



TREK TRAVELS



Volume 10 Number 2

March 2023

President's Message

We are having a snow day here in our area. The freeways and streets all over Portland were at a standstill today due to snow and ice. We heard from friends at the Coast they had several inches of snow also. Very unusual. It seems the last few years February has reassured us that it is still winter with snow and or ice. Alright , already, bring on March and warmer temperatures!

This is looking to be a good year for club activities. There are currently three rallies in the books for this year – one being planned as a joint rally with Safari International for their 35 th Anniversary. Details will be provided later in the newsletter for those that are in process.

The Pre Rally to the FMCA Northwest Rally in June is currently available for registration so get signed up for that one and check the box to volunteer with the club at the FMCA store. The more the merrier.

The transition of the club officers is going well. The duo of Vice President Wojo, and Secretary Kathleen Walczak have jumped right in, and their energy is terrific for our club. Our treasurer, Marth Thomson has all of the accounting information and we now have all of the accounts transitioned to her. She is still getting her feet wet with how the club accounts function, but has a good

handle on it.. I hope more of you are able to meet her in June at the Armitage Park Rally. **(continued on page 2)**

RALLY SCHEDULE

(To be Wagon Master for a rally, contact Mike Ashbridge, president, at mikeashbridge@comcast.net)

2023

January 19 – 22 Quartzite Rally, AZ
Location - off Cholla Road

June 3 – 6 Armitage Park Pre-rally,
Eugene, OR
Al & Elaine Zimmerman
Wojo & Kathleen Walczak

June 7 – 11 FMCA NW Area Rally
Linn County Expo, Albany, OR

July 10 – 12 Hoquiam Rally
Hoquiam River RV Park
Wojo & Kathleen Walczak
Mike & Lynn Ashbridge

August 23 – 26 FMCA 107th Convention
Gillette, WY

September 5 – 9 Joint Safari / NWTF
Rally in Silverton, OR
Lee Buckley

Be a Wagon Master & share the fun!

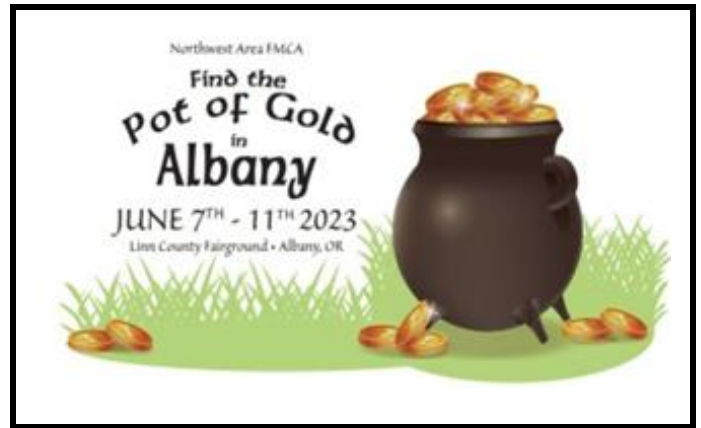
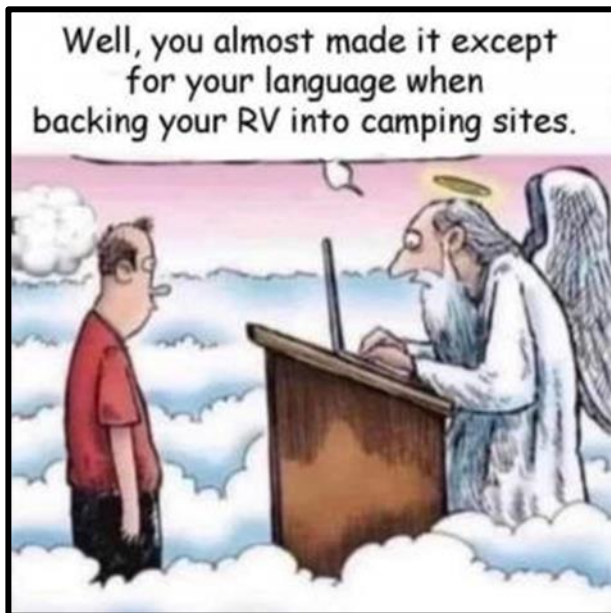
President's message - continued

We are still in need of a **Rally Coordinator** to provide guidance and coordination of rallies. The position is to help members hoping to host or with ideas for rallies. We have a lot of guidelines and information available for anyone that would consider the position?

