



Volume 1 Number 1

TREK TRAVELS

February 2014

President's Message

The Northwest Trek Fun Club has members in 6 states as well as Canadian provinces. At various times members are traveling across the continent. Many are snowbirds and enjoy spending the winter in warm climates.

NWTFC members are a varied group. Most are retired, but not all. NWTFC is not unique among FMCA chapters, there are several clubs built around a motorhome brand or model that is no longer produced.

** Hope still lingers that the new Monaco may yet see the advantage of building a new Trek.

Communication is a key to keeping the NWTFC moving forward and reaching out to others. It is a challenge to keep members informed of club happenings. We are continually looking for ways to tell the NWTFC story on a continuing basis. We want potential members to see that good things are happening among Trek owners.

Seeking to address the communication challenge among even executive board members, the board began meeting by email during months when there is not a rally to provide a meeting place. That first meeting provided some good sharing and positive results.

One result of that first meeting was the decision to start an **e-newsletter** that would be published 4-6 times a year. This is the first edition. And now we need an editor. If you enjoy writing, know Word, or publishing; contact the president or vice president (Helen Anderson) and volunteer. As editor you get to determine the format, features, and content of the newsletter.

The **NWTFC website** also provides up-to-date information, rally reports, and introductions. Don't forget to check it out periodically.

Trek Tracks is a wonderful source of information for Trek owners. Trek Tracks is sponsored by NWTFC.

Communication also happens when we spread the word about the benefits of FMCA and NWTFC. When you spot a Trek, introduce yourself and tell the owners about NWTFC.

Happy travels – see you at the next rally!

2014 RALLY SCHEDULE

(To be Wagon Master for a rally, contact Rodger Wright, Rally Coordinator, at twocats-trekn@hotmail.com)

May Open

June Open

July Open

August

13-16 FMCA Family Reunion

18-20 NWTFC 10th Anniversary
Colleen & Rodger Wright
Ed & Jeanette Block
Mt. Hood RV Village

September Open

October Open

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR
NEEDED**

No experience needed.
Likes to write, creative.
Able to encourage others to contribute
Familiar with Word or publishing
software.

Contact Al Zimmerman (Pres) or
Helen Anderson (VP)

FMCA 90th Family Reunion

High Desert Sunrise

August 13-16, 2014

Deschutes County Fairgrounds
Redmond, Oregon

**RALLY SURVEY
REPORT**

Rodger Wright as Rally Coordinator circulated a survey among NWTFC members. There were 30 responses from 61 members. Summary findings:

NWTFC members like getting to know one another, potluck dinners, organized events/tours, Trek workshops/seminars, small towns and local area history, and hiking and biking. Members don't need/want laundry facilities, on-site stores, showers/flush toilets, cable TV, golf nearby, or swimming pools.

Venue responses indicated an openness to several possibilities: boondocking, private campgrounds, USFS campgrounds, state parks, casinos, and county parks. NWTFC members are open to lots of possibilities.

Rally cost is a concern, so all wanted to keep the costs reasonable.

The full survey report is available on the NWTFC website for members.

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!

VOLUNTEERING AT REDMOND

FMCA national rally depends on volunteers to make everything happen. NWTFC has committed to staffing the FMCA store. Judy Keeler (past NWTFC national director) is our contact. Following members have volunteered for the FMCA store:

Iva Cooper	Bob & Peggy Beers
Dave & Sue Pierce	Ed & Jeanette Block
Lee & Judy Keeler	Mike & Lynn Ashbridge
Linda Fitzgerald	Lois Pispanen

Virginia Zimmerman
Also – John Cooper & Richard Pispanen on Trams & Bob Fitzgerald & Al Zimmerman on Activity Carts

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

MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR REDMOND

NWTFC is looking for 6-8 additional volunteers who 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) and become a Tram Volunteer. You will have fun and be part of the team. More info to follow.



NWTFC at QUARTZITE

Every January something happens that is hard to believe, unless you have seen it! According to the Arizona Highway Department, as many as 750,000 to 1,000,000 people, mostly in RV's, converge on this sleepy little desert town, located just 20 miles east of the California border on Interstate 10. There are numerous flea markets and the Quartzsite Sports, Vacation & RV Show. This huge tent has every kind of RV product imaginable. This phenomenon started over 40 years ago and is now billed as "The Largest Gathering of RVers in the World." Many boondock in the desert and are serviced by water and sewer trucks. Groups gather in selected spots throughout the area.

Each year the Southwest Trek Fun Club hosts a rally at Quartzite. This year 60 Trekkers from all over the US and Canada came together at Quartzsite for a rally.

The main attraction for Trekkers is the fellowship, swapping of travel stories, technical items etc. There were several new Trekkers at this year's rally which is very exciting. The Treks are parked in a huge circle out in the desert. There is a bon fire in the center every evening where many new friendships are formed and many tales exchanged. The rally hosts provide a waffle breakfast with banana syrup that is delicious. Redlands Truck & RV provides an onsite technical seminar.

