



# TREK TRAVELS

## Northwest Trek Fun Club

Volume 1, Number 2

April 2014

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*"In the spring, a young man's fancy  
lightly turns to thoughts of love."*

*Alfred, Lord Tennyson obviously did NOT own an RV.*

With the arrival of spring come yearnings to get the Trek on the road. I am not sure of your spring checklist, but this was how my spring checkout went.

Changed the oil in the engine and generator. I usually change the oil in my car, so figured I would do it myself. I purchased a larger and fancier drain pan for the job. Unfortunately the spigot on the fancy oil pan didn't work as well as anticipated. Another mess to clean-up on our new RV pad.

Check the batteries and see that they are charged. I try to run the motorhome and charge the batteries at least once a month during the winter season. The gauge says the batteries are down a little, but they seemed to recharge OK.

Recharge the water system. I use the "pink stuff," so the first thing is to add some water and drain out the "pink stuff." The next item is the bleach treatment. Add chlorine bleach, let it set at least 4 hours, run the pump and turn on the faucets, and then drain the water tank. Great news - no leaks - I made it through the winter!

The baking soda solution is next for good tasting water. After draining the tank again the system is ready for useable water.

Test the water heater. Turned on the LP water heater and listened for the roar of the water heater. Good riddance to that spider nest that plugged the orifice last year. Flipped the electric heating switch and the water got hot; so no cold showers this year.

*(continued on page 5)*

### 2014 RALLY SCHEDULE

More  
information  
inside!

August 7-11

#### PRE-RALLY TO FMCA

Wagon Masters: Lee & Judy Keeler

Location of Rally: Keeler's Ranch, Salem

August 11-16

#### FMCA FAMILY REUNION

August 18-20

#### NWTFC 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Wagon Masters: Colleen & Rodger Wright  
Ed & Jeanette Block

Location of Rally: Mt. Hood RV Village

October 8-10

#### GRANTS PASS

Wagon Masters: Robert & Barbara Henderson

Location of Rally: Josephine County Fairgrounds

Would you like to be a rally Wagon Master? Contact Rally Coordinator Rodger Wright at [TwoCats-Trekn@hotmail.com](mailto:TwoCats-Trekn@hotmail.com).

### You Might Be a Trek Owner if...

- Bigger is not necessarily better.
- You keep a step stool in the motorhome for the wife.
- You know your headlights came from a BMW.
- You have a need to maintain a large credit line.
- You gotta have a new gadget you just saw on another Trek or even an "SOB."
- You look for other Treks every time you stop or visit a new place.
- You feel a need to develop an intimate knowledge of Trek Tracks.
- You like to snuggle.
- Your partner is your best friend.
- You answer to "hey shorty!"
- Your bed is invisible to most other RVers.

# 2014 Summer Rallies

## PRE-RALLY AT KEELER'S RANCH

August 7-11, 2014

Salem, Oregon

Calling all NWTFC members to dry camp at the Keeler Ranch in Salem – not just those going to Redmond. Lee does a fantastic job as a camp chef – the menu hasn't been selected yet, but it will be good. There may be a seminar from a service provider. Perhaps there will be a horseshoe tossing contest.



All FMCA rally volunteers are encouraged to attend so that they can caravan to Redmond and be parked together. More info and registration will be announced in May.



Lee and Judy look forward to seeing you back at the ranch.

Got an idea for a rally? Your inspiration might just be everybody else's dream trip! Email Rally Coordinator Rodger Wright at [TwoCats-Trekn@hotmail.com](mailto:TwoCats-Trekn@hotmail.com).

AUGUST						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 ✓	9 ✓
10 ✓	11 ✓	12	13 ✓	14 ✓	15 ✓	16 ✓
17	18 ✓	19 ✓	20 ✓	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Notes:					



## FMCA 90<sup>th</sup> Family Reunion

"High Desert Sunrise"

August 13-16, 2014

Deschutes County  
Fairgrounds  
Redmond, Oregon

Imagine going to one place where you can meet new friends, view new motorhomes, shop, learn technical information about motorhoming, and be entertained. That's an FMCA family reunion – often called an "international convention" – in a nutshell. There will be about 2,500 motorhomes parked in one place – it is amazing.

