal may be resubmitted.
- Chapter president may appoint temporary delegate to national rally for one meeting only with 7 days' notice to verify credentials.
- Member benefits: FMCAassist, road service similar to Coach Net, office supplies thru Office Depot/Staples, Michelin tires, and more.

It is important for chapters to be involved in area rallies. Area rallies are vital to keeping FMCA an active organization.

**FMCA NW Area Rally at Linn County Fairgrounds**, Albany June 23-26, 2016. NWTFC has committed to staff the FMCA store and will need 10 – 14 volunteers. **Contact Steve Webber-Plank for more info.**

## WAGON MASTERS NEEDED

NWTFC's goal is to have 3 to 4 rallies each year. We have rallies scheduled in 2016 for May, August and September. We have traditionally had a pre-rally prior to the FMCA NW Area Rally that is held each June. This year the rally is in Albany, OR June 23 – 26. NWTFC usually has a number of volunteers assisting with the NW Rally.

The pre-rally could be a one night rendezvous or a regular 3 night rally. Volunteers usually caravan to the NW rally from the pre-rally, though not everyone goes on to Albany.

**To continue the FUN and success of the NW Trek Club, consider hosting a rally.**

- Rallies can be very minimal in terms of scheduled activities, though some have involved a lot of activities. The Ohanapecosh Rally was at a national park campground where there were no hook-ups and we met outside around a picnic table. People were free to explore Mt. Rainier and share their adventures around the campfire.
- Sometimes hosting a rally just means picking a place to gather and having no planned activities.
- Rallies can be any place – a fancy resort is not required. We have had rallies at state parks, forest service campgrounds, as well as KOA parks and private campgrounds.
- We like to have two couples serve as wagon masters, often matching an experienced couple with another couple who are hosting for a first time.
- We have planning helps and mentors to assist and answer questions. There are many in the club who are willing to help you plan a rally.

**Contact Helen Anderson to help put a rally together at 253-848-4468 or [helen-anderson@comcast.net](mailto:helen-anderson@comcast.net).**



## Where in the "el" is Ohanapecosh Rally (Washington, near Mt. Rainier)

Sept. 17 – 20, 2015

***Dry camping & a very low-key rally***

Nine coaches attended the Ohanapecosh rally – it was small and pleasantly intimate. People were free to do the things they enjoy in their motor home or take walks and explore the area. Some traveled to Paradise or Sunrise (Mt Rainier National Park) by carpool. Those attending were Anderson, Bjornson, Carlson, Mahugh/Burchett, McCombs, Paschall/Braden, Shull, Zimmerman along with guests Bruce and Carole Morrison.

One of the highlights was to see the Grove of the Patriarchs which was an island of ancient, old growth Western red-cedar, Douglas-fir, and Western hemlock - some in excess of 1000 years old. Several Trekkers joined together for this short hike along the Ohanapechosh River.

The days started out with coffee together and evenings ended with a campfire and great warm and interesting conversations. Even though we were dry camping, we were allowed to run our generators during certain hours which provided adequate time to recharge batteries so those who had to use something medically necessary such as a CPAP were able to do so.

The Saturday rally breakfast included coffee, juices, bacon, sausage, eggs and hotcakes. Everyone seemed to get their fill to fuel the active day of relaxing/exploring or both. Thanks to Al Zimmerman for making breakfast - as well as a few other helpers. Dean Bjornson was special egg cooker. What's great about the NWTFC is that people are always willing to pitch in to help.

It seems that every rally is different, special and fun. This Ohanapecosh rally was a pretty simple one. Think about what is special in your area or state and consider planning one for the coming year or years to come. It is fun working with others and there is even a rally planning guide to help.



## UPCOMING RALLIES IN 2016



# NW Trek Fun Club Traveling Rally

May 21 - 28, 2016 (8 nights)  
Lake Chelan, Coulee City, Grand Coulee

### Rally Highlights

#### (3 parts, 8 nights total)

This rally is planned so that there is a lot of free time to explore the areas visited, spend time chatting with friends, napping, reading, comparing RV's, etc. Most of the meals are planned & prepared by you. We do think it would be fun to gather each evening for "happy hour" and eat our dinner together.

#### Saturday, May 21

\* Arrive at Lakeshore RV Park on Lake Chelan & get settled 5:00 – Dinner potluck of heavy hors d'oeuvres

#### Sunday, May 22

\*8:00 to ? — Morning coffee time together  
BYOC (Bring Your Own Coffee)

\*Free time to enjoy the area

\*5:00 Happy hour

#### Monday, May 23

\*8:00 to ? – Morning coffee time together (BYOC)

\*Boat tour of Lake Chelan, wine tasting, golfing

\*5:00 Happy hour

#### Tuesday, May 24

\*8:00 to ? – Morning coffee time together (BYOC)

\*Leave for Sun Lakes Resort RV Park

\*Free time to enjoy the area

\*5:00 Happy hour

#### Wednesday, May 25

\*8:00 to ? – Morning coffee time together (BYOC)

