



Columbia Basin Cruisers

FMCA NorthWest Area Chapter
Serving Members in Washington, Oregon, Idaho
British Columbia, and Alberta, Canada



Newsletter

January 2005



Rally Dates:

March 18-20, 2005

"Cabin Fever Gathering" Lake Front RV Park, Moses Lake, WA

April 13 - 17, 2005 Board & Chapter Meetings

- "Spring Thaw Rally", Toppenish, WA CBC Board Hosting

May 19 - 22, 2005

Come to Blue Bird Country, Bickleton, WA Hosts Powers, Gilpin, Slaight

June 9 - 12, 2005

FMCA NW Area Rally, Albany, OR
Anyone want to CARAVAN to this?

June 24 - 26, 2005

"Wenatchee Valley Getaway Rally" Wenatchee, WA Hosts: Leonard & Judy Singhose

July 9 - 14, 2005

Great North American RV Rally, Redmond, OR Register individually-Travel and Park Together

July 22 - 24, 2005

Chapter Rally, Clarkston, WA Hosts: Tony & Doreen Russell

August 5 - 7, 2005

Golf Theme Rally, Location Pending. Hosts: Gary & Linda Pennington

August 15-18, 2005

FMCA International Convention Minot, ND

August 18 - 21, 2005

Kite Festival II, Long Beach, Host Tom & Kathy Storrs

September 22 - 25, 2005 Annual Meeting & Elections

Rally, Hope, ID Hosts: Greg & Gloria Schultz

~~Sept. 26 - Oct. 6, 2005 Progressive Rally, Canceled~~

October 14-16, 2005 (Date Change)

Kick Off 10th Anniversary Year

Meet the Charter Members/Reunion Rally, Cashmere, WA where it all started.



From the President



Frank & Della Ward, Newport, WA - "Real SnowBirds"

Seasons Greetings! That's for the holiday season just past, the winter season I hope all are enjoying, (I know we are with three nights below zero, reasonably good skiing on a rather anemic snow pack, and plenty of quilting time), and for the RALLY SEASON we are about to enjoy. To put our passion for the RV life style, and in particular CBC Rallies, Della & I offer the following we received via the internet. (Author Unknown) *THE MAYONNAISE JAR AND COFFEE*: *When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar...and the coffee...A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was. So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was. The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "yes.". The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed. "Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. **The golf balls are the important things-your God, family, your children, your health, your friends, and your favorite passions-things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.** The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else-the small stuff. "If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time*

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From the Wagon Master

Well, CBC'ers spring is still out there ahead of us. This hasn't been the toughest winter so far, but it is the usual gray and dreary. Even the snow birds have found the conditions a little cool and soggy at times. Summer rallies are coming together and we are looking forward to attending and seeing CBC friends again. By the way, we have more than 100 motorhome families now. Some of you regulars might contact the charter members you know and get them to a rally this year. We would all love to see them again at any rally but especially October. Remember, these long term members were the foundation for the CBC organization. Well, so much for my thoughts. I'm looking forward to a great 2005 rally season. If I can help anyone out or if you would like to help with a CBC Rally, give me a call. I look forward to working with you...Rog

December 2005

Holiday Gathering, Location & "Hosts" needed.**2006 CBC's 10th Anniversary Year - Start Planning Now** for a special year celebrating 10 years of "fun, food, and friendship"**Remaining publication Dates for 2005 are: May 23; July 11; October 10. Deadline for submissions are two weeks prior to publication date.****Think & Grin**

WORDS TO LIVE BY

Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue. Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them. Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it. Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be recalled by their maker. Eat a live toad in the morning and nothing worse will happen to you for the rest of the day. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague. If you lend someone \$20, and never see that person again, it was probably worth it. It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others. Never buy a car you can't push. Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you don't have a leg to stand on. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

Columbia Basin Cruisers Officers

President: **Frank Ward**
 1st Vice President & Wagon
 Master: **Roger Ferrell**
 2nd Vice President & Membership:
Kathy Storrs
 Secretary: **Cecelia Scott**
 Treasurer: **Linda Pennington**
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 Alt. Nat. Director: **Dave Morgan**
 2004-2005 Nominating Committee:
Duane & Donna Peterson
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 Sheriff: **Jim Slaight**
 Historian: **Norma Schultz**
 Sunshine: **Bonnie Gottschalk**
 Newsletter: **Della Ward**
 Web Master: **Dale Comstock**
<http://geocities.com/cbcers/>
Cruise'n on CB Channel #14

from the President, Continued from page one

and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your wife out to dinner. Maybe even play another 18. There's always time to clean the house and fix the disposal." Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand." One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."