This year it happens in Redmond, Oregon. If you haven't attended a national rally – now is your chance!

NWTFC members usually register for non-electric, generator sites at \$165 & dry camp.

### MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR REDMOND

FMCA is still looking for additional volunteers to join the Tram Team. Tram volunteers ride the Trams, greet the attendees as they board, and alert the driver when to start and stop. They work two or three shifts over six days.

NWTFC volunteers enter the fairgrounds together and camp together. We need you! Sign-up with Judy Keeler ([keelerlj@yahoo.com](mailto:keelerlj@yahoo.com)) and become a Tram Volunteer. You will have fun and be part of the team. More info to follow.



# NWTFC 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY RALLY

**August 18-20**

**Mt. Hood Village  
RV Resort,  
Welches, Oregon**



Our Fun Club is 10 years old, and it's time for a celebration! Join us for a memorable event at the Mt. Hood Village RV Resort, known as one of the Northwest's premier RV parks. A 27-hole golf course, hiking trails, rock climbing, bird watching, mountain biking, miniature golf, fishing and more await this rally's participants!

Wagonmasters Rodger & Colleen Wright and Ed & Jeanette Block offer these preliminary details:

- ☛ 3 nights of group-discounted camping (Monday 8/18—Wednesday 8/20),
- ☛ Mid-afternoon guided tours of historic Timberline Lodge; gathering in private room for happy hour with no-host beer & wine, appetizer platters and excellent dinner buffet.
- ☛ Special 10th Anniversary T-shirts with Dame silkscreen image (official announcement includes pre-order details)

Plus: Breakfast buffets at the RV resort, use of a spacious clubhouse & kitchen, door prize drawings, tech talk, and free time to enjoy local activities/adventures.

At the special anniversary party, FMCA will have VIP representation – Andy Balogh, NW Area FMCA Director – to present a 10th anniversary certificate to the Club.

This preliminary notice will be followed by an official rally announcement in May on the NWTFC website. The Club's anniversary rally is likely to interest Trek owners from outside of our area as well. Please express your interest ASAP in an email to Wagonmaster Rodger Wright – TwoCats-Trekn@hotmail.com – so the organizers can plan accordingly and determine costs.

**Future File: Grants Pass Rally**  
**October 8-10 Stay tuned for more info!**



## *My Two Cents: The value of belonging to Safari International or other RV organizations*

Well folks, David asked me to write an article concerning Safari International. However, I found I could not write one confined to Safari, so here goes. If you are looking for organizations with monetary benefits, the only ones I know of are FMCA and Good Sam, which we belong to for the many benefits they provide. We are also members of NW Trek and SW Trek Fun Clubs, Safari International, etc. The latter clubs are those where we have a common interest and enjoy the fellowship. We join with SWTFC at Quartzsite, Arizona almost every year for a super time in the desert with 60+ Trekkers. We also joined them at the Albuquerque balloon festival one year. We meet up with the Safari folks at a casino a short distance from the Indio, California FMCA convention, motor in and park with them, and have a fabulous time. Prior to this year, we were the only Trekkers. This year there were three Treks. Next year: ??? We are also considering joining the Safari folks at Happy Trails in Arizona next winter.

Bottom line: If you are looking for monetary returns by belonging to a RV Chapter, you should look to FMCA and Good Sam. As you look at other chapters, you will be considering the types of things they do, maybe personal friendships, common interests, etc. They all have a purpose in life... you just need to find the ones that fit your personal life style.

