



MAY 2006

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.

May 12–14, 2006

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

June 6–7, 2006

Caravan to Albany, Ore. Trail Boss Frank Ward.

June 8–11, 2006

FMCA Northwest Area, Albany, Ore. Chapter Fair, Parade and driving trams.

July 19–23, 2006

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

August 9–13, 2006

Sea Breezes Rally, Ocean City, WA. Hosts: Don & Brenda Hall.

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.

Update!

October 11–14, 2006

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



Frank-ly Speaking

By Frank Ward, President

As you can see, CBC is trying something new. First, at the request of the membership to have two extra newsletters during the rally season (May–August), and second, to keep the cost down, you will be receiving full newsletters in January and October and four short two-page versions the rest of the year. This format will hopefully increase the flow of timely information to our members and second, keep costs under control.

Something else is also being tried at the suggestion of Tony Russell our Wagon Master. We will be attempting to send a confirmation letter of your rally registrations with additional information about that specific rally including directions, meal and activity information, etc. To help keep costs down, this may be mailed with your newsletter if we can coordinate it. If not, it will be a separate mailing. This will also free up room in the short versions of the newsletters for additional upcoming rally information.

Now a brief observation about what is affecting all of us. Fuel prices. I would like to simply quote a CBC member who this last winter has had more than enough reasons to, in Navy terms, “scuttle” his RV. It is the spirit behind this statement that has led America through so many tough times, and quite frankly, has contributed to Columbia Basin Cruisers being so great an organization.



“The price of gasoline and diesel are getting rather daunting, aren’t they? We have a choice of two things: 1) Let these expensive rigs just sit and deteriorate, or 2) Bite the bullet (only a pun Mr.

Laughton) and get out and use them as we intended originally. To Brenda and I personally, this is a no-brainer. We ask all of you to please base your decision on what you WANT to do rather than the price of fuel. Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!!!!”–Don Hall.

To this I would add: Plan wisely to get the most out of your fuel dollar by extending your days on the road where possible; slow down and enjoy life in the slow lane; and keep those coaches marking their territory.—Frank



PHOTOS FROM APRIL RALLY IN WARDEN, WA

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**Notice of Proposals to Amend By-Laws and Standing Rules**

This is the required minimum 30-day notice that at the Ellensburg Rally/Membership Meeting, September 2, 2006, proposed amendments to the CBC By-Laws and Membership Handbook (Standing-Rules) will be voted on. Copies of the proposed changes are posted on the Chapter Web Site (<http://geocities.com/cbcers/>) in pdf format. If you do not have access to the internet, call Secretary Della Ward at (509) 539-4049 and request a copy.

Rally News

The 2006 part of our rally year started on March 8th with our no-host gathering at the Pier 4 RV Park in Moses Lake. Twenty-seven members attended (12 Rigs and 3 day only). The weather was accommodating, if not very nice, and the fun, food, and friendship were in their usual good form for a CBC event.

At Warden in April, hosted by Tony & Doreen Russell, we had seventeen rigs including new members Daniel & Jana Boone (Welcome!) of Woodinville. The Sage Hill RV Park & Golf course was most accommodating. All feasted on Prime Rib Friday night, and Saturday the CBC Board met followed by a most enjoyable "bring your own meat" BBQ/ Potluck. After dinner there was a membership meeting with some very well-reasoned discussion about our newsletter and proposed amendments to our By-Laws and Membership Handbook. In between everything, some members enjoyed a couple of rounds of golf. Sunday morning ended the weekend with a breakfast buffet. Many members delayed their departure as long as possible, like leaving was the least desirable of all choices.

June—CBC Caravan to the FMCA NW Area Rally**June 4 – 11, Albany, Oregon**

First, if you are planning on going and haven't already let the events Trail Boss (President Frank Ward) know you are going, give him a call at (509) 539-1297.

Second, make sure you have sent your rally registration in (find a copy in the FMCA Magazine or go to the Area Web Site (<http://www.fmcanw.org>) and click the link "NOW POSSIBLE TO REGISTER ONLINE FOR ALBANY RALLY" just below the rally logo.

Third, join the caravan starting at Maryhill State Park, followed by a night at Wilsonville, OR (dry camp) and then into the

Rally site on Tuesday, June 6 (five nights of dry camping). Fee services available if water and dump are needed.

Fourth, have some suggestions for taking our time getting back home.

July—Oregon Trail Rally**July 19 - 23, Baker City, OR**

We will be at the Mountain View Trav-L-Park in Baker City, OR with hosts Tony & Doreen Russell. Baker City and the area has much to offer the visitor! The Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is outstanding and the downtown district is quite interesting. There's an Oregon Trail Regional Museum and the historic gold rush towns of Sumpter and Granite, as well as the Sumpter Valley Dredge and Railroad to explore.

DIRECTIONS: Southbound on I-84 take Exit 302, turn right and go three quarters mile to Hughes Lane. Turn right and go approximately one mile to the park on the left.

August—Sea Breeze Rally**August 9 – 13, 2006, Pacific Beach, WA**

Attention: YOU MUST SIGN UP TO RESERVE A SITE ON OR BEFORE JULY 9TH AT (888) 463-6697 OR WE LOSE THE SPOTS. Be sure and tell them you are a member of CBC when making the reservation. Also, please notify Don Hall at halldbj@juno.com or by phone at (360) 695-5550 or snail mail to Don Hall, 1306 NW 50th St, Vancouver, WA 98663-1564. You will need to give them a credit card number at this time and they will immediately bill you for one nights stay at the rate of \$17.00 per night with the remainder payable upon arrival. THE CONFIRMATION NUMBER WHEN REGISTERING IS 5156794. Full registration forms will follow with the May CBC Newsletter.

**Think and Grin***Submitted by Gene Harwood - author unknown - Continued from January Issue***Understanding Engineers—Take Six.**

Three engineering students were gathered together discussing the possible designers of the human body. One said, "It was a mechanical engineer." Just look at all the joints." Another said, "No, it was an electrical

engineer. The nervous system has many thousands of electrical connections." The last one said, "Actually it was a civil engineer. Who else would run a toxic waste pipeline through a recreational area?"