



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 Road

2008 Rally Plans

We still need to firm up the 2008 rally schedule. March is a gathering in Moses Lake. The April rally is in Toppenish, May at Two Rivers, June at Blewett Pass, July is in Sandpoint, Idaho, August is still open, September at Hoodspout, and October in Pendleton.

If you would like to host, or have suggestions, please call Wagonmaster Jerry Searl at (509) 452-2070 or President Roy Laughton (509) 244-5449 before the February issue of the "Cruiser."



Warm feet at Cascade Peaks.
See rally report, page 2.

From the President

By Roy Laughton, President

We had a great year, and I'm looking forward to us all getting together for many more.

As we are getting ready for the winter season, take a little time to plan for storage, traveling, or other plans, and enjoy the season.

During our travel South we had some very high winds and gusts that literally raised our awning off the locks, but fortunately, only blossomed out about 14 inches. It was fun getting everything tied down, having to lay down

on all the tools, tape, etc., and hang on the with one hand to keep from blowing off the roof. The 18-wheelers were going by at a 5-degree list. So I suggest that if you can, get an awning lock to protect yours from unraveling. We have seen many coaches, including very expensive ones, that had a lot of damage from awning blow-outs. We were very fortunate.

Our club is made up of great people who work and play well together. Please feel free to send me suggestions or changes that you would like to have, so we will continue having more fun and enjoyment. My email address is hahaton@earthlink.net. Let's keep the communication lines open and working with each other. God Bless, Bullet.



National Directors Report

By Duke Blakley, National Director

I would like to thank Roy (Bullet) Laughton and Terry Scherer for being able to attend the Northwest Area FMCA meeting in September for me, while I was undergoing medical tests. This semi-annual meeting was to start the process and planning for the NWA-FMCA 2008 Rally in Albany Oregon. The theme is "Christmas in June." The dates: June 4-7, 2008.

One of the great things about the CBC club is that when something needs to be done, and help is needed, members step up to get the job done. Thank you, Bullet and Terry, for covering for me at the Area Meeting in Moses Lake. Below is a snapshot of the information that came from that meeting as described by Bullet and Terry.

FMCA Northwest Area Meeting

September 25-27, 2007

Terry Scherer, CBC Asst. National Director

Roy Laughton, President CBC

Thanks for the opportunity to represent the club. First I (Bul-

let) want to say that I was very impressed by the folks at the meeting. The meeting was very positive and had a "Can Do" and "Working Together" relationship that was for improving, holding down costs, and still having a very good rally.

We voted to cut out the free meal on Bingo night and having the clubs have their own schedule for whatever they want or don't want to do. We also voted to raise the Fee to \$125.00 instead of the old \$120.00, which is to help break even at about 450 coaches. This should help keep us out of the hole on this rally, plus hopefully make up the cuts from FMCA National.

Also, I made it very clear that CBC was not volunteering as a group for anything, until further notice. However, I did find out that there were changes made in personnel, and those who created most of the problems have been removed from power. From all those I communicated with, I felt a positive attitude and a get-the-job-done spirit.

With the new people and the drive, working relationship, and attitude, I feel that the club should think about helping out. We have always done a very good job and those who care, have a lot of respect for us, and were very disappointed when I refused to have us volunteer. Be Advised that CBC is

(continued on page 2)

C'mon, Jerry, let's go!



CBC Officers

President: Roy "Bullet" Laughton

1st Vice President & Wagon Master:
Gerald Searl

2nd Vice President & Membership:
Roger Ferrell

Secretary: Della Ward

Treasurer: Pat Sorensen

National Director:
Duke Blakley

Alternate National Director:
Terry Scherer

Immediate Past President:
Frank Ward

2007-2008 Nominating Committee:
Bill & Penny Kinder
Leonard & Judy Singhose
Tom & Kathy Storrs

Sheriff: Jim Slaughter

Deputy Sheriff:
Bob Powers

Historian: Norma Schultz

Membership & Sunshine:
Kathy Storrs – Patty Kirschner
Penny Kinder

Newsletter:
Duke & Sandie Blakley

Web Master:
Sandie Blakley
sandiebee@charter.net

Web Site:
<http://geocities.com/cbcers/>

Cruise'n on CB Channel #14

Cascade Peaks Rally Summary

By Duke and Sandie, rally hosts

Well, we put to bed the final rally this past weekend at Cascade Peaks Golf and RV resort. Eleven members attended the rally on a weekend where the weather was questionable until the last minute. But, to those of us who committed to be there, it was a great weekend.

Those who came were the Blakleys, Walter Fargher and Connie Mueller, Gene and Alice Harwood, Bill and Penny Kinder, John and Helen Njus, Duane and Donna Peterson, Don and Phyllis Riel, Jerry and Evelyn Searl, Mike and Pat Stegeman, Jim and Marlene Slaughter, and Frank and Della Ward.

As usual, I packed my golf clubs in hopes of trying out the new golf course. But with all the activities going on, my clubs never left the back of my car.

Sandie and I learned of a new game called "Golf Ladder" when we were at a park last month. I downloaded the instructions for making and playing this game that has virtually no resemblance to golf other than modified golf balls are used in the game. The word ladder is also not too indicative of a ladder.

Since the weather was cloudy with a low ceiling, the trips to Mt. St. Helens and/or Mt. Rainier were not good options, but Jim & Marlene Slaughter and Duane & Donna Peterson tried to make the trip before returning back to the park on Thursday.

The Golf Ladder was set up Friday afternoon for introduction and practicing for what was to become a tournament at the Saturday night dinner function. No one was to be exempt since we were taking the tournament inside the very large clubhouse at the park. You will notice the practicing Friday and Saturday afternoons as well as the fun Saturday night from the photos. Winners of the tournament were awarded prizes donated by "who knows who."

Thanks to all of you who turned out to make this a really fun rally. It was small in numbers, but every one commented that it was a real great rally to end the season.

Several people asked for instructions for the "Golf Ladder" game, which I printed out and made available to them. Perhaps we may see this game played again at a future rally.



Don't spread this around, but the girls (Sandie and Phyllis) beat the boys with the pink balls (Bill and Gene). However, Gene and Sandie were the Ladder Golf Champs at the Saturday night games.



Director's Report *(continued from front)*

not committed as a club or its members, except for those who wanted to give the Club some recognition for their volunteer work, i.e. Sandie Blakley, chair for the Logo and Pins, and Frank Ward as chairperson for Registration.

Almost immediately after the start of the meeting, VP Donzella Leahy requested that all chapters who had complaints about FMCA write them a letter and copy to the FMCA NWA Area Association. They want them to know that their clientele are not happy with how they are being denied benefits, while the FMCA National are not cutting back on anything. Northwest area will continue to watchdog National to try to straighten out issues like salaries and budget.

News and names of the NW officers and their address is www.fmcanw.org.