

OREGON RV CAMPERS ASSOCIATION

September 2023 Newsletter

“The Drifter”



“Our mission is to promote in Oregon an RV/Camping organization that creates friendships and education for members as well as goodwill and charitable experiences in our communities.”

Hello,

We're back from the PowWow, and as usual, we had a great time. Many thanks to Kathy Danforth, Connie Morrill, Pat Smith, Lenore Marino, and all of the other committee members and chapters that helped to make it a success. The weather could not have been more perfect this year. The temperature was down in the low 80's, which made playing games outdoors so enjoyable. We are grateful to learn that Kathy and Connie have once again stepped up to the plate to put on PowWow 2024. For awhile there, we thought this would be our last one. We can always use more help, too. Many hands make far less work for the rest of us, and it's fun to get involved and show your talents. Kathy and her committee put on a movie night, complete with popcorn and the Robin Williams film, "RV". It was surprising to learn that several of our members have never seen this movie!

We're sending out the Drifter a little early, as Bill and I are on our way to Europe for almost a month. Several of our ORCA members are coincidentally traveling through Europe together, also. We are hopeful that they can forward this issue to you prior to their departure.

Please note the dates for next years' rallies mentioned in this issue and mark them on your calendars now!

Have a great Fall season, and happy trails to those of you headed to Arizona soon!

Barb and Bill Taylor, State Directors

OUR TEAM



State Directors – Barb and Bill Taylor ORCADirector@outlook.com

Barb 503-810-7585 Bill 503-740-5147

State Secretary – Steve Moist

Assistant Secretary/ State Rally Office Manager – Marion Gilkey

State Treasurer – Connie Morrill

State Photographer – Dee Veenendaal

State Newsletter Editor/Publisher – Barb Taylor

State Rally Ground Coordinator – Tom Gilkey

State Sound Director – Tom Hansen

State Chaplain – **Clyde Ault has graciously agreed to be our new Chaplain!**

Past State Directors – John and Holly Monahan

State Historians – Don and Carol Nedrow

State Webmaster – Gene Hancock

Assistant Directors –

John and Holly Monahan ... The Westerners

Howard and Connie Morrill ... Wy'East Pioneers

Dale and Dee Veenendaal ... Southern Oregon & SW Valley Coasters

Tom and Robyn Hansen ... Central Oregon

Steve and Mabel Moist ... The Capital Gang

Randy and Loretta Wells ... Country Cuzzins

MAL (Members At Large) contact – Dee and Dale Veenendaal

Please contact State Director at ORCADirector@outlook.com if you need to contact any of the Assistant Directors

2024 ORCA Dues Increase

When we started this new organization, we had no idea at the time precisely how much our overhead expenses were going to be to keep us solvent and operating smoothly. We charged a minimal \$5 per couple/single for the first year. Now that we have almost a year under our belts, we're getting a clearer picture and want to share this information with you so that you understand why dues must increase, and that you will support our increase.

Overhead "annual" costs include, but are not limited to:

Advertising--\$500

Liability Insurance for three rallies--\$750

Office supplies: stamps, paper, ink, and other office supplies--\$200

Post Office box rental--\$150

Website servicing/Webmaster fees--\$600

Zoom subscription for executive meetings--\$100

Total \$2300 per year

The new membership fee will be **\$20 per person** annually beginning January 1, 2024. We realize that this is a substantial increase, but it is necessary to continue providing the services and expenses above for all of us. Our dues also cover décor, game materials, prizes, and other items that aren't included in registration fees for our rallies. We appreciate you as a member of our RV family!



I REMEMBER BEING
ABLE TO GET UP
WITHOUT MAKING
SOUND EFFECTS...

GOOD TIMES.

RV Fire Safety Tips

Safe Operation:

- Make sure to have proper ventilation before operating the appliance.
- Open an overhead vent or turn on the exhaust fan.
- Watch what you heat. A leading cause of RV kitchen fires is unattended cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from burners.
- Never use cooking appliances for heating the RV.

If You Smell Gas:

- Check your stove knobs to make sure they are in the off position.
- Put out all open flames (pilot lights, lamps, smoking materials, etc.).
- Shut off the gas supply.
- Do not operate electrical switches. Turning a switch on or off can create a spark and may cause an explosion.
- Open doors, windows, and vents.
- Leave the RV until the odor is gone.
- Have the gas system checked and repaired by a qualified professional.

Electric Heaters:

- All heaters need space. Keep things that can burn at least three feet from heating equipment.
- Plug space heaters directly into an electrical outlet. Do not use extension cords or power strips.
- Purchase and use portable space heaters with an automatic shut-off, so if they're tipped over, they will shut off.
- Place space heaters on a solid, flat surface.

