



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!*

Elkton's Fort Umpqua Days

By Rick DeYoung

Our first two Day Trips in 2017 proved that Chapter 9 members do love to share meals and different experiences with other members and some are willing to carpool, so that we can include our Escapees who need a lift.

So, Day Trip #3 will be to go to Elkton on Saturday, September 2 (Labor Day weekend). For those who wish to share a ride, we'll meet for coffee and rolls at the Timber Valley Club House at 8:30 a.m. and plan to leave by 9:00 a.m.

After driving to Elkton, we'll begin our day in Elkton with the Fort Umpqua Days **parade**. The route starts in downtown Elkton at 10 a.m. Saturday and follows River Road to the Elkton Community Education Center (**ECEC**).

We will then visit ECEC's replica of historic Fort Umpqua from 10 AM-4 PM Saturday, to watch historical re-enactors portraying life in the time of Fort Umpqua and set up their camp by the river. We, who wish, can visit with the Elkton Fiber Arts Guild in the Fort barracks building, and also enjoy outdoor blacksmith and cooking demonstrations.

There will be local craft booths and we who wish can enjoy ECEC'S extensive gardens as we stroll along the paths to Fort Umpqua. We can step into the Library to admire the annual Elkton Quilters Show and be sure to grab a raffle ticket for this year's quilt, "Happiness is a Butterfly". We can also stock up on fresh fruit and veggies at the Produce Stand.

We can learn all about Monarch and Painted Lady butterflies from local high school students in ECEC's Flight Room and **ADOPT A BUTTERFLY** before they head south!

Lots of food will be available. Lunch begins at 11 AM and features Tomaselli's wood-fired pizza, at ECEC, accompanied with music by Contra Swings at the Greenhouse Patio from 11 AM-1 PM, followed by ECEC's famous Pie Auction. The Outpost Cafe will also be open from 9 AM-5 PM; it's the perfect place for butterfly cookies, coffee drinks or an affordable meal. There will also be a special ice cream social on the patio.

We will wrap up our afternoon with a musical **pageant** in the Amphitheater celebrating the area's history. That show starts at 5 PM. It will be followed at 6 PM with a Chuck Wagon dinner (cost \$12) prepared by Brandborg Winery. After that, most of us will head home.

For those who wish to stay overnight, or return on Sunday, there are additional events.

I suggest we wear our Chapter 9 T-shirts to help recognize each other while at Elkton but that, like everything else on Day Trip # 3, is optional. Feel free to call me at 541-315-2830 for further information about this Day Trip.

To assist in ride sharing, a sign-up sheet will be posted in the Timber Valley club house until Saturday morning, Sept 2.

HISTORY of CHAPTER 9 & TIMBER VALLEY

Our First Look at Timber Valley

By Jackie Deal

First of course there had to be money. George Nace remembers, "We each put in \$1,000. Folks asked, what collateral? And we said: NONE!"

Olen Edwards lived in Myrtle Creek as did Roy Adams one of the board members. Olen had a friend who was in the landscape business and both he and Olen had a back hoe. The friend suggested that maybe they could get some work in Oakland where an RV park was being built.

Olen and Roy Adams looked over the Oakland land and Olen pointed out that all of it was in the floodplain which actually was okay for building an RV park. (After all, RVs could hitch up and quickly get out of the way of a flood. Right?) But the real problem was that part of the land was in the Calapooia Creek floodway and construction was prohibited. The Chapter 9 board "scrambled" to get their money back and continued looking.

Shortly after that, Roy Adams took Olen to look at the Sutherlin property. They drove up to where State Street stopped and a "farm road" continued to the site. Olen looked out over the hills and he could visualize a park. Olen was not an engineer nor an architect but he had the innate ability to view a piece of land and visualize what it could become. He said, "If you buy this, we can build a park." Olen points out that the park could not have been built in the 2000's with the wetlands restrictions now in place. 5

A "founding board" was formed, Olen Edwards was hired as contractor and he drew up the

plans. Les Bean was advisor to the board, construction had been his business and he attended all the meetings according to Jackie and Les.

Olen brought his construction equipment and rented it to the park. "He could run it all, we'd have been dead without him," said Bud Schick

Olen spent days with Roy Adams drawing up plans. Because the park had plenty of room each lot was 55' by 70' with 30' greenways. When Olen was hired as contractor he asked for a contract but Roy Adams never got around to making one. So Olen drew up a contract but nobody ever bothered to sign it. Olen says "Three quarters of a million dollars went through my personal checking account. At the end we did a 100% audit and only one invoice for \$61 was missing. "

During the earliest stages the park board presented their drawings and plans to the city council. The city was dubious, "lots of people start projects and can't finish them. We just don't know about you." The park board said, "We have \$123,000 in the bank. Is that good enough?" And as they say "the rest is history!"

Bill Tannewitz says that "the Escapee Co-Op Committee bought the Sutherlin property for \$92,011.00 because the owner was having difficulty paying his taxes on August 12, 1988. "

Next month: the building of the park begins!

Sorry no pictures... my phone is messing up errggg!