This will be my sixth year in the Presidents position and it will be my last. If you would consider the position or have a candidate in mind please contact VP Wojo or myself .

Lynn and I are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible this summer.

Safe Travels,
Mike Ashbridge
President



Find the Pot of Gold In ALBANY

FMCA NW Area Rally
June 7 – 11, 2023

Lin County Fair & Expo Center, Albany, OR

- Seminars & Exhibits
- 2 CATERED Dinners
- Ice cream social
- 2 nights of entertainment
- 50/50 raffle • Swap meet

NW Trek Fun Club will be staffing the FMCA store which will be located in the vendor area. **Volunteers are needed.** It is fun to meet people from across the country. Selling FMCA merchandise is easy. Join the fun and volunteer to help staff the store. With more team members, we can do more and reduce everyone's time commitment.

- Register for the FMCA NW Rally (See FMCA magazine or register online)
- Register for the Armitage Park Pre-Rally
- Caravan together to the fairgrounds on June 6.
- Camp together and enjoy times of fellowship.

NWTFC will caravan to the fairgrounds on Tuesday, June 6. **Contact Al Zimmerman to volunteer and join the store team.**
zimmeralz@gmail.com.

QUARTZITE 2023 REPORT

January 19 – 23, 2023

Hello & Greetings from the NWTFC! This is my first newsletter and we are on the road slowly heading home from our annual destination of Quartzsite, AZ for the Safari Trek Gathering.

We left Lakebay, Washington on December 16th, and travelled south on I-5 stopping in Eugene, Redding, and then over to Tehachapi where we stayed with friends for a night. Onward to Kingman AZ at a friend's place, then Holbrook AZ, slowly making our way to Sandia Park NM (outside Albuquerque) for Christmas with our grandkids for 10 days. We travelled with jugs of antifreeze and water to prevent frozen pipes until January 1st when we reached Las Cruces, NM for 10 days.



This year's Trek Gathering was a huge success. We had a new, fantastic campsite with plenty of space. We were among the first 5 Treks to arrive, and it was fun to watch the camp take shape. All told, we had 37 Treks, 2 Safari Sahara 30's and 4 SOB's there with us. And it was a huge display of 9 early Trek Diesel 2400's. Some more statistics: first there was 1 Starlink Internet and by the time we all left there were 6 Starlink devices, several of which were delivered to Quiet Times in Quartzsite. We had two new Trek owners! 5 Treks got their snakey-foggy windows fixed at Lake Havasu Glass by Janeen and her husband. 2 Treks got new Victron 3000 Inverters, one got a new 1000 inverter, and a couple more were getting Victron 250's. And, Roy from Medford sold his Trek 2001 2830 Slopey to Mike from Canada (travelling in a SOB) who was joining NWTFC as a new member! Speaking of which, I was talking up our club and recommending lapsed members rejoin as well as encouraging others to become new members.



Redlands RV came by Thursday afternoon 1/19 to talk about Shocks, Tires and air valve extenders and the many wonderful products they sell and install before our kickoff Appetizer & drinks social with 4 boxes of wine (which lasted for several days after!). Friday noon 1/20 our own experts shared on topics like solar and hydro boosts. Friday evening at our social gathering we had a surprise visit from Dennis & Marty Martin, NWA FMCA President. Saturday 1/21 had the usual bunch who ran up to Parker for the desert bar lunch while many went to the Big Tent. Saturday evening was our wonderful potluck with tables filled with wonderful food and many participating.



Sunday morning 1/22 saw folks wandering about to see what was available for swap or purchase, and there was a display of Toads to view. Although a lot of folks left, we still had 11 Trek's with us on the 31st, and 8 as of yesterday 2/03, when we left.

And not to forget the memorable campfires every night.



