



NOVEMBER 2005

# THE CRUISER

A Newsletter for the Columbia Basin Cruisers, a chapter of the FMCA NorthWest Area Serving Washington, Oregon, Idaho, British Columbia, and Alberta, Canada

## RALLY DATES

*Dates are firm through September. Themes and locations may be adjusted pending final arrangements.*

### December 3, 2005

Sunnyside Gathering, Light Parade, Tailgate Coach(s) needed. Call President Frank if you can help.

### 2006 CBC's 10th Anniversary Year

Start Planning Now for a special year celebrating 10 years of "fun, food, and friendship."

### March 16-19, 2006

Cabin Fever Gathering, Moses Lake, Wash. No Host.

### April 20-23, 2006

Spring Thaw Board and Membership Meeting, Sage Hill at RV Park, Warden, Wash. Hosts: CBC Board of Directors.

### May 12-14, 2006

Balloon Stampede Rally, Walla Walla. Hosts: Larry and Teddy Beers, Frank and Della Ward.

### June 6-7, 2006

Caravan to Albany, Ore. Trail Boss(s) needed.

### June 8-11, 2006

FMCA Northwest Area, Albany, Ore. Help with Chapter Fair and Parade and trams needed.

### June 16-18, 2006

Post Area Rally Gathering, Tri-Cities. No Hosts.

### July 19-23, 2006

Oregon Trail Rally, Baker City, OR. Tony and Doreen Russell.

(continued on page 2)



## From the President

By Frank Ward

Welcome to our new Newsletter Editor, Sandie Blakley. No, your eyes are not playing tricks on you. This is the new CBC Newsletter design and layout. I think you can all agree Sandie is very talented. And NO, it will not increase our publishing costs and YES, it is more readable. Something design pros call white space.

Duke and Sandie will also be our new web masters. Look for their contributions to this form of publishing as well. Once we have these transitions completed, we will explore the possibility of electronic distribution of the newsletter. Currently 65 of our 99 members have e-mail. The trick to successfully distributing a publication this way is the type of internet connection the receiving party has (dial up modem, DSL, Broadband, etc). More later as we move in this direction.

If you had the fun of attending our October 2004 and 2005 rallies, you had a glimpse of the individual talents of CBC mem-

bers when corncobs, apples, and pumpkins were turned into delightful fun. The same continues to be true rally after rally, year after year, as members, many for the first time, host a rally or accept a nomination to serve on our Executive Board or an appointment on a committee and contribute your creative talents to the enjoyment and benefit of us all.

Our tenth anniversary year rally schedule for 2006 is about complete, but help is still needed for our caravan to and participation at the following: the Northwest Area Rally in June; the June gathering/rally; co-hosts are needed for July and August; and October needs hosts and location. If you would like to help, give Vice President-Wagonmaster Tony Russell a call or try his new e-mail at [tnrussell@yahoo.com](mailto:tnrussell@yahoo.com). If you would like to help with special 10th Anniversary emphasis, please contact me at 509-539-1297.

Plan your rally attendance now and join in on the 10th Anniversary Celebration Rally Year as many times as possible.

**Seasons Greetings to all and keep those coaches rollin', rollin', rollin'—Frank**



## Think and Grin

Submitted by Gene Harwood - author unknown - Continued from August Issue

### Understanding Engineers—Take Three.

A pastor, a doctor and an engineer were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer fumed, "What's with these guys? We must have been waiting for 15 minutes!" The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I've never seen such ineptitude!" The pastor said, "Hey, here comes the greens keeper. Let's have a word with him." "Hi George! Say, what's with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?" The greens keeper replied, "Oh, yes, that's a group of blind firefighters. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime." The group was silent for a moment. The pastor said, "That's so sad. I think I will say a special prayer for them tonight." The doctor said, "Good idea. And I'm going to contact my ophthalmologist buddy and see if there's anything he can do for them." The engineer said, "Why can't these guys play at night?"

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**RALLY DATES** *(continued)***August 9–13, 2006**

Sea Breezes Rally, Ocean City, WA. Hosts: Don & Brenda Hall. Co-Hosts are needed.