– Bob Beers, Founder, NWTFC

*As a postscript from me, Sue and I recently stayed in Bakersfield and, upon entering the campground, became aware of a Safari International Rally. We were immediately invited to dinner and to join in their festivities. We had a great time and met some wonderful people. However, I am still looking for a reason for a Trekker to join this group.*

– David Pierce

# TREK MURAL FROM START TO FINISH



One of the things that makes our coaches unique are the murals on the back. These murals are not limited to Treks; other Safari coaches have similar murals. Most can be traced to Dennis Dame of Harrisburg, Oregon who painted many of the Treks.

I have always found it interesting to reflect on these murals. As I was taking pictures of the Trek murals during the Rogue River Rally, I came across a stunning, life-like mural different than any I had seen before. I tracked down the owners, Bob and Judy Alonzo, and asked them about it.

Judy explained that their Trek did not have a mural when they bought it. They really wanted Dennis Dame to paint a mural on their coach, and so – after a long time deciding on what they wanted – they hired him to do a custom mural for them. They arrived at his shop and watched as the work progressed, a process you can track through these pictures.

Unfortunately, Bob and Judy had to sell their Trek. I'm sure the new owners will receive many compliments on their mural, just as Bob and Judy did over the years they traveled in it.

– Submitted by Mary Carlson, NWTFC Webmaster



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*(continued from page 1)*

Shouldn't have to worry about the propane system, after all no problems since we have owned the Trek. But wait – a few hours later we hear an alarm. It is the propane alarm.

I discovered that the propane alarm should be changed every five years. Hmmm ... we have owned the Trek since 2009 and have not done anything with the alarm. After removing the old one, I discovered it was manufactured in 2001 – and we have a 2003 Trek.

There is still a lingering worry in my mind, so I took the coach to Gib's RV (our first service since moving to the coast). After 5 hours, the tech specialist found and fixed 4 leaks in the propane system – and he speculated that two of the leaks may have been leaking from the factory. That was comforting.

Last task was to head to the grocery store and stock the pantry. Now I think we are ready to hit the road, and I hope there are no surprises.

Happy travels to all my fellow Trekkers.

*Al Zimmerman  
President, NWTFC*

### UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS

The next edition of "Trek Travels" will be published around the first of June. Here's a little exercise to warm up your writing muscles, especially if you've recently returned to the rainy northwest from places more graced with heat and sunshine. Your assignment: Tell us:

#### ***What's it like to be a "snowbird?"***

If you winter down south, describe what you do, where you stay, why you migrate for the winter.

Please send your contributions to Newsletter Editor Stacia Norris (sjnorris@yahoo.com) for inclusion in the next newsletter.

*Note: If you are sending photographs for the newsletter, please send the original jpeg files separate from the text, as opposed to inserting them into a Word document. Thanks!*

## NWTFC Member Spotlight



*David and  
Betty Burton*



**Reside in Sammamish, WA  
Their Trek: 1998, Model 2430  
Members since August 2012**

David is a scientist who has had a long career with the UW Medical Center. He then did research with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on global disease eradication, although he now says he is mostly retired. He is also a private pilot and owns three airplanes in partnership. Betty is an IT professional with a master's degree in finance. She is also an artist – one of her pictures can be seen at the Overlake Medical Center in Bellevue.

Betty plans to retire in 2015. and then David says the TREK will be free to roam where it pleases. Both



David and Betty are senior dahlia judges, and they specialize in hybridizing new dahlia varieties.





# NWTFC: About our club

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.

