



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

Note the changes to our 2006 rally schedule. See Page 2 for Rally Details.

July 19–23, 2006

Oregon Trail Rally, Baker City, OR. Hosts: Tony & Doreen Russell.

August 11–13, 2006

Eighth Wonder of the World Rally, Grand Coulee, WA. Hosts: "Bullet" & Marlene Laughton and Roger & Linda Ferrell.

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 12–15, 2006

Stars & Stripes RV Park, Quincy, WA. Hosts: Leonard & Florence Greenwalt and George & Betty Green.



Frank-ly Speaking

By Frank Ward, President

Last month I mentioned looking forward. Here is a little more. As a Chapter we are very much like a group going river rafting. We can choose to sit low in the bottom of the raft, keep our heads down, and ride out the rapids (calendar conflicts, fuel prices, changes in FMCA, etc.), or we can grab on and paddle hard through the rapids, relax and coast through the slack stretches, make choices on which fork in the river to take (participate in the process of making plans/changes), and all work to make lots of good memories together.

Whichever we choose, this metaphorical CBC river (i.e., Chapter Event Schedule), will continue to flow year after year unless we quit putting the raft in the water and grabbing a paddle (attend rallies, host, serve on the board, etc).

Some chapters are having serious problems with this, but so far, CBC continues to do well. (Through July, 44% of CBCers have attended at least one rally this year, compared to 44% last year.) I think that is because none of us would go river rafting without being involved in the planning, and having a successful chapter is no different.

After attending the Northwest Area Rally in Albany, let me share a glimpse of what might be coming in the next year or so. There well may be changes in FMCA at the National Level. A number of changes are being debated as I write this. Unfortunately, and not for lack of trying, CBC will not have representation attending to vote on any of these proposals at the August convention. The Northwest Area Association is exploring a long-term commitment to holding the Area Rallies in Albany. Any changes at these levels will have some effect on CBC, but will NOT change what we are or what we are all about.

We will simply choose to participate in certain events or not (choose a fork in the river).

The Northwest Area Association will be hosting the National Convention in Redmond, OR in August 2007. Maybe you have rafted that river before (been there and done that), but we have a chance as a Chapter to do more and make more of this event than just attend another convention. (It's what we do together as a Chapter that makes an event special.) This is a choice we will have to make and commit to, or not, at our Ellensburg meeting because the Area Association Meeting will be in Toppenish the



Wednesday after. Your President will be asked to make commitments for our participation as volunteers at this meeting one year ahead of the event. I hope we will have a large turn out at Ellensburg and that we will leave the annual meeting with a "Colorado River/Grand Canyon" rafting trip (chapter plan) for 2007. See you there...and remember to keep those coaches marking their territory.—Frank

Rally News

June Albany Rally Report

By Frank Ward

What started out to be a 12-coach caravan to Albany quickly dwindled to five with overlooked family commitments for some, and health issues for others. On Friday, June 2nd, four coaches (Slaights, Greens, Greens, and Searls) started with a night at Maryhill State Park.

Saturday morning, the Wards did a rolling rendezvous with them at Biggs Junction. The first stop was at The Dalles for a tour of the Columbia River George Discovery Center and Wasco County Museum, then on to Bonneville Dam, and a stop for the night at



FINAL TRIP NOTICE

On June 26th, Everett Michel started his final trip. His was a presence and sense of humor which will truly be missed in our circles. Our best to co-pilot Jeanne, friends and family.

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
George Green

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

Troutdale that had to be changed to the Ball-dock (Wilsonville) Rest Area.

Sunday we moved to the Portland-Dayton RV Park and toured the Evergreen Aviation Museum (Home of the "Spruce Goose") and surrounding areas of Lincoln City and Tillamook.

Tuesday morning, we were parked at the Linn County Fair Grounds in Albany by 9 a.m. and continued having fun by attending seminars, driving trams (six passenger golf carts), visiting with friends (Good to see Brenda Hall down for the day), Chapter Fair, and all the other "stuff" that goes on at an Area Rally.

July—Oregon Trail Rally

July 19 - 23, Baker City, OR

Registration Deadline was June 15th. Call Tony Russell if you are having missed deadline regrets. There may still be a chance. Watch for your rally registration confirmation with rally details in a separate mailing from the hosts.

August—

Attention: Group Reservations for Pacific Beach have been cancelled. Sea Breeze Rally, August 9-13, 2006 Pacific Beach, WA has been MOVED to...

8th Wonder of the World Rally

August 11-13, Grand Coulee, WA

"Eighth Wonder of the World Rally" at the Grand Coulee RV Park. Hosts: "Bullet" & Marlene Laughton and Roger & Linda Ferrell. Make your own reservations directly with the park by August 1st. Toll free number (866) 633-0750. Rate is \$22 a night full hookups with cable. Friday night will be a finger food potluck. Saturday night is a bring your own meat BBQ and last names A through M bring side dish or salad, and N through Z dessert or appetizer. Continental breakfast on Saturday and Sunday morning is provided.

QUICK DIRECTIONS: From the junctions Highway 155 & 174 in Grand Coulee, go West on Highway 174 about 3/4 mile. Drive way is on the LEFT from this direction. Registration forms were in the June newsletter. Detailed information will be in your rally confirmation.

Labor Day Weekend Rodeo & Fair Time Rally August 31–September 4, Ellensburg

Hosted by Morrie & Pat Sorensen and the CBC Board. **NOTICE: This is the Annual Membership Meeting & Elections.**

LOCATION: Morrie & Pat Sorensen's Dry Camping around "Lake Sorensen." Come prepared for whatever. Except for a Potluck & Membership Meeting Saturday Evening, expect a very spontaneous weekend. Things to do: Rodeo, County Fair, Carnival and Midway Rides, Rodeo Bowl football game, CWU vs. University of North Dakota, Crowning of Miss Rodeo Washington 2007, Pancake Breakfasts, Rodeo Parade, PRCA X-Bulls Event, Cowboy Church, Posse Night—Exhibition drills and activities performed by mounted posses, Cattle Baron's Brunch, and don't forget the Yakama Nation Indian Village and the Western Village.

DIRECTIONS: Go to Ellensburg and take Exit 109 from East or West bound 190. Turn South onto Hwy. 821 (Canyon River Road towards Yakima). Just past the truck stop, turn left onto Berry Road. Next, turn right onto Bull Road, watch for signs and lake on the left.

September—CBC's 10th Anniversary Rally and 36th Deutschesfest September 14-17, 2006 Odessa, WA

Hosted by: Bill & Sally Groth and Bud & Jan Trutton. Join us for 3-4 days packed with fun and entertainment. The Fest starts Thursday at 6:30 p.m. with tricycle & bed races. Starting Friday, there will be art exhibits, craft vendors, a flea market and food booths serving wonderful German food. Throughout the Fest, there will be music and food in the block-long Biergarten. There's also music on an outside stage. Friday evening, the Odessa Tigers Football game will be held close to where we will be parking.

On Saturday morning, there is a 5k and 10k fun run, followed by a parade along Main Street. You can go to garage sales/flea market, visit the Museum, Antique Quilt Display, or take in an Art Show. Each morning, one of the civic organizations puts on a breakfast. A great 9-hole golf course is close by. To read about all the Festival and the town of Odessa, go to www.odessachamber.net. Rally registrations will be mailed with the August Newsletter. See you at CBC's 10th Anniversary celebration and the Deutschesfest.



Photo above: Helpful CBCers at the Albany Rally. Front, Sonia Green and George Green, and back, Jim and Marlene Slaight.