**September 1–4, 2006**

Ellensburg Rodeo and Annual Membership Meeting Rally. Hosts: Pat & Morrie Sorensen.

**September 14–17, 2006**

Dutche Fest & 10th Anniversary Celebration Rally, Odessa, WA. Hosts: Bill & Sally Groth and Bud & Jan Trutton.

**October 11–14, 2006**

The Great Duck Race or Ho-Down Rally, Kennewick, WA or CleElum, WA. Hosts needed.

**CBC Officers**

**President:** Frank Ward

**1st Vice President & Wagon Master:**  
Tony Russell

**2nd Vice President & Membership:**  
Leonard Greenwalt

**Secretary:** Della Ward

**Treasurer:** Pat Sorensen

**National Director:**  
Ken Kirschner

**Alternate National Director:**  
Duke Blakley

**2005-2006 Nominating Committee:**  
Jim & Marlene Slaight  
Bud & Verna O'Dell  
Norm & Sonia Green

**Sheriff:** Jim Slaight

**Deputy Sheriff:** Bob Powers

**Historian:** Norma Schultz

**Membership & Sunshine:**  
Kathy Storrs – Patty Kirschner

**Newsletter:**  
Duke & Sandie Blakley

**Web Master:**  
Sandie Blakley  
<http://geocities.com/cbcers/Cruise'n on CB Channel #14>

# Rally Reports

*Submitted by Kathy Storrs & Frank***September 14****Deer Park, Washington**

Coaches started to arrive at the Spokane RV Resort on Wednesday, September 14th. Thursday afternoon had ten coaches parked, and by the start of the rally on Friday, 18 were enjoying this fabulous location with huge concrete pads overlooking the greens and fairways, back-dropped by a ring of mountains, blue skies, and white clouds floating by. Members found plenty to do in the area visiting relatives,

drag strip reunion and car show, shopping the local establishments. The pot luck, continental breakfasts, and catered dinner were their usually yummy good. At the annual membership meeting, nominations were completed and ballots tallied. See the new CBC Board listing on page 2. Other CBC business was conducted and is reported in the Membership Section. A big thanks to hosts Gary & Linda Pennington and Roger & Linda Ferrell.



*(Above) Gary Who? At the 9th Tee, the Columbia Basin Cruiser Gallery cheers this magnificent shot. Notice the fine back swing and footing. Could he have been a little distracted by so much attention from his fans? Photo by Della Ward*

*(Below) Columbia Basing Cruisers Annual Meeting rally in the Spokane RV Resort in Deer Park, WA. Photo by Frank Ward.*



**October 12–13****Cashmere, Washington**

Eleven early arrivals on Wednesday and Thursday, October 12 and 13, had the rally warmed up and going by the time all 25 were parked on Friday at the Chelan County Fair Grounds in Cashmere, Wash. As hard as we tried to replicate the original organizational rally, the weather wouldn't cooperate and provide the snow. Oh, well! Can't fault us for not trying.

There was lots of reminiscing with the help of the Historians photo albums and digital slide show of the last five years provided by President Frank Ward. A group was organized by Tom and Kathy for a guided tour of the Rocky Reach Dam on Friday. Never to fail, the pot luck was finger lick'n good. Saturday started with a continental breakfast and then onto the Farmers Market and the Saint Laurent Winery for many, and Leavenworth for others. Before dinner, judges picked the winners of the "Cutest Apple" (Guy & Suzi Thompson and Gary & Linda Pennington) and "Most Creative Pumpkin" (George & Betty Green and Frank & Della Ward). This once again proved just how resourceful and creative CBC'rs really are. Dinner was catered by CBC Member Gary Phippen and new CBC Member Bruce Lann from Leavenworth.

