



TRAILER TRACKS

August Breakfast in Oakland – To Discuss Chapter 9's Growth and Future Plans

By Rick DeYoung

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MONTHLY MEETING

Chapter 9 members meet the second Wednesday of each month at 9 am, 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!**

Other Chapter 9 events will be announced in Trailer Tracks or on the Chapter 9 page of our website, www.timbervalley.skp.com

As approved by the members at our July 11th meeting, we will hold next Wednesday's breakfast meeting at Coco's Café, 129 NE 2nd Street, in historic Oakland, Oregon. We will have the entire building (the former Turkey Hall) all to ourselves, with a sound system, and tables will be arranged so that all members can hear, and participate in, discussions about our Chapter's plans for the future.

We are hoping to make this our largest breakfast meeting of the year. A traditional breakfast buffet will be offered at a cost of only \$10 per person, with coffee and tea included. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Timber Valley dining room until Monday night, August 6, or you can all Rick to sign you up (541-315-2830). Food may not be available for those who fail to sign up, but please come any way. It will be a unique meeting!

Our nominating committee will introduce its nominees for Chapter 9 officers for

2018-2019 and other nominations may be made at the meeting. Proxy forms will be available for members who do not plan to attend the Chapter's annual meeting and elections, to be held at the conclusion of the Coast Rally, September 5-8, in Florence, Oregon.

We will also be discussing the challenges caused by our Chapter's growth, including overflowing our Abby's meeting room and having more people show up than sign up for meals. We will also be discussing our Chapter's Day Trip program, past and future. The meeting is open to all Escapees and we will discuss any other topic those present may want to discuss.

The Sutherlin Area Chamber of Commerce will be meeting in our usual meeting room at Abby's on August 8. Chapter 9 is scheduled to return to Abby's for our September breakfast meeting.

It's been THIRTY YEARS!!! – by Jackie Deal

Thirty years ago, we, Chapter Nine, built Timber Valley SKP Park. With blood, sweat, tears and a lot of faith. Without their good judgement we might have ended up on a 20 acre plot in Bandon or even in Oakland in the floodplain! Gather all your neighbors and let's celebrate: August 23 at 6 p.m. Come for cake and ice cream, and entertainment.

Yes, entertainment: a Fun Fashion show with SKP models, some serious, some funny. Closing out the evening will be music by our own Ed and Ruby and Friends. The Friends keep expanding, who knows how many it will be? The music is always great and you better lubricate those old hinges and get ready to dance the night away.

Doesn't sound very serious? Well, it's not. We plan to celebrate one of our greatest accomplishments: the building of the gem of the Escapees Co-op Parks.

Chapter 9 Report at Annual Meeting July 17

The Oregon Trails Chapter of Escapees was the 9th chapter established and is the chapter that came to Sutherlin, Oregon 31 years ago, bought the land, and then built what is now our beautiful Timber Valley SKP Park of Oregon.

I am happy to have served as Chapter 9's president since September of 2016 and I am even more happy to report to you that Chapter 9 is a vibrant, active group of Escapees, most of whom reside at least part time in our park.

We have grown in the past two years; as of July 11, we had a total of 181 individual members. Our Trailer Tracks newsletter has been revived and is a monthly publication, which the vast majority of our members now receive by e-mail. Its revival is due in large part to the efforts to one of our new Escapee and Chapter 9 member, the former publisher of the Douglas County News, Becky Holm.

As it did from the beginning, Chapter 9 has promoted and maintained good relationships with the community of Sutherlin. My friend, Benny Sigmon, who was the owner of Sutherlin's Burger Barn restaurant when we began building the park, often says that the Escapees building Timber Valley were the best thing that happened to Sutherlin in the past 40 years. We want to maintain that image.

Every month, for the past year, we have been sponsoring "day trips" for our senior residents – since many of them no longer travel in their RV's - including those who celebrate birthdays that month. We visit local businesses and we support local activities, as well as service organizations, such as the Sutherlin lions club. Several of us are active members in the Lion's club and we make sure that American flags are posted all the way up and down state street, including the entrance to timber valley, on each national holiday.

We are also maintaining good relations with the Sutherlin Area Chamber of Commerce, including supplying volunteers to the Sutherlin visitor center, and we encourage all of our Timber Valley residents to utilize the visitor center's services.

We also continue to sponsor at least three RV rallies per year. This year's rallies were

1) Elkton RV park,

2) Here in Timber Valley last week, including a boating day at cooper creek reservoir, and

3) Our coast rally will again be at the Odd Fellows campground, on the Oregon Dunes, Sept 5-8. We already have more than 25 rigs signed up to attend that one.

We thank the board of directors for its cooperation with chapter 9 and we appreciate continuing to have many board members among our membership.

We are here today to renew memberships and to accept new chapter 9 members and we invite any escapee to join us.

Outgoing President's Message

By Rick De Young

Serving as Chapter 9 President these past two years has been very rewarding to me, personally, and I thank you for that opportunity. Please be assured that I plan to remain involved in Chapter 9 as much as I can, as long as my and my wife's health permits.

Given our health concerns, and the fact that many of us Chapter 9 members are aging to the extent travel and camping have to be limited, I am particularly pleased by the support our membership has given to the Day Trips program I began in 2017. I hope you will see fit to continue those and you may be assured I will help anyone who wishes to do so.

I am confident that our Chapter is in good hands for the future. We have volunteers for Chapter officers who have proven experience in leading Escapees and their willingness to serve is all the thanks I really need. So, if you appreciate my service, please be sure to offer your help and leadership when it is needed!

Becky's CORNER

Hello! How goes it?? My day/week/month is going TERRIFIC! I am loving my new home and my new job!

I am schmoozing to my heart's content. I talk to businesses and let them know about all the benefits of hiring adults with disabilities. I had some preconceived notions about the abilities I would be working with and I have been AMAZED!! I feel ashamed; however, the real shame would be remaining willfully ignorant!

Next... Please, please, please... send in pictures. Especially for the emailed version of this newsletter, pictures don't increase the cost!

If you've been enjoying the Day Trips that Rick has been organizing, send me pictures!