Our next event is our Armitage Park Pre-Rally in Albany Oregon June 3-6 and reservations are open to book now on our website. June 6 we will caravan to Linn County Fairgrounds for the FMCA NW Area Rally which is June 7 – 11. At Quartzsite, we discussed looking for BLM or State Campgrounds in Oregon or Washington (alternative to RV Parks which can get pricey) to book a lower cost event later in the season. Our group is still looking for a Rally-Master to make sure we have more events this year and beyond.



Kathleen Walczak
NWTFC Secretary
Lakebay, Washington

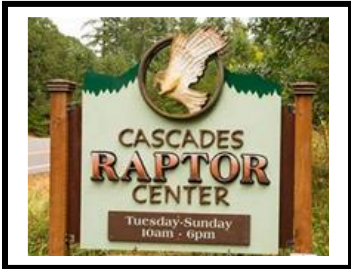


ARMITAGE PARK RALLY June 3 - 6

Location
Armitage County Park
Located on the McKenzie River. On the outskirts of Coburg, near I-5.

Directions: From Interstate 5, take exit 199 for Coburg. Head west onto Pearl Street. Turn left and head south on Coburg Road. Turn right into Armitage Park approximately 2.4 miles south of Coburg.

**Pre-rally to FMCA NW Area Rally
June 7 – 11**
Wagon Masters: Al & Elaine Zimmerman
Wojo & Kathleen Walczak



- Progressive dinner
- Coburg Antique District
- Possible wood-fired pizza night
- Tour of Cascade Raptor Center with presentation
- Presentation by Straight Line RV Repair
- Caravan together to FMCA NW Rally

ARMITAGE PARK PRE-RALLY REGISTRATION

Rally fee: (includes 3 nights camping, 3 breakfasts, special pizza night plus 1 dinner & special tour of Cascade Raptor Center).

15 sites reserved

Total Rally Fee **\$ 211 (Couple) \$163 (Single)**

Make checks payable to NWTFC. Mail completed registration and check to:
Al Zimmerman, 875 Seabreeze Terrace, Coos Bay, OR 97420

Registration and funds must be received by April 1, 2023.

Pilot _____ Co-pilot _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ FMCA# _____
 Email _____ Home phone _____ Cell _____
 Emergency contact (name & phone #) _____
 Do you have any special need we should be aware of? Y or N (i.e. food allergies, etc.) _____
 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 _____

Volunteering to help staff FMCA store at NW Area Rally ___ Yes ___ No # Volunteers



HOQUIAM RALLY July 10 – 12

Wagon Masters
Wojo & Kathleen Walczak - Mike & Lynn Ashbridge

- Gray's Harbor- So Much to See**
- Easy walking trails along river
 - Ocean Shores & beaches
 - Quinault Casino
 - Westport – fishing port
 - Aberdeen Museum
 - Polson Museum – logging
 - Hoquiam Castle – closed, but worth a look

- Schedule**
- Lots of free time
 - 2 Potluck dinners
 - Special BBQ rib dinner

CAMPING
Hoquiam River RV Park
425 Queen Avenue
Hoquiam, WA 98550
360-538-2870 (Denise)
Register directly with Hoquiam RV Park.
\$47 / night 1st night required
Mention NW Trek Fun Club

I-5 (Olympia) take exit 104 to US 101N. Take WA 8 / WA 12 toward Aberdeen. Follow signs to US 101 N toward Hoquiam. Turn right at Queen Avenue, before the river bridge. You will see RV park ahead one block.

HOQUIAM PARK RALLY REGISTRATION

13 sites reserved

Rally fee: (includes 3 continental breakfasts & BBQ dinner for Wednesday night).

Total Rally Fee (camp fee separate): **\$41 (Couple)** **\$21 (Single)**

Make checks payable to NWTFC. Mail completed registration and check to:

Kathleen Walczak, 2608 142nd Ave SW, Lakebay, WA 98349

Registration and funds must be received by April 30th, 2023.