After our Saturday night dinner, Kathy Storrs shared recollections about the club formation rally held at the Chelan County Fair Grounds on October 17, 1996. She reported: "At the formation rally, 63 coaches registered, five cancelled and five more didn't show up, probably because it snowed. Of the 53 in attendance, 40 became charter members at the rally. Of those 40, 10 registered for this rally and eight arrived. Wayne Burchett, our first President, and Chuck Schnell, our first Second VP, regrettably had to cancel for health reasons. The other original officers were First Vice President, Herschel Heimbigner (present), Bonnie Gottschalk, Secretary (present), Kathy Marston (Storrs), Treasurer (present), Jody Davis, National Director and Paul Eisen, Alt. National Director. Officers were elected in the same room



we are in now. Charter membership was left open until January of 1997, resulting in 71 charter members. Thirteen of them are here and 26 are still in the chapter." The charter members were asked to stand and be recognized. Photos were taken and the celebration continued. Sunday morning started with a catered breakfast, more reminiscing, group photographs, and long, lingering "see ya's" well into the afternoon.



*These photos are from Cashmere, Wash., at the Chelan County Fair Ground. This is the start of the 10th Anniversary Rally year for CBC. Photos by Frank Ward.*

*(Top) "Sheriff" Jim working the crowd. Notice how almost everyone has at least one foot in the air. Wonder why that is? Could it be that deep?*

*(Above) Front Rows include 16 first rally charter members. Behind them are 26 charter members, and in the back rows are 10 CBC'rs representing our continued growth.*

*(Left) Marion and JoAnne Calhoun, along with Norman and Sonia Green, paging through memory lane in the CBC's Historians albums.*



## From the Wagonmaster *By Tony Russell*

As the new Wagon Master I'd like to encourage more of the newer members to consider hosting a rally. Some of the long time members have hosted quite a few and need a well deserved rest! Hosting a rally really isn't hard to do, and by having a co-host, you can share duties, plus you would get plenty of help and guidance along the way from me or any of the officers. And, if you have ideas on new places to hold a rally, that's always welcomed, too. By getting more active, you will get better acquainted with the other members, which is a definite plus! Please consider and give me a call at (702) 672-4111. May you all have safe travels this winter and we'll see you in the spring! Thanks, Tony.

*More Sunshine*

### Understanding Engineers—Take Four.

What is the difference between Mechanical Engineers and Civil Engineers? Mechanical Engineers build weapons and Civil Engineers build targets.



## Membership *By Kathy Storrs and Patty Kirschner*

At the September annual meeting in Deer Park at the Spokane RV Resort, we successfully elected a full slate of officers. Check the Board and Committee listing on page 2 in this issue for your update. The membership also requested an increase in the number of newsletter issues by two during the peak rally months. This has been put on the calendar and will be worked into the budget. An Audit committee was appointed. Leonard Singhose, Marlene Laughton, and Roger Ferrell submitted their report at Cashmere in October. As requested in the audit, newsletter costs are being reviewed for a report to the membership in April. Because of fuel prices and next August's FMCA Convention being in Charlotte, NC, a suggestion was made about donating frequent flyer miles to help our National Director attend. Linda Ferrell is checking into this possibility. Call her if you have any experience on how to do this.

Our new nominating committee was elected for 2005-2006. They are Jim & Marlene Slight, Norm & Sonia Green, and Bud & Verna O'Dell. When contacted by them, give some serious thought to service on the Executive Board and then say "yes." It is a lot of fun.

The use of the CBC Roster was discussed. The membership was unanimous and quite adamant that the Roster is used for internal purposes only, and that outside interests (Including those related to FMCA) not be permitted. If you received e-mails lately promoting a petition drive relating to FMCA, this was not authorized or supported by the CBC Executive Board. CBC supports an individual's right to express opinions, but does not promote or endorse these outside causes which the use of our roster would imply. We believe each member, individually, should and will make their own decisions on issues of this type.

As part of life in a "Family" of members enjoying their advancing chronology, things often need fixin'. Such is the case at this time with Ken Kirschner, Don Hall, Chuck Schnell, Wayne Burschette, and Della Ward. These are the ones we know of. Your CBC "Family" cares and has you and your care giver in our thoughts and prayers.



## Final Trip

Charter member, first Chapter Secretary, and "Sunshine" on the Membership Committee, Bonnie Gottschalk, died on November 10. While dealing with her own health problems, Bonnie continued her service to the chapter as "Sunshine" sending cards on behalf of Columbia Basin Cruisers to our members needing a cheerful caring thought when we needed it most. At the families' request, memorials may be made to the Humane Society of Central, Wash., 2405 W. Birchfield Road, Yakima, WA 98901.