\*Free time to enjoy the area; tour Dry Falls

\*5:00 Happy hour

#### Thursday, May 26

\*8:00 to ? – Morning coffee time together (BYOC)

\*Leave for Spring Canyon RV Park

\*Free time to enjoy the area

\*5:00 Happy hour

#### Friday, May 27 & Saturday, May 28

\*8:00 to ? – Morning coffee time together (BYOC)

Tour Grand Coulee Dam; Laser Light Show in evening

### USEFUL WEBSITES

Lakeshore RV Park –

[www.lakechelan.com/what-to-doactivities/camping](http://www.lakechelan.com/what-to-doactivities/camping)

(In first paragraph click on "city park")

Sun Lakes Resort RV Park –

[www.sunlakesparkresort.com](http://www.sunlakesparkresort.com)

Spring Canyon (NPS) –

[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) (then click "Find Places and Activities", then chose Spring Canyon)

A Park Pass is required for camping at Spring Canyon.. A Park Pass includes one of the following: a single visit receipt, the Mt. Rainier Annual, Interagency Annual, Volunteer, Senior or Access passes. You can get a lifetime **Senior Pass** at <http://www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm>. The lifetime pass costs \$10. With this pass your camping fees are \$9 instead of \$18.

### Reservations must be made soon

so sign up early for whatever portion of the rally you would like to attend. Once the deadline has passed for registration you will need to make your own arrangements with the campgrounds listed on the rally flyer.

Wagon Masters: Dean & Sue  
Bjornson, Ken & Helen Anderson



# NW Trek Fun Club Traveling Rally

## May 21 - 28, 2016 (8 nights)

Lake Chelan, Coulee City, Grand Coulee

**Rally fee includes:** Reservations for first night at each campground (two nights minimum at Lake Chelan).

*Registration and funds must be received by Monday, October 26th. The earlier you sign up the greater chance you have of being with the group; if you miss the deadline you will need to make your own arrangements with each campground.*

**Registration Cost:**

**Part A \$76.00/coach** Lakeshore RV Park, Lake Chelan, WA (cost for remaining night is \$34.00)

**Part B \$31.00/coach** Sun Lakes Resort RV Park, Coulee City, WA (cost for remaining night is \$31.00)

**Part C \$9.00/coach** Spring Canyon (National Park Service), Grand Coulee, WA

(\$9.00 with a SeniorPass or \$18.00 w/o a Senior Pass; remaining two nights are \$9 or \$18)

I would like to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Part A only** – Amount due is \$76.00

\_\_\_\_\_ **Part B only** – Amount due is \$31.00

\_\_\_\_\_ **Part C only** – Amount due is \$9.00

\_\_\_\_\_ **I would like to attend all three parts; amount due is \$116.00**

**Make checks payable to NWTFC** (Mail completed registration and check to)

Sue Bjornson

804 So. 219<sup>th</sup> St.

Des Moines, WA 98198

Questions?? Call Dean or Sue Bjornson @ 253-736-3635 or email [dsbjornson@gmail.com](mailto:dsbjornson@gmail.com)

Ken or Helen Anderson @ 253-848-4468 or email [helen-anderson@comcast.net](mailto:helen-anderson@comcast.net)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Co-pilot \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ FMCA# \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Pass# \_\_\_\_\_ (If you don't have one, go to website to obtain pass to save half on your campsite: <http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/-Final-OMB-ApprovedSenior-Pass-App80-pdf.pdf>)

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Homephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact (name & phone #) \_\_\_\_\_

Trek Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ License# \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Are you towing a car? Y or N If yes, are you able to help transport others? Y or N

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:** NWTFC



# PORT TOWNSEND RALLY

August 11 – 14, 2016



Location: Port Hudson Marina & RV Park

Port Townsend is a wonderful historic town to explore:

- Fun shops & good eats
- Fort Worden
- NW Maritime Center
- Dolphin & whale watching tours
- And so much more

**ADVANCE RESERVATIONS NEEDED NOW!**  
 Contact Ron Mahugh soon at [ronski16@comcast.net](mailto:ronski16@comcast.net)

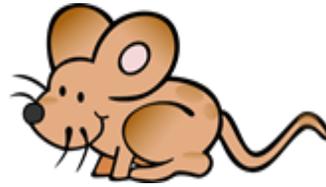
**GOING SOUTH?**

Info from Kathie Balogh  
 FMCA NW Area President

- Call of the Wild – FMCA Western Area Rally in Indio, January 6 – 10  
 NW area get together after parade on Jan. 7  
 Email to Karen Pratt if going – [karenkprtt@aol.com](mailto:karenkprtt@aol.com)
- Andy & I will be working in the FMCA booth at Quartzite, January 16 – 24. Stop and say hello.
- **Join the SW Trek Fun Club at Quartzite**  
 January 15 – 18. If you are planning to attend, RSVP to Liana Kinne at [lwkinne1@gmail.com](mailto:lwkinne1@gmail.com) or 928-899-8250. See [www.swtrek.com](http://www.swtrek.com) for info.