Sunday night was a superb pot luck dinner. (Several NWTFC member were glued to the

television rooting for the Seahawks and the 49r's. I had opportunity to blow the horn and blink the lights several times in the second half.)

This is an annual Trek tradition and we encourage even more NWTFC folks to consider joining us next year.

Submitted by Bob & Peggy Beers



MEMBER PROFILE

Bret & Laura Medbury
Oak Harbor, WA



Bret and Laura Medbury have a 1993 Isuzu diesel powered Trek. Bret and Laura were married in 2005, and she joined him on Whidbey Island.

Bret's hobby: "You name it; if it is broke; I can either fix it or break it so bad nobody will ever fix it. I love mechanics, working on my Trek (making it mine), so on and so on."

Newly retired with a love for gardening, Laura had the time and desire to spruce up a rather mundane landscape but lacked some local knowledge. She joined the Oak Harbor Garden Club. After 4 years of yanking weeds, the yard was transformed. Their yard was on the local garden tour and tea.

According to Bret, the garden is all Laura's work and design inspiration. She does the work, Bret takes the credit.



You Might Be an Rv'r if ...

from RV. net
(67 pages of posts)

- If you know what a "toad" really is.
- If you are out of something in the house, and you know there is one in the RV.
- If going camping raises your standard of living.
- If your pets happen to be a family of mice.
- If on the way out of the house, you stand there wondering why the steps didn't retract.
- If the brand name "Trojan" refers to batteries.
- If your idea of fun is sitting back and watching folks pull in and set-up.
- If happiness is a full tank of gas & an empty holding tank.

You Might Own a Trek if ...

- If bigger is not necessarily better.
- If you keep a step stool in the motorhome for the wife.
- If you know your headlights came from a BMW.

Finish the statement – **you might own a Trek if ...** and send yours to Al Zimmerman (zimmeralz@gmail.com) for publication in the next newsletter.



NWTFC 2013 OFFICER REPORTS EXCERPTS

(Full reports on the NWTFC website)

President – John Turner

We want to give thanks to all that have participated in and made the NWTFC the wonderful organization that it is. We want to give special thanks to our officers, webmaster, and wagon masters for help us to have a successful year. We want to give special recognition to Judy Keeler, who has served as NWTFC’s National Director, and Colleen Wright who has served as Treasurer since they took office in 2008.

In 2012 the Executive Board, supported by a vote of the membership, was able to complete a number of revisions to the Bylaws and officer job descriptions. Standing Rules were also revised.

Rallies were held in Sutherlin, Oregon (Zimmermans) and Port Townsend, Washington (Mahugh and Burchett). Marie & I attended the FMCA Family Reunion in WY and the NW Area FMCA rally in Albany.

Rallies are the only times many of us see each other. Rallies are a place for fun and fellowship. I want each of our members to think of where they could host a rally. As Wagon Master you decide the location and what type of rally to host. Contact Rally Coordinator, Rodger Wright. If you do not feel up to being a Wagon Master by yourself, others will help.

In 2014 the NWTFC, as part of the NW Area of FMCA, will be hosting the FMCA Family Reunion in Redmond. Plan to attend the rally and contact Judy Keeler to volunteer. There are many jobs to be done and every bit helps.

Treasurer – Colleen Wright

Beginning Balance 1 Jan 2013		\$2,240
Income		
New Member dues	\$50	
Renewal dues	\$540	
Rally deposits	\$5,553	
Sky-Med Promotional	\$100	
Member pins	\$21	
Total Income	\$6,254	\$8,504
Expenses		
Rally payments	\$5,475	
Wagon Master sites	\$250	
FMCA prize donation	\$50	
Misc & postage	\$102	
Total Expenses	\$5,877	\$2,627
Ending Balance 31 Dec 2013		<u>\$2,627</u>

Vice President – Helen Anderson

Nancy Harris and Penny Braden served with me as the Nominating Committee for 2013. The vote was unanimous for the slate of officers.

Many thanks to those who volunteered their time to be officers and committee members.

Secretary – Ken Schindler

Our membership fell to 57 this year, largely due to members retiring from the RV life. We did gain seven new members in the process however; and hopefully the older members we lose will be replaced by younger ones.

It is a great comfort to see the high caliber of the new Board members, who are already listening to suggestions from the membership.

2014
NWTFC OFFICERS
& Committee Chairs

President – Al Zimmerman
zimmeralz@gmail.com

Vice President – Helen
Anderson
Helen-anderson@comcast.net

Secretary – David & Sue Pierce
suedavidpierce@gmail.com

Treasurer – Colleen Wright
colrogw@gmail.com

NW FMCA Dir – Steve Webber-
Plank
donwebberplank@mac.com

Alt FMCA Dir – Peggy Beers
beers.peggy57@gmail.com

Past President – John Turner
Jfturner3@juno.com

Rally Coordinator – Rodger
Wright
Twocats-trekn@hotmail.com

Webmaster – Mary Carlson
webmaster@nwtfc.com

Newsletter Editor – **Needed**

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

NWTFC Website
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 61 coach members, including Treks spanning the 1991 Isuzu to the 2008 28RB2. 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 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.