Pilot _____ Co-Pilot _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ FMCA# _____

Email _____ Home phone _____ Cell _____

Emergency contact (name & phone #) _____

Do you have any special need we should be aware of? Y or N (i.e., food allergies, etc.) _____

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 _____

OUR SAFARI CONNECTION

Jeanette Block
NWTC Historian

Since this newsletter is announcing a “joint rally” this Sept. for NWTCF and members of Safari International, it’s good timing for a bit of history re: our Safari connection!



We remember attending the excellent Safari Corp. “Come Home” rallies in the early 2000’s that had been located at their Diamond Hill Factory (Coburg, OR) or at the Salem Fairgrounds early each fall. In those years, Trekkers were always well represented there as well as at Safari International’s ‘NW Regional Safari’ rallies. Needing to accommodate 75 Safari coaches, it was held at Newport Shores Resort on the Oregon Coast. Many Trek club members have continued membership in Safari International (also an FMCA Chapter) nationwide. The NW Regional Safari Club would also host fine pre-rallies (in Welches, OR) and convoy to the International FMCA convention when it was scheduled in Redmond, WA.

To keep in touch with all Safari owners, we used to receive the wonderful ‘Safari Adventures’ magazine every 2 mos., as well as the quarterly newsletter, ‘Safari Trails’, to which all Safari clubs (including NWTCF) would submit a newsy and informative article and add their rally information to the ‘calendar’. It was sad to see this wonderful connection cease, but the popularity of the Internet – and our own Website and Trek Tracks – has been a blessing for keeping us in touch.

It was in our earliest years as a Trek club, that Safari Corp. was absorbed into Monaco Coach Corp. . . we’d then attend their annual “Western Family Round-Up” for owners of all their products – Monaco, Safari, Holiday Rambler & Beaver. These were terrific events! We were even the ‘Security’ volunteers in 2007 (dressed as sheriffs!) when the rally entertainment featured Lee Greenwood! It was sad to see the demise of Monaco Coach Corp, but as FMCA members and active as NW Chapters of FMCA, entertaining and informative rallies are there for us to attend and maintain our Safari & Monaco friendships.”

SAFARI MOTORHOME HISTORY

Safari was founded in the 1980s by Mat Perlot and Curt Lawler, former employees of Beaver Motorcoach Corporation. The company started building diesel- and gas-powered Class A motorhomes. Safari bought Beaver in 1994 for \$7.6 million after outbidding Country Coach. In 2002, Monaco Coach purchased Safari and Beaver brand names. In 2006 Beaver moved its assembly plant. Safari was able to keep its plant in Harrisburg open. Safari also shared ownership in Beaver’s Bend assembly plant. In 2006 the Beaver plant moved and Safari had to vacate. Throughout his career, Mat Perlot stayed in touch with his customer base. He knew that once you owned one of his coaches, you were a candidate for another, newer one down the road. One of the ways he did this was to create Safari International, a chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association. With over 4,000 members at one time Mat knew what they wanted in a motor coach and he was excited to market to their desires. Today, Safari International still exists, albeit much smaller in size, but they still maintain their beautiful coaches with pride. They can be found at Safari-International.org. (from Wikipedia)

NWTFC OFFICERS & Committee Chairs

President – Mike Ashbridge
mikeashbridge@comcast.net

Vice President – Wojo Walczak
wwjo52@gmail.com

Secretary – Kathleen Walczak
mcnamka@gmail.com

Treasurer – Marth Thomson
marthy68t@gmail.com

Natl. Dir – Al Zimmerman
zimmeralz@gmail.com

Past President – Steve Webber-
Plank
donwebberplank@mac.com

Rally Coordinator
Vacant

Webmaster – John Herold
NWTFCwebmaster@gmail.com

Historian – Jeannette Block
ed.jnet@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor
Al Zimmerman
zimmeralz@gmail.com

Member Care – Nancy Harris
nmharris47@gmail.com

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 about 80 coach members, including Treks spanning the 1991 Isuzu to the 2008 28RB2 and 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 chapter of FMCA and very closely associated with SAFARI International.

Trek Travels is the official newsletter of the NW Trek Fun Club. If you would no longer like to receive this newsletter or email messages from NWTFC, please send an email to Al Zimmerman (newsletter editor) at zimmeralz@gmail.com stating your preference.