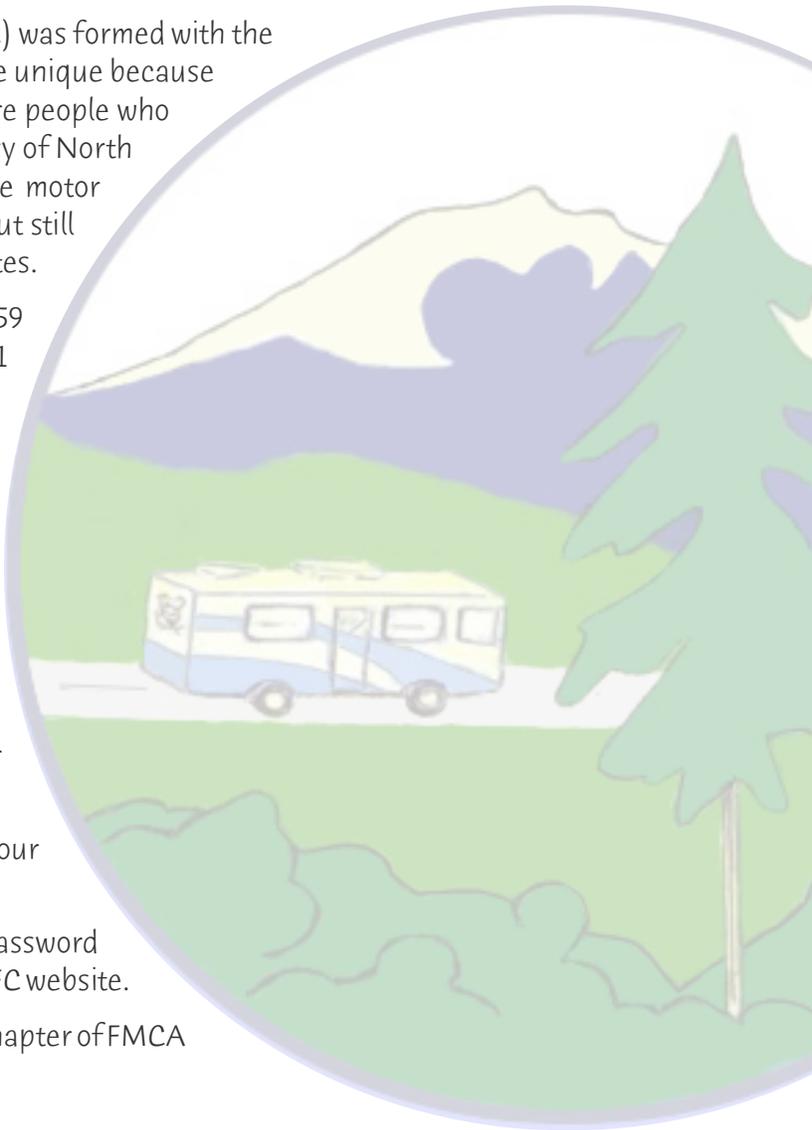
NWTFC was established in 2004 and currently has 59 coach members, including Treks spanning the 1991 Isuzu to the 2008 28RB2 model. We pride ourselves in fostering new friendships and knowledge of the Trek. We stress that our club's middle name is F-U-N.

We plan several rallies each year in several states, and communicate with our members by email and newsletter, and through the club website. NWTFC territory covers Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Alaska, Montana, British Columbia, Alberta, the 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. Please visit our website for a membership application.

When your membership is processed, you will be given password access to the secure "Members Only" section 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.



## ELECTED OFFICERS

## 2014 NORTHWEST TREK FUN CLUB

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### President

Al Zimmerman  
zimmeralz@gmail.com

### NW FMCA Director

Steve Webber-Plank  
donwebberplank@mac.com

### Rally Coordinator

Rodger Wright  
TwoCats-Trekn@hotmail.com

### Vice-President

Helen Anderson  
Helen-Anderson@comcast.net

### Alt FMCA Director

Peggy Beers  
beers.peggy57@gmail.com

### Webmaster

Mary Carlson  
Webmaster@nwtfc.com

### Secretary

David & Sue Pierce  
SueDavidPierce@gmail.com

### Past President

John Turner  
Jfturner3@juno.com

### Newsletter Editor

Stacia Norris  
sjnorris@yahoo.com

### Treasurer

Colleen Wright  
colrogw@gmail.com

*Please feel free to contact NWTFC officers or committee chairs with your questions or suggestions.*

**Find the latest information on the club's website: [www.NWTFC.com](http://www.NWTFC.com)**