



Volume 3 Number 5



TREK TRAVELS



October 2016

President's Message

I'm writing this column while driveway camping in Southern California and I'm reminded of a cute joke that reads:

"It's fall in California and you know what that means! Nothing... It's still 97 degrees out . Yes, the magic of owning a Trek. Be where you want to be.

NWTFC has completed the 2016 rally schedule, and oh boy, what a year it was. Starting with the Traveling Rally in eastern, Washington and moving onto the Brooks Antique Power Museum coupled with the NWA FMCA Rally, to a week in beautiful Port Townsend, ending with our final chapter "get together" at Wallowa Lake State Park, in Joseph, Oregon. Lots of fun with great company. My thanks to all our Wagon Masters. You can read the after action reports in the rally section of our new NWTFC web site complete with lots of photos.

Our 2017 Rally schedule is now complete and available, so you should start putting those dates Julinto your calendar!

As mentioned, I just kept moving south after Wal-lowa Lake down the 395 through Oregon and eastern California until I arrived in Riverside for my 55th high school reunion. I'll begin a month long Northward campaign after my parts arrive next week for my tweaked Blue Ox with mandatory stops at all California beaches and redwood groves, then Grants Pass and Centralia.

(continued on page 2)

RALLY SCHEDULE

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

2017

June 17 – 20 Pre-rally, Kelso, WA
Al & Virginia Zimmerman

June 22 – 25 FMCA NW Area Rally
Cowlitz Cty Fair, Kelso

July 6 – 18 Calgary, Alberta & Other
Highlights of BC & Alberta
Vic & Cathy Tkachuk

August 22 – 25 7 Feathers RV
Canyonville, Oregon
Irva & Gary Cooper
Helen and Ken Anderson

September 22 – 24 Great Prosser
Balloon Rally
Ed & Jeanette Block
Rodger & Colleen Wright

Other Rallies

January 19-21 - Quartzite Trek Rally
Bret Medbury for more info
islandduo@comcast.net
Check Trek Tracks

January 16 – 18 Safari of So. CA
Joshua Tree, CA

February 8 – 11 FMCA Convention
Chandler, AZ

Be a Wagon Master & share the fun!

President's Message, continued

Our Club VP and his nominating committee have completed our new slate of officers for the election. Please cast your vote upon receiving the email ballot from David Pierce next month. We have over 80 members now and everyone should vote. This is an active club and we need your participation and input to keep it going.

At the Port Townsend Rally, I presented an appreciation award to all our six past Presidents: Bob Beers, Ed Block, Stan Shackle, Penny Braden, John Turner, and Al Zimmerman. Did you know that all are still active and come to one or more rally's each year? That indicates that our members have a commitment to run a quality program. Thanks again to all of you.

One more shoutout to our web master, Mary Carlson. Her commitment to bringing up the new Web platform for NWTFC is paying off. She's on time and under budget, plus we're providing a spot for Trek Tracks as well, thanks to the generous contributions from its forum members.

See you next year,

Steve Webber-Plank
President, NWTFC



NWTFC Elections in October

Ballots will soon be sent by email to the membership for the 2016 elections. Following slate of officers has been nominated. Each person elected will serve a two-year term.

Vice President – Paula Shull
Treasurer – Sue Bjornson
Alternate National Director
Mike Ashbridge



Update on NWTFC Website

Webmaster Mary Carlson has been working on a new website and a new hosting arrangement. Link to the new site is: www.enfusiastic.com. Eventually the link will change back to www.nwtfc.com.

REGISTERING FOR THE MEMBER'S ONLY SECTION

1. Go to www.enfusiastic.com (temp. link)
2. Click on the Members Only tab
3. Under that, Click on the login tab
4. The login page gives you a choice to login or register – click on register
5. Fill out the information
 - a. Your password must be at least 8 characters, have both an upper case and a lower case letter and have at least one number. (be sure to keep this so you can get into the members only page later)
 - b. You can upload a member photo, and a mural picture. To do so, just click on the upload tab by the photo area and you can upload any picture you have on your computer.
 - You may need to crop it – which you can do right then.
 - If it doesn't work, send me the picture and I can do it for you.
6. Once you have filled out the form, click register. You will receive an email telling you that your application must be reviewed and you will get another email telling you where to send your dues (you won't need to send your dues – that applies only to brand new members)
7. Once I receive the application, I will mark you as approved and you will get another email welcoming you to the club.
8. You can then go back into the website and go back to the Members Only tab, click on Login and once you have logged in, you can access all the pages under the secure Members Only area. Take a look at the Members page – it is the directory of members.