Some would say you need to pay attention to the small details and the big stuff will take care of itself. This perspective is also valid but I believe the small stuff referred to in this point of view are part of the larger whole. In the above example of "the important things-your God, family, your children, your health, your friends, and your favorite passions" one inclusive small detail (not the pebbles or sand) would be scheduling time to enjoy these "golf balls". So, get those calendars out and put our rally dates in ink (at least through July). When you receive the May Newsletter you can ink in the rest of the years rallies. Above all, don't just come to a rally, bring your family, friends, and your favorite passion (photography, quilting, carving, cooking, collecting, bird watching, bicycling, etc.) and share your interests with others pursuing the same, offer a short seminar for others, or help host a rally. If you want to do a seminar the facilities at Toppenish (April Rally) are well suited for this. Call or e-mail Frank Ward to schedule a time for presenting a seminar at Toppenish or Wagonmaster Roger Ferrell to help host a rally or present seminar topics at other rallies. Remember CBC Policy does **not** allow for **Commercial or Sales** presentations at our rallies.

On a similar thought politics can bring out fervent passions and yet at the October 2004 CBC Rally at Lake Eston. I over heard many discussion on issues relating to the upcoming elections. All points of view were openly represented and none that I know of offended. Later I received the following e-mail submitted by Gene Harwood. "SAND AND STONE: A story tells that two friends were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey, they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand: TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE. They kept on walking until they found an oasis where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone: TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SAVED MY LIFE. The friend who had slapped and saved his best friend asked him, "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?" The other friend replied "When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it." LEARN TO WRITE YOUR HURTS IN THE SAND AND TO CARVE YOUR BENEFITS IN STONE. They say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but then an entire life to forget them." May it ever be so between CBC'rs.

GOD Bless and KEEP THE TRANNY SIDE DOWNFrank**Rally Reports:**

On December 4, 2004 twenty-seven CBC'rs and guests gathered in Sunnyside for the annual "Farm Implements Light Parade". A great big THANKS to George and Betty Green for providing their coach for a grand "Tailgate Party" again this year. It was cool but dry. It would be about six weeks before any of the white stuff would coat the lower Valley. Although an informal "Gathering", to insure continued success of these events the board will be discussing the need for a registration or RSVP procedure at the April meetings. If you have any ideas or suggestions please share them with a board member or come to the April Board Meeting and speak up.

So what's missing from this rally report? About one thousand words worth of photographs. If you have a digital camera and would like to help by being the "Official CBC Photographer" at one or more of our rallies call or e-mail Della or Frank Ward and schedule the rallies you want to cover for the newsletter and share with the Historian. What you need is a Digital camera with USB or Firewire connectivity. Assistance will be provided.



“Cabin Fever Gathering”
 March 18-20, 2005 - Moses Lake, WA
 Event Contact is WagonMaster Roger Ferrell (509)448-1481

Where: Lake Front RV Park Moses Lake, WA

We have twenty spots reserved (can get more if needed), 30 amp hookups, remodeled lobby with game area, cable TV, park is under new management: \$20 per night. This being a Chapter Gathering, there are no scheduled activities. Plan on at least a “Finger Food” Pot Luck Friday and possibly a second pot luck on Saturday. You are on your own for other meals. Register and pay at the office on arrival. Advise Roger Ferrell (509)448-1481 if you are coming so that he can keep the Park informed. **Directions:** Arriving from East or West, Exit 176, then east bound on West Broadway. Turn on Burress and go straight into the Park. From the North, take Stafford Road exit, go South across the lake, then right on West Broadway. Go about two miles, right turn on Burress Road. From the South, Highway 17, turn west on I-90, go to Exit 176 and proceed as coming from east or west.



