



TRAILER TRACKS

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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.timbervalleyskp.com

The Future Is Lookin' Good For Chapter 9

By Rick De Young

I have had the honor of being your Oregon Trails Chapter 9 President for the past three years. Since 2016, we have enjoyed significant growth, both in the number of members in our Chapter, and in the number of outings which we have sponsored. We have also seen our Trailer Tracks newsletter revived. For an Escapees Chapter formed in 1985, I think we are doing quite well.

While I am often given credit for those accomplishments, I have to confess that I have employed a secret power to achieve our recent success. It is the same secret power that helped me in my prior law practice. It is woman power.

Without the terrific contributions of Jackie Deal, as our Chapter's Secretary and historian, and of Becky Holm, who publishes and emails out the Trailer Tracks every month, we wouldn't have been able to revive our newsletter. Our monthly newsletter has been an integral part of our success, with Day Trips as well as rallies. Being able to e-mail the newsletter to most members keeps the distribution cost within reason, so we've not had to raise dues.

My wife Nusha urged me to have Chapter 9 sponsor monthly day trips. There was already a Timber Valley tradition of once-a-month meals out, to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, as well as frequent outings to attend special events. When Trudy and George Reel could no longer promote them, Chapter 9 volunteered to step in and continue the practice. That not only filled a void, it promoted people joining or rejoining Chapter 9. As our Timber Valley membership ages, more

and more former Chapter 9 members find themselves unable to attend rallies; our monthly day trips have filled the desire to continue getting together with our friends and neighbors. Terry Hilty has helped plan several past day trips and will continue planning them next year.

Betty Bush has done a terrific job as our Treasurer during the past year, as well as putting together great fund-raising meals. Betty is a great volunteer and is to be rewarded by being elected as our next President at next Saturday's annual meeting at our Coast Rally. When did Chapter 9 last have a woman as Chapter President?

Sandy Sparse did a great job with recruiting members a couple of years ago and we are very pleased that her husband, Wayne Sparse, has agreed to be next year's Chapter Treasurer. Janice Edwards has moved from V.P. of Chapter 9 to President of Jacks and Jills and we look forward to continuing our good relationship with Jacks and Jills. Although not an elected officer last year, Teresa Keenan Johnson has also been a big help to me during the past 3 years.

So, in closing, I thank all the women who have made my three years as Chapter 9 President so pleasant and successful. Among those is our Escapees Chapter Director, Lockie Sailer. I look forward to being your Chapter 9 Vice-President next year.

Best of Division And Best of Show

By Jackie Deal



Valerie Knowles, our friend and neighbor, Timber Valley resident and Chapter 9 member, recently won major awards at the Oregon State Fair for a unique garment she created.

Not just a blue ribbon (tho' those are nice.) but a "Best of Division" and a "Best of Show" at the

Oregon State Fair! Val Knowles explains, "My division was "hand-spun knit garment" and her beautiful vest won that. She goes on to explain, "Best of Show "included felting, spinning and weaving"; she won that also.

Val (site156) spins her own yarn and this was her first time spinning cotton yarn. She says, "I've used bamboo and rose fiber, Egyptian cotton, wools, lots of things." The bamboo-rose fiber yarn was beautiful, soft, multi-toned, and some alpaca yarn she showed me was soft as a dream. Val uses a small spinning wheel, powered by 12 volt or 110; it's about the size of a toaster. She twists and pulls the fiber into a fine continuous thread as the wheel turns it. She also carries two small looms on the road and beautiful, colored fabric grows on them as if by magic. Val says she had knit with acrylic and other fibers but fell in love with natural fibers. "It's the wonderful hand, that's the feel of the fiber." She says a friend is "gifting" her an alpaca fleece, "I'll have to clean, deveg' and prepare it for spinning."



Val and her husband, Ken, were on the road for three years doing some Work Camping before coming to Timber Valley. Ken is professional artist who has painted and sold his art all over the world. Art, whether

painting or fiber craft, is a passion and two passionate crafts people might find it hard to live in the confines of a small RV. I asked "How do you blend your two art careers?" Val thought, grinned and said, "Well, I like him better when he's painting!"

Val and Ken have been married 42 years and they support each other's crafts. They met at a Singles Bible Study group. I asked "and did Ken invite you over to see his etchings?" Ken laughs, "Um, hmm and I DID have etchings! "They were married a year later and Val says, "It was a God thing." They have two sons and beautiful talented grandchildren.

Ken teaches drawing and painting Monday at 10:30 a.m. and Val plays and teaches Mah Jongg (an Americanized Chinese tile game) Monday at 1 p.m. Both of them are available and happy to teach their arts to interested people. We are so fortunate to have them in our park; this may be the opportunity of a lifetime for you to learn about and enjoy their arts.

Becky's CoRNeR

September ALREADY??? No... I'd like to report a theft of summer. Although, I'm not sad to see horribly hot weather be gone. My favorite season is the fall! (I have my frozen pumpkin cubes already for all things pumpkin!)

August 17 I taught a cooking class... the "hook" was Pulled Peel Sandwiches made from banana peels! The real winner of the day was the "Salisbury Steaks" made from lentils. Email me: beckyllholm@gmail.com if you would like the recipes from that class.

If you have a suggestion for what I should fix for the October class, please LET ME KNOW!



I'm going to be attending the rally (tomorrow) and bringing "crab" cakes...

Boy, last night (Sept 5) we had a brilliant lightening show and CONTINUOUS thunder. I don't know if I've ever experienced that before. I've heard thunder claps that are very close together, but I can't recall



it being continuous! It was a wowser!

Speaking of wowzers..... ☺ here is Nutmeg and Punkin!