General Electrical Safety:

- Make sure the power cord connecting the RV to the campground electricity supply is in good condition.
- Inspect for cracked or damaged cords, broken plugs, or loose connections on all appliances.
- Avoid electrical overload. Limit the number of appliances operating at one time.

Generator Safety:

- Check all exhaust system connections regularly for leaks and tighten as necessary.
- Make sure the generator tail pipe extends past the edge of the RV.
- Always operate the generator in an area where the wind will carry the exhaust fumes away from the RV.
- Allow the generator to cool down before refueling.

Continued ...

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms:

- Install a CO alarm inside your RV.
- If the alarm chirps, replace the batteries or the entire alarm, depending on the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Replace CO alarms based on manufacturer's recommendations.

Smoke Alarms:

- Install a smoke alarm inside your RV.
- If the alarm chirps, replace the batteries or the entire alarm, depending on the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Replace smoke alarms every 10 years.

Fire Extinguishers:

- Have an extinguisher installed near the primary exit and know how to use it. When in doubt, just get out!
- Extinguishers are meant to put out small fires only.
- Use extinguishers only if it can be done without putting yourself or others in danger.
- Once a month, turn dry chemical extinguishers upside down and tap on the bottom to loosen the powder.
- Make sure the needle on the gauge is in the green, indicating it is fully charged.

Fire Escape Plan:

- Make sure emergency exit windows and hatches are clearly marked and in good working order.
- Make sure all occupants know where and how to operate escape windows.
- Keep exit routes unobstructed.
- Have an escape plan and practice it.
- If your smoke or CO alarm sounds, get out and stay out. Call 911 from outside.

Campfire Safety:

- Call the campground before you go to ensure campfires are allowed.
- Always have a shovel and a bucket of water nearby to extinguish any escaped embers.
- Select a site away from grasses and shrubs, overhanging branches, and stacked firewood.
- Established campgrounds with existing fire pits are best.
- Scrape away leaves and litter to bare soil, at least 10 feet on all sides.
- Circle your campfire pit with rocks if no existing pit is available. Keep your campfire small and add wood in small amounts.
- Never leave the campfire unattended.
- Before going to bed or leaving the campsite, drown all embers with water, stir the coals, and drown again. Repeat until the fire is dead out.

RV Refrigerator Tips

Organize your RV refrigerator the right way and make the most of the small space is by following these tips:

- a. Plan your meals ahead of time (especially for short excursions). Planning appropriately helps you take just what you need - and nothing more.
- b. Get the fridge running ahead of time. Any fridge needs time to get cold.
- c. Avoid overpacking. Overpacking prevents air circulation.
- d. Add storage baskets or drawers. The key here is that you're making better use of the depths of your fridge.
- e. Get rid of large packages. Manufacturers invest in fancy packages that contain a lot of empty space. Save precious space by removing the items from their original packaging and pack into something smaller.
- f. Store food in stackable square containers. Choose square boxes rather than round, to make the most of the available space.
- g. Keep fruits and vegetables in mesh bags. Produce needs to "breathe" and without air circulation, they will rot.
- h. Make smart use of the RV door. As the RV rattles along down the road, the fridge door will get a significant amount of pressure applied to its hinges, which means you should avoid placing very heavy items in the door.
- i. Use RV fridge braces. It anchors to the shelf bars in the fridge and makes sure everything stays put during the ride, even when there are potholes in the road.
- j. Get rid of the freezer's icemaker. The RV freezer is prime real estate. If you're stuck with one, you should be able to switch it off entirely and then at least get rid of the box underneath it. Or use that box as additional storage space for other items.
- k. Make sure the fridge door is secure. The last thing you want happening is for your RV door to open and have eggs, milk, and other items spill and soil the living space for the duration of the trip. Fortunately, RV fridge doors come with latches. Just make sure you use it and that your fridge is indeed secure before you get on the road.

105 year old lady's advice to us all ...

"For better digestion, I drink beer. In case of appetite loss, I drink white wine. In case of low blood pressure, I drink red wine. In case of high blood pressure, I drink scotch. When I have a cold, I drink Schnapps."

"When do you drink water, I ask?"

"I've never been that sick", she replied.



Attention ORCA members !!!
2024 ORCA Rallies are just
around the corner.

Westerner's Roundup – Wapiti RV Park, Lincoln City, Oregon

April 25 through April 28, 2024



ORCA Rally – Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, Oregon

June 6 through June 9, 2024

THEME: "Coastal Craze"

(early birds welcome sooner)



Wy'East PowWow – Hood River Fairgrounds, Odell, Oregon

September 6 through September 8, 2024

THEME: "Sailing The Seas"

(early birds welcome sooner)



"Pow Wow was the best outing I have ever been to", said a first timer. We received many more positive statements from folks. Please consider planning your September campout at Pow Wow next year. Yes, we said "September". We are moving to September to hopefully have cooler weather.