“Spring Thaw - Come Home Rally”
 April 13 - 17, 2004 - Toppenish, WA
 Hosted by: CBC Board Members

Come as early as Wednesday April 13 or arrive on Thursday, April 14 for some extra CBC fun. Or be on time Friday April 15 and experience CBC fun in progress and a **finger food pot luck** at 6:00 p.m. Saturday enjoy Breakfast at the Heritage Restaurant (not included in rally fee) or on your own followed by a **Book & Puzzle EXCHANGE (Bring your gently used books and COMPLETE Jigsaw Puzzles), RV ‘Garage’ Sale (bring your surplus RV/Camping equipment), Brown Bag Bingo (each member bring a brown bag with a gift you would like to receive in it), Quilters meeting, CBC Board Meeting, and a brief membership meeting.** Saturday dinner is planned at the Legends Casino’s Western BBQ Buffet (all meal plans subject to change with out notice until the forks dig in). Sunday morning will end with a continental breakfast and rally prize drawings. *Area Attractions for your consideration: Tribal Cultural Center Museum, Casino, Wine Tours, Toppenish Murals, Train Museum, Hop Museum, Fort Simco, and Sunnyside Darigold Plant.* **Directions:** From Yakima head East on Interstate 82. From Tri-Cities go West on Interstate 82. Both directions take Exit 50 and turn South towards Toppenish/Buena. The road will angle right after a railroad crossing. At US 97 turn right. (Alternate Scenic Route take US 97 East from Union Gap/Yakima or West from Prosser) At SR 220 light turn left towards White Swan. Follow this just past the Casino (on the left) and turn right onto Buster Rd (at the Yakima Indian Health Center). Park entrance will be on the left.



“Come to Blue Bird Country”
 May 19 - 21, 2005 - Bickleton, WA
 Hosted by: Bob & Sandra Powers, Eldred & Beverly Gilpin, Jim & Marlene Slaight

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION - 1ST MAY 2005; DRY CAMPING - BICKLETON GRANGE HALL; Rally Fees \$45.00 per person; Thursday night dinner - furnished; Friday breakfast - on your own; Friday 8:00–3:00 - Chartered bus tour of the Bickleton area - bring your own sack lunch; Friday night - catered dinner furnished; Saturday breakfast - furnished; Saturday 10:00 CBC QUILTERS MEET THE BICKLETON QUILTERS **PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE QUILT OR TWO TO SHARE**; Saturday lunch - on your own; Saturday dinner - Potluck with Ham furnished; Sunday breakfast - furnished. **GETTING THERE**: Coming from eastern WA. on I-82 Exit 82(Prosser) follow highway 22 to Mabton and turn south(four way stop) on Glade Road continue on this road for approximately 25 miles to Bickleton. The Bickleton Grange Hall is on the south side of the road in downtown Bickleton (population 90). Coming from the west on I-82 Exit 67 (Sunnyside) turn right and follow directions to Mabton to highway 22 turn east and go to four way stop and follow above directions. ***REMEMBER all roads leading into Bickleton are 35-40 mph in your motorhome once you start up the hill out of Mabton or coming from Goldendale or Roosevelt ...many curves and sharp corners!***



“Wenatchee Valley Getaway Rally”
 June 24 - 26, 2005 - Monitor, WA
 Hosted by: Leonard & Judy Singhose, Bud & Verna O'Dell

Make Reservations and Payment Directly to the Wenatchee River County Park (509)667-7503 or FAX (509)667-9514 ASAP & Prior to April 15, 2005 Site with Full Hook Ups \$22 per night. Rally Fee \$12 each. Includes Friday BBQ and Sunday Breakfast. Optional Activities: Half day Wenatchee River Raft Trip on Friday (See Registration); Rocky Reach Dam fish viewing and museum (Free); Ohme Gardens (\$6); Aplets & Cotlets candy factory tour (free); Leavenworth; North Central Washington Museum (\$3); Columbia Cascade Wineries Tour; US Forest Service NW Interpretive Station (free); Golfing; Apple Capital Recreation Loop Trail (free); Blue Grass Music Jam Sessions Chelan County Fair Grounds, Cashmere; and recreational boating.



