



# TRAILER TRACKS

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## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Chapter 9 members meet the second Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m., during breakfast, at Abby's Legendary Pizza, 1011 W. Central Avenue in Sutherlin, Oregon.

A signup sheet is located in the Timber Valley SKP clubhouse, as we need to know by Tuesday how many are planning to be there.

**All Escapees  
are welcome!**

*Trailer Tracks created by  
Jackie Deal and friends!*

## Reviving the Spirit - Resumption of Chapter 9 Day Trips

*By Rick DeYoung*

I am very pleased to announce, in response to many suggestions we have received, that Chapter 9 is going to resume sponsoring day trips for its present and potential members. Two Day Trips have been planned for August and suggestions and help are welcomed for planning more in September (in addition to our September 19-23 coast rally at Florence). Although I expect to be replaced as President at the September rally, I plan to work with the new officers to keep this program going in the months ahead.

The next August 2017 day trip is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16 and all who wish to participate in it should be able to do so. Members can sign up to carpool to this one, with designated drivers. We will visit two (2) locations, in Oakland, Oregon.

First, we will have a tour of the very unique Oakland Winery, MarshAnne Landing Winery, on Hogan Road in Oakland. The tour will be conducted by its very entertaining owner, Greg Cramer, who will explain what is unique about his winery, and the entertainment it offers. Greg will also provide us with

complimentary hors d'oeuvres and tastes of MarshAnne Landings' wines. Of course, wine will also be for sale by the bottle or glass, in their beautiful loft. The tour at the winery is scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m.

After the winery tour, we will travel to downtown Historic Oakland for a 6:00 p.m. supper at Coco's, which is a new restaurant and bar located in the historic Turkey Hall. Host Larry Thoma will be offering a buffet style supper for us, with a choice of two entrees (roasted turkey or fresh tuna) for the very reasonable price of \$12 per person). The walls inside this establishment are adorned with very nice art by local artist, David Ewart, who will also be present. The bar will also be open.

Some folks have indicated they would like to meet up with us for supper at Coco's and forgo the winery tour. Coco's can accommodate additional guests, provided they sign up on the list in the clubhouse or phone Rick De Young (541-580-3790) by 5 p.m. by Friday, August 11, to make reservations.

Thank you for your suggestions and support for resuming this Chapter 9 program.

# HISTORY of CHAPTER 9 & TIMBER VALLEY

## Our First Look at Timber Valley

By Jackie Deal

With about 40 others, you peer through the wetness and you see: “a muddy mess”. A meadowed hillside, shaggy brush, a few scrubby trees, cans, bottles and the left-behinds of a lover’s lane. Everywhere: mud. There are hidden springs adding to the rain sluicing down the hill. Jane Lee remembers, “It was a muddy mess. Bottles and junk. The road was a cow trail. There was no water or sewer to the area.” <sup>2</sup>

Not everyone was overwhelmed by the mud. Jackie McLaughlin saw “wild roses” and she writes: *When Harold and I first started traveling full-time, we kept hearing about Escapees, their parks and co-ops we were interested in a home base in the Northwest. Soon we were hearing about sites in Washington and Oregon so we signed up on the list for each of them.*

*There were over 200 names on the list interested in the 150 sites originally planned here in Sutherlin. We attended a rally at Dorena Lake, near Cottage Grove where we were all parked on a lawn and after the rally we had to be towed out of the mud.*

*We drove out to the sloping grassy site at the end of State St. and parked. We could not drive onto the site itself because it had no roads and was too muddy. We parked at the end of the road and walked out there. There were many streams and Wild Roses and Hawthorns blooming. I thought it was beautiful! I imagined sites carved out of the sloping ground with the natural setting left between them. Of course, a lot of ground was moved to make level terrace areas for the 206 sites we eventually built.”*

Some remember the hillside as a meadow or a cow or sheep pasture. Others think it might have been part of an orchard. Perhaps it had been planted in mint at one time, for mint tended to spring up all over where it wasn’t wanted.

The return and exodus from Cottage Grove (Rusty Swanson reminds us it was really Dorena Grange) was memorable also. It had rained and rained and many were parked on the grassy front lawn of the grange and church. It rained and the RVs sank! Finally



they hired tractors to pull out the RVs and they paid the church around \$350 to replace the lawn. <sup>5</sup>

Many who viewed that hillside and marsh land could not visualize a park in this place. Bud Schick said, “I couldn’t imagine it ever being a park.”

Perhaps he wasn’t the only one. Maxine Riddell tells of having lunch at a cafe in town and overhearing two men who were talking behind her. One said: “Have you been out to the end of State Street recently?”

“No, what’s going on?”

“Well, I don’t know for sure but it looks like they’re trying to build a whole city. And you wouldn’t believe it; it’s just a bunch of old people!” So how do we get from those old people working on the unkempt hillside to the lovely park we have today? Stay tuned!

### Chapter 9 Pioneers of the Park at the 2017 Annual Meeting