## CARLSONS VS THE RODENTS

by Mary Carlson



For the first time ever, Harry and I are having 'rodent' problems. We figure our first visitor came aboard in northwestern Nebraska and stayed with us for almost a week. Kessie, our cat, kept going from the dash area on the driver's side to under the kitchen sink. She eventually cornered it at 4:30 one morning while we were in Iowa.

We were baffled as to where the mouse had gotten into the Trek as Harry had rodent-proofed it as soon as we bought it. He installed a piece of rubber (ie., inner tube rubber), and stretched it across the fresh water hose opening with just a small slit for the hose to fit through. We thought his efforts would have eliminated 99% of the opportunities.

Rodents were a topic of discussion at September's Ohanapecosh Rally. Zimmermans captured two mice while we were there. However, mouse traps are not an option when one has a cat.

We went on to Cape Disappointment State Park where we knew from experience that we may have some fun with the sneaky raccoons. But we weren't prepared for the aggressive squirrels. As soon as we started setting up our campsite, we had one investigate everything and everywhere. It did not back down until Harry gave it a good whap across the nose, which sent it running back to the trees yelling at us.

We continued getting camp set up and put out Kessie's 'catio' (a cage that hangs outside the window so she can spend time outside). As soon as we did that, here came another squirrel. He had no problem slipping between the bars of the cage and then immediately began looking for a way into the coach. I hurriedly locked the cat door so he couldn't get in. Kessie watched helplessly as the squirrel ransacked her outside bed and tried to get inside.

On a cold in Grayland State Park, we were sitting in the Trek reading and heard some loud rustling coming from the dash area. Kessie was going wild trying to figure out what was in there, and then I saw something black drop out of the dash behind my purse. "Open all the doors and windows and maybe it will run out them," I hollered as I ran to my safety perch on top of the chair in the kitchen. This time it was a rat. Harry grabbed the cat and threw her in the bathroom. He then went to war, cheered on by me on my chair and Kessie howling from the bathroom. Eventually he scared the rat onto the dash and out the open window.

I'm not sure we have eliminated the rodent problem, because as I sit writing this, a squirrel is rattling the bottom of the door trying to come in. Who would've thought you needed to lock doors and windows to keep critters out!



## NWTFC OFFICERS & Committee Chairs

President – Al Zimmerman  
[zimmeralz@gmail.com](mailto:zimmeralz@gmail.com)

Vice President – Dean Bjornson  
[dsbjornson@gmail.com](mailto:dsbjornson@gmail.com)

Secretary – David & Sue Pierce  
[suedavidpierce@gmail.com](mailto:suedavidpierce@gmail.com)

Treasurer – Sue Bjornson  
[skbjornson@gmail.com](mailto:skbjornson@gmail.com)

NW FMCA Dir – Steve Webber-  
Plank  
[donwebberplank@mac.com](mailto:donwebberplank@mac.com)

Alt FMCA Dir – Ken Anderson  
[kenand2@comcast.net](mailto:kenand2@comcast.net)

Past President – John Turner  
[Jfturner3@juno.com](mailto:Jfturner3@juno.com)

Rally Coordinator – Helen  
Anderson  
[helen-anderson@comcast.net](mailto:helen-anderson@comcast.net)

Webmaster – Mary Carlson  
[webmaster@nwtfc.com](mailto:webmaster@nwtfc.com)

Newsletter Editor  
Al Zimmerman

Feel free to contact  
NWTFC officers or  
committee chairs with  
questions or suggestions.

NWTFC Website  
[www.nwtfc.com](http://www.nwtfc.com)



The Northwest Trek Fun Club (NWTFC) was formed with the idea that Trek owners are people who are unique because the Trek design is quite unique. They are people who like to get out and visit the very beautiful sites and history of North America. However, they do not want to do it in a huge motor home. The Trek design gives us the comforts of home but still is small enough to get into those off-the-beaten-track sites.

NWTFC was established in 2004 and currently has 59 coach members, including Treks spanning the 1991 Isuzu to the 2008 28RB2. We look forward to welcoming owners of the 2016 Trek. We pride ourselves in fostering new friendships and knowledge of the Trek. We stress that our club's middle name is F-U-N.

We plan several rallies each year in several states and communicate with our members by email, newsletter, and through the club website. NWTFC territory covers WA, ID, OR, AK, MT, BC, Alberta, Northwest Territories, and the Yukon. All Trek owners, regardless of their home state, are welcome to join or to attend our rallies as guests.

Membership dues are \$10 per calendar year. See the website for a membership application.

When your membership is processed, you will be given a password access to the secure Members Only page of the NWTFC website.

NWTFC is a part of the National Trek Fun Club. We are a Chapter of FMCA and very closely associated with SAFARI International.