Let me know if you have problems. Mary

UPCOMING RALIES 2017

RALLY ON THE COWLITZ
Pre-rally Gathering
June 17 – 20, 2017

FMCA NW AREA RALLY
June 22 – 25, 2017

Location
Brookhollow RV Park
Kelso, Washington

Fun, food, and fellowship.
Sharing with the Frustrated Maestros.

Contact Al & Virginia Zimmerman for
more info zimmeralz@gmail.com

Location
Cowlitz County Fairgrounds
Longview, Washington

NWTFC will staff the FMCA store.
Volunteers caravan into fairgrounds on
Tuesday & camp together.

Contact Al Zimmerman for more info.



Fun
Meet new people
Food
Gain new insights
Fellowship



Blast from the Past



RALLY AT
7 FEATHERS RESORT
Canyonville, Oregon

August 22 – 25, 2017

Irva & Gary Cooper
Helen and Ken Anderson

One of the premier RV resorts in Oregon

NW Trek Balloon Rally

Sept. 22-24, 2017

(3 nights: Friday, Saturday & Sunday)

Wine Country RV Resort

Prosser, Washington

Receive rally updates . . . contact:

Wagonmasters: Ed & Jeanette Block ed.jnet@earthlink.net

Rodger & Colleen Wright twocats-trekn@hotmail.com



2017 Greater Prosser Balloon Rally



We will email all who have 'expressed interest' in the months ahead re: any itinerary change, future dates for registration & rally fee, etc. We've had a beautiful response! Our limit is 25 full-hookup sites so we may have folks on a 'wait list' for any cancellations. Weather permitting, the balloons launch early each morning with 'night glows' every evening! The resort has a catered BBQ the 1st evening and wine-tasting parties – and between balloon events, there's so much to see and do in and around Prosser (Harvest Festival, Farmer's Mkt., wineries, etc.). We'll try to accommodate the key events, breakfast/brunch, a potluck dinner, swap meet and business meeting too. We'll have a nice clubhouse for our activities. Check out "2016 Greater Prosser Balloon Rally" or "Wine Country RV Resort" on the Internet for a wealth of information! Our official announcement will be posted on our Website soon. Ed & Jeanette Block, Rodger and Colleen Wright

RALLY REPORTS



PORT TOWNSEND RALLY

August 11 – 14, 2016

Attending Members: Ron Mahugh & Mary Burchett (Wagonmasters), Ken and Helen Anderson, Bob & Peggy Beers, Dean and Sue Bjornson, Wayne and Cheryl Burchett, David Burton, Harry & Mary Carlson, Doug & Judy Gremmel, Jack and Joann Lindhorst, Dick and Lizz Obannon, newlyweds Ben and Penny Paschall, Harry Salit and Fran Zaft, Ken and Judy Schindler, Stan and Barbara Shackell, Bill & Paula Shull, Wayne Vandergriff & Janna Caughron, Steve Ward and Sue Chidester, Steve Webber-Plank, Tom & Pat Wilhelm, Rodger & Colleen Wright. David Burton brought beautiful flowers for the opening night table. Thanks David.

The weather for the rally was fantastic. It was cool in the morning with a touch of fog. We even had an Air Craft Carrier slip in behind a fog bank. We could only see the CON tower. It was so, so cool

Port Hudson is located on the edge of Port Townsend. You can walk or ride your bike to almost any place around PT. There is so much to do right in PT you really don't need a toad. You can see electric bikes all around town. We even had four in our group.