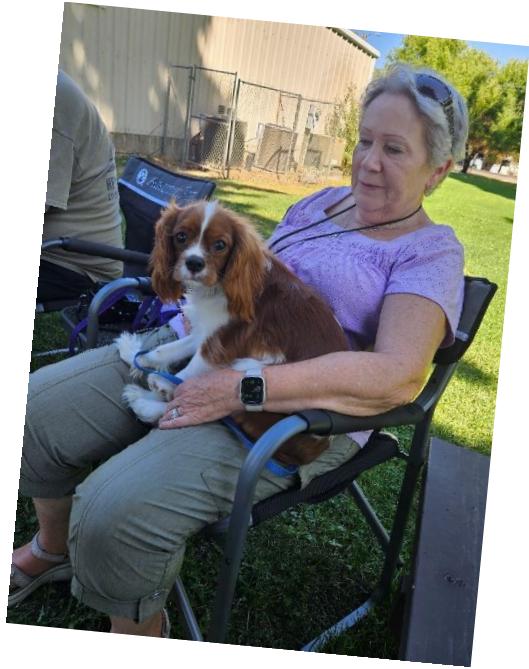
Pow Wow 2024 will be the weekend after Labor Day. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Our theme is "Sailing the Seas". This means that you can dress as a pirate or a more modern passenger on a cruise ship on Saturday night. We will be having some gambling using blackjack tables, horse racing and maybe something new. And we always have food for all.

The dates for Pow Wow 2024 are September 6th through the 8th but come early on the 5th for a special dessert in the evening. We will have the registration forms out in the early spring.

A special thank you for all of the wonderful volunteers. Nothing would happen without you. Two of the three organizers from the past many years are retiring from their positions; Pat Smith with her wonderful imagination and artistic skills and Lenore Marino with her coordination of the registrations and information going out to all who sign up for Pow Wow. Your energies will be missed. Thank you for all you do and did.



PHOTOS FROM POWWOW 2023







Cinnamon Rolls On a Stick

This one is just plain fun. Make sure you have a roaring fire and long wooden skewers. If you have grandkids along with you, this is a fun breakfast to make together. For nutrition's sake, you may want to pair this with scrambled eggs and juice. ☺

What You Will Need:

- 1 package of crescent rolls from the fridge section
- 1/4 cup of sugar mixed with 1 -2 tablespoons of cinnamon
- Wooden skewers
- Powdered sugar mixed with a dash of milk to form a drizzle glaze

What To Do:

1. Mix the cinnamon in sugar in a small paper bowl.
2. Pull the rolls apart and wrap them all around the wooden skewer.
3. Roll the wrap in the cinnamon and sugar mix.
4. Place a grill on top of the fire. (Be sure to use non-stick spray on the grill prior to heating it!)
5. Place the roll sticks on the grill over the campfire and turn them often.
6. In 5 minutes, your cinnamon sticks will be done! Cover them with a light frosting drizzle and serve with fresh fruit.

Applesauce Temptation (MAKES 4)

What You Will Need:

- 2 c applesauce
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/3 c raisins
- 1/3 c chopped walnuts
- red cinnamon candies (optional)
- whipped dessert topping (optional)

What To Do:

In small saucepan, combine applesauce, cinnamon, raisins and nuts. Cook over medium heat until hot, stirring occasionally. Spoon into dessert dishes. Sprinkle with red cinnamon candies and garnish with whipped topping if desired.

~ MEMORIAL NOTIFICATION FORM ~

NAME OF DECEASED: _____

SPOUSE: _____

CHAPTER: _____

DATE OF BIRTH (if known): _____

DATE OF DEATH: _____

* We welcome a solo photo of the deceased and a short obituary for The Drifter

SEND FORM TO: DEE VEENENDAAL, OREGON RV CAMPERS ASSOCIATION

38452 JASPER-LOWELL RD., FALL CREEK, OR 97438 541-913-6994

Or email: ORCADirector@outlook.com

~ NEW CHAPTER MEMBER FORM ~

CHAPTER: _____

NEW MEMBER NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL (member 1): _____

CELL (member 2): _____

REFERRED TO CHAPTER BY: _____

SEND FORM TO: DEE VEENENDAAL, OREGON RV CAMPERS ASSOCIATION

38452 JASPER-LOWELL RD., FALL CREEK, OR 97438 541-913-6994

Or email: ORCADirector@outlook.com

If there is anything your chapter would like to include in
The Drifter, our cut-off day each month is the 25th.
Articles/news/pictures received after this date will be included
in the following months' newsletter. Thank you !!

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