Membership

Membership is now 95 plus the thirteen who have not paid their 2005 dues for a total of 108. Check the lower left of your envelope for your membership expiration year. If it is a **red 2004** send your \$20 dues for the year to **CBC Treasure Linda Pennington 2407 W Gordon Avenue, Spokane, WA 99205**. Big changes have taken place with FMCA's National By-Laws which also affect the Northwest Area. A summary of the changes are in the "President's Message" starting on page 6 of the February 2005 "Family Motor Coaching". For more details check with our National or Alternate National Directors (see officer listings in your roster or on page two). Now about some CBC business which will be under **discussion** in this coming year: Cliques - How does CBC define them? Do we have them? Are they beneficial or detrimental? etc.; CBC continues to grow. - How many members is to many? Or does size really matter? Do we put a cap on membership size? With the continued growth should CBC Incorporate as a not for profit organization as recommended in the Presidents Handbook? Would incorporating change our legal relationship with FMCA? What about insurance coverage? etc. Participation - With 108 member coaches (213 individual members) do we have enough participation from our membership? In the last three years CBC has sponsored thirty rallies with nineteen hosts (excluding elected officer who hosted rallies). There are five elected officers, five appointed committees, and the nominating committee for a total of twenty-four members serving in one or more of these positions in the last three years. Do we need additional committees or just more participation on the existing ones? As you can see these are exciting time for CBC and with the talent pool of our collective membership we should have no trouble finding answers to all of these questions and more. If one or more of these topics interests you contact or e-mail CBC President Frank Ward and when you are asked to help out, just say "yes" with a big CBC smile on your face. Just in: **Special event opportunity: June 30-July 5, 2005 "Tall Ships Festival" Tacoma, WA Visit www.tallshipstacoma.com or (253)682-1446** Thank you to Bob & Shirley Miller for this heads up. Sounds fun.



CBC Web Site

Dale Comstock, our original WebMaster, has given notice that 2005 will be his last year to serve CBC in this position. Dale has provided CBC with one of the best, if not the best, FMCA chapter web sites. If you have browsed many FMCA sites you know what I mean. If you have experience or would like to learn the "tricks" of being a web master e-mail, call, or contact CBC President Frank Ward (listed in your roster, and on the web site). Training and assistance are available.



Some Sunshine to warm you:

Submitted by Gene Harwood

More WORDS TO LIVE BY: The early worm gets eaten by the bird, so sleep late. When every thing's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane. Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the better. Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have to wait for them? If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy? You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person. Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once. Don't cry because it's over; smile because it happened. We could learn a lot from crayons: some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors but they all have to learn to exist in the same box. A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour. Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open. Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year. How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on. Most of us go to our grave with our music still inside of us. If Walmart is lowering prices every day, how come nothing is free yet? Have an awesome day, and know that someone has thought about you today.

Seven Wonders of the World A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present Seven Wonders of the World. Though there were some disagreements, the following received the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
2. Taj Mahal
3. Grand Canyon
4. Panama Canal
5. Empire State Building
6. St. Peter's Basilica
7. China's Great Wall.

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one quiet student hadn't turned in her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many. The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help."

The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the Seven Wonders of the World are: 1. to see 2. to hear 3. to touch 4. to taste 5. to feel 6. to laugh 7. and to love.

The room was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. The things we overlook as simple, ordinary & take for granted are truly wondrous! A gentle reminder about the most precious things in life. Smile and have a great day.



Final Trip

Mary Nichols (age 93), mother of Betty Green, started her final trip October 13, 2004. Mary was an active CBC member attending many rallies with the Greens. Thank you, George and Betty, for including Mary in your CBC adventures. Those who had the privilege of visiting with Mary through the years will truly miss this "Mom"

Ray & Harlene Huffman sent a letter with their dues stating that their son had passed away, he was thirty-three and left a wife who was due to deliver their second child and four year old son. The Huffman's are staying with their daughter-in-law and grandchildren in Elsinore, CA, until affairs are settled and stabilized.