The best part of the rally as usual was the people who attended the rally. We had new, past, old, traveling, non-member and even a couple of drop-ins. Keith & Laura Kovacs visited us from Richmond BC to check out the club (dues are now in the mail!). Also joining us again were guests Alan and Kathy Kempen. New members Steve Ward and Sue Chidester from Freeland, WA joined us for their first rally. Wayne and Cheryl Burchett are returning members. Harry Salit & Fran Zaft were traveling up the coast from Arizona at the same time as our farthest from home traveler Henry Fusco. Henry is from San Diego. Also dropping in for the Potluck were members Laura and Bret Medbury, past members Winfield & Betty Tweedie and Gary and Rosie Wright. Past Southwest Trek Coordinators Lianne and Wayne Kinne also joined us for the potluck. We even had a visit from some new trek owners on their maiden voyage around the Olympic Peninsula. (Nyle and Carla Swainston have since become members.)





HARVEST MOON RALLY WALLOWA LAKE STATE PARK September 13 – 17, 2016

Wagon Masters: Bill & Paula Shull, Richard & Nancy Harris

The Harvest Moon rally was held at Wallowa Lake State Park, near Joseph, Oregon. Wagon Masters were Dick and Nancy Harris and Bill and Paula Shull. We were very fortunate to have good, though the evenings were quite chilly. Those attending were Dean and Sue Bjornson, Mark and Marsha Camrud (guests from New Mexico), Dick and Nancy Harris in their new(to them) Winnebago, Ron Mahugh and Mary Burchett, Tom and Dianna Schramm (new NWTFC Members), Bill and Paula Shull, Mike and Chris Stark (also new members), Steve Webber-Plank, Tom and Pat Wilhelm, Rodger and Colleen Wright, and Al and Virginia Zimmermann.

After a continental breakfast Wednesday morning we gathered at Valley Bronze Foundry for a tour that covered all facets of the bronze process from making a wax positive model, constructing a mold around it, burning out the wax, to the actual pouring of the molten metal into the mold. Even then we learned the process was far from complete. We watched as artisans assembled the cast pieces, cleaned up any areas that needed attention and added a final patina. We were amazed at just how complicated the process of producing a finished bronze sculpture actually is. As an aside, we learned that Valley Bronze produced all the extensive bronze work that makes up the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Thursday we breakfasted in style on Al and Virginia Zimmermann's delicious pancakes and sausage. Thus fortified, some of the more stalwart of us took a human powered ride on the Joseph Branch rail line - a twelve-mile round trip to Enterprise. On the way we saw lots of the local countryside with farms and beautiful woodlands.

Friday was a free day with rides on the Tramway to the top of Mount Howard and back, hiking, exploring Joseph, or just relaxing and visiting. The fine evening meal was catered by the Chuckwagon Sisters.

Saturday, after breakfast, we packed up, said our goodbyes and left for home or other stops. The Shulls would like to thank the Turners for their support, the Harrises for doing all the grocery shopping and meal planning and preparation. Al Zimmermann was invaluable as a logistics consultant.

Paula Shull, Wagon Master



FMCA MEMBERSHIP VOTE

CHANGE TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

FMCA's Articles of Incorporation were formulated in the 1970s. The executive board is seeking to broaden the language to provide more flexibility as FMCA seeks to broaden its appeal to a larger audience. This change must be presented to the entire FMCA membership, and approved by a majority of the ballots submitted.

A ballot is included on pages 84-85 of the October edition of the Family Motor Coaching magazine. **Please clip out the ballot and mail it to the address indicated.**

Retired Person's Perspective

1. I'm not saying let's go kill all the stupid people. I'm just saying let's remove all the warning labels and let the problem work itself out.

2. I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds. People move out of the way much faster now.

3. You can tell a lot about a woman's mood just by her hands. If they are holding a gun, she's probably very unhappy.

4. You know that tingly little feeling you get when you really like someone you've just met? That's common sense leaving your body.

