



TRAILER TRACKS

VOL 4 ISSUE 4

August, 2019

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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 sign-up 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.timbervalleyskp.com

Boats Needed For Coast Rally

By Rick De Young

Chapter 9's July 2019 rally was our best **Timber Valley Rally** in recent years, with high member participation. Many members met the challenge to step out and to step up, particularly when we went to breakfast at the Sutherlin Senior Center, followed by our trip see the Chain Saw Log Carver and his wife (Ed and Mary Rosemeyer). Those who didn't get lost also enjoyed a visit to wood artist John Hehn's Gassy Creek home. Our picnic lunch at Plat I reservoir also had a big turnout.

We set a record for attendance at Betty Bush's family's lasagna dinner, which was followed by exciting rock races, conducted by new members Gerry and Marilyn Vrooman. Some of us even got up to dance to music provided by Chapter 9 members Ed and Ruby Bonham and Nathan Brown. Chapter 9 member, and Chapter 37 president, Kathy Perry, added her musical talents to that effort, as did Trailer Tracks Editor Becky Holm.

We also had good turnouts at the Sutherlin Visitor Center, where we met the Sutherlin Area Chamber of Commerce president (Tami Trowbridge) and the Chamber/Visitor Center's new Executive Director (Stacy Martz). Many also participated in the July 4 Golf Cart Parade and Barbecue Picnic at Snoopy's Meadow.

Our August Day Trip will be to go to the **Blackberry Festival's Classic Car Cruise on Saturday, August 17**. At 4:30 p.m. we will begin with a Chapter 9 Special deal meal at Nellie's Deli at 667 E. Central Avenue (\$8 for any half sandwich and a glass of lemonade or iced tea). After our meal together, we will go to selected intersections along the Central Avenue route of the Cruise, which begins at 6:30 p.m., where we will set up chairs to sit and watch the classic cars cruise. Some of us will help with routing cars away from



Central Avenue while the Cruise is in progress (until 9:30 p.m.) This is part of a fund-raising effort to support Sutherlin's Woofstock organization. More information about this and sign-up sheets will be provided at our monthly Chapter 9 breakfast on Wednesday, August 14.

Having two seatings at the **monthly breakfasts at Abby's Legendary Pizza** is working out well so far, with almost identical numbers of members attending the 8 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. sessions. Please be sure to sign up and attend the August 14 breakfast. Proxy forms will be available for voting for next year's Chapter 9 officers for members who will not be attending the September 7 annual meeting in Florence.

Sign-ups for our **annual Coast Rally, September 4-7** are running high enough that we will enjoy the \$30/night reduced rate which Kimm Cady negotiated last year for having more than 30 rigs staying at the Odd Fellows Campground, on the dunes in Florence, Oregon. However, we do not yet have enough people signed up who have boats that can be used for catching crab during the rally. Detailed plans for the Coast Rally will be also be discussed at our monthly Chapter Breakfast on Wednesday, August 14, by our Rally Hosts.

Remembering Our Roots

By Jackie Deal

You're an Escapee, and Chapter 9 member, right? Who do you thank for the benefits you have? Who, way back when, started this organization we all enjoy? It was a little, barely 5-foot dynamo of a woman: Kay Peterson. Escapees RV Club is celebrating its 41st anniversary year and Kay and Joe Peterson started it all, and later helped get Chapter 9 formed.

Kay wanted to go full time RVing with young children. Joe, a "union electrician" wasn't so sure. So, Kay started a campaign. She wrapped his sandwiches for work in road maps. She plastered maps down the hall way to the bathroom. Somehow, Joe got the message. And in a 26-foot Airstream the Escapees dream was born.

Kay wrote articles for Woodall's Trailer Travel magazine and when they asked her to do a monthly column, a reader asked if there wasn't some type of organization for RVers. Kay asked her audience and with "a few dozen" members the Escapees newsletter, typed on her Smith-Corona, was started.

The Escapee name, suggested by a member, caused some funny mishaps. At first the telephone in their office would only receive calls; no calls could be made out. When they inquired, the telephone company said, "Of course, you can't call out. You're a prison."

"Sharing and Caring" became the motto and still today it is the cornerstone of the organization. In the 80's Escapees fought for the rights of RVers: licensing rights, tax problems, right to boondock; even the right to vote was threatened by legislators who didn't understand this weird way of life. Not too long ago, the government classified us as "semi-affluent homeless". (Homeless?)

The second and third generation of Petersons now runs Escapees and they pledge to keep Escapees "all inclusive, no matter your race, religion, political views, income, rig type, whether you're a week-ender or full-timer." (And, I'd like to add, snow birder.)

So much for Escapee Inc. history, where do WE come into the picture? Early on, RVers wanted to get together and so rallies began. From rallies, area clubs were formed. And we are the ninth chapter formed in the US. That means we started way back

there: 1985 to be exact. And by 1986 Chapter Nine purchased our 90-acre Park. We are so lucky; some members wanted a 20-acre spot in Bandon (can you imagine us squeezed into 20 acres?) Money was actually put down on a smaller property on Stearns Lane in Oakland, which turned out to be in floodplain; another not too pleasant thought.

Fortunately for us, our Chapter 9 "pioneers" had the good sense to get out of that deal and to purchase this wonderful Timber Valley acreage - which a few years previously had sold for \$300,000 - for the amazing price of \$90,000. But, none of that would have happened, without the foresight and wisdom of that wonderful first lady of Escapees, Kay Peterson. We all miss her!

Becky's CoRNeR

Well! Howdy!

Here it is AUGUST already!! Wow! I just returned from nearly a week in Manhattan, Kansas. I have decided that I really like that area. Before going down to Manhattan, we went to a Royals game in Kansas City... Beautiful stadium, fabulous moderate weather... terrible game! ☺

Oh well! As many of you know, I have been eating whole food plant based. I'm not a wild-eyed, tree hugging, animal rights activist vegan. I eat this way for my health. Several have asked me what I eat and "how do I do it?" On Saturday, Aug 17, after coffee and donuts, I will be doing a cooking demonstration. In order to have enough samples for everyone, I WILL need to know how many will be there. To cover ingredients, it will be only \$3. Please email me at beckyllholm@gmail.com or text me: 541-817-3472. I suppose we could be traditional and have a sign up sheet ☺

A couple of questions regarding menu - What do you want to learn? Pulled Peel sandwiches are definitely on the menu! What about burgers, steaks, hotdogs, salads (salad dressings), baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw... It would be helpful to know where people's interests are.

AND if you are just curious, join us! I will not evangelize (please read the second sentence of the second paragraph!), you'll be safe from scorn. I just ask that I am also safe from scorn... teasing is fine.

Happy, happy, happy day!