5. I don't like making plans for the day. Because then the word "premeditated" gets thrown around in the courtroom.

6. I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes 1,500 days in a row.

7. I decided to change calling the bathroom the John and renamed it the Jim.

RVILLAGE

Travel, Park, Connect

Connect with other RVers, wherever you may be located.

A new social network site designed to enable RV owners to connect with other RV owners while at home or on the road. RVillage participants can ...

- Add a personal profile.
- Choose any number of areas of interest or chapters of which you are a member.
- Discover other people with similar interests who may be camping near you.
- At a campground or other location, you can discover other RV Village participants who are camped nearby.

FMCA has invested \$250,000 in this project to help launch this effort to connect with the next generation of RVers.

How to get started ...

- Go to RVillage.com.
- Complete your personal profile.
- Start connecting with other RVers who share your interests.

RVillage is free to join and use.

Retired Perspective (continued)

I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

8. Dear paranoid people who check behind shower curtains for murderers: If you find one, what's your plan?

9. Everyone has a right to be stupid. Some politicians just abuse the privilege.

Old age is not as bad as I thought. It's a good feeling when you just don't give a hoot anymore and you feel happy just to wake up in the morning.

From irv2.com

FMCAssist Update

FMCAssist emergency medical evacuation program that is a benefit of your membership in FMCA.

Some of the benefits of FMCAssist:

- Emergency medical evacuation to the closest medical facility.
- Emergency medical reunion – transportation for one individual that you choose.
- Return of dependents.
- Vehicle return – should you be unable to drive your motorhome back to your primary residence (within North America), the plan will pay to have a service return your motorhome to your residence.
- Pet return –return of your pet to your home.

FMCAssist has received recent inquiries regarding the return of vehicles over 10 years old. Seven Corners, the insurer, cannot find Professional Drivers to transport vehicles over 10 years of age. However, they will pay for the transportation of a driver to the location of a vehicle over 10 years of age within North America and will also reimburse the member for fuel and tolls/ferries during the return, provided the return has been approved by Seven Corners (the insurer) and the vehicle is returned directly and expediently to the member's permanent primary residence within the USA, Canada or Mexico. The coach owner must make the arrangements for a driver themselves. In addition, the plan will provide a \$100 per day benefit, up to a maximum of 5 days, for incidental expenses while driving. In no event shall the total expenses of a vehicle return exceed \$5000 for all expenses associated with the vehicle return. **As a reminder, FMCA does have a list of "pitch hit drivers" listed in the January issue and online.**

FMCA NW PLANNING MEETING Report

Al Zimmerman
National Director, NWTFC

FMCA's call center is following-up with new members and seems to be working well.

FMCAssist provided service to 73 members during the last year. \$298,470 was paid out in claims, which was more than the premiums paid by the association.

At the FMCA convention in Massachusetts this past August, the NW area had the 2nd highest delegate participation by percentage of chapters represented.

FMCA NW Area Rally for 2017 will be at Cowlitz County Convention Center in Longview, Washington. Theme for the rally is "Blast from the Past" with a focus on Mt. St. Helens.

NWTFC will seek to staff the FMCA store. More information will be coming about this opportunity.

2018 NW Rally will be at the Mill in Coos Bay
2019 NW Rally will be at Albany
2020 FMCA National Convention will be in Redmond, Oregon. No area rally.



NWTFC OFFICERS & Committee Chairs

President – Steve Webber-Plank
donwebberplank@mac.com

Vice President – Dean Bjornson
dsbjornson@gmail.com

Secretary – David & Sue Pierce
suedavidpierce@gmail.com

Treasurer – Sue Bjornson
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NW FMCA Dir – Al Zimmerman
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Alt FMCA Dir – Ken Anderson
kenand2@comcast.net

Past President – Al Zimmerman
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Rally Coordinator – Helen
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Webmaster – Mary Carlson
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Historian – Jeannette Block
ed.jnet@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor
Al Zimmerman

Feel free to contact
NWTFC officers or commit-
tee 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 approximately 80 coach members, including Treks spanning the 1991 Isuzu to the 2008 28RB2. We also have a 2016 Trek among our membership. 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 chapter of FMCA and very closely associated with SAFARI International.