



# THE CRUISER

SEPTEMBER 2009

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

## 2009 Rally Dates

### September 10-13

Fairgrounds, Grandview, WA, Hosts: Mike & Pat Stegeman and Don & Phyllis Riel.

### October 2-4

Rest-a-While RV Park, Hoodspport, WA. Hosts: Pete & Donna Peterson.

## From the President

*By Marlene Laughton*

CBC Elections are upon us once again. The nominating committee has submitted a list of candidates for our club. We were unable to entertain nominations from the floor as we did not have a quorum to conduct any business. Hopefully in September at the rally, we will have a quorum and will accomplish a meeting at that time. I would appreciate some volunteers to audit the CBC books, as this is required at year's end. It doesn't take long and can be accomplished at the September Rally.

Our rally season has been great this year and we still have two left. If you haven't made one yet this year, come join us for some of the fun! Ideas for next year are already being discussed, and 2010 should be another banner season. Hope to see you in September at the rally. Till next time down the road. Marlene



*Valley Camp Yard Art*

## Rally Report

*By Bob and Shirley Miller*

**August 14-16, Valley Camp, North Bend**

Eight coaches attended the August Rally at Valley Camp in North Bend. We also enjoyed the company of Ron and Nan Friesen, guests of Roger and Linda Ferrell. The Millers, Laughtons, Searls, Slaights, Stegemans and Petersons arrived Thursday to overcast skies. In spite of the on and off showers on Thursday and Friday, our spirits were high and we enjoyed the beauty of Valley Camp and the deer watching.

During the Friday night social, Tom and Teena, the camp managers, joined us to give a little history of the park and explain some of their future plans. Everyone had nothing but nice comments about the park, and all want to return next year. The usual finger food potluck followed, and even though it wasn't ice cream weather, everyone enjoyed making their own ice cream sundaes.

Friday and Saturday mornings found many heading out to explore the area. Bob Miller and Mike Stegeman checked out the golf courses on Friday and hit the course on Saturday. They didn't brag about their good shots, but they said they had fun. That's what counts. Saturday night's Salmon Bake was a hit. Many thanks to Mike and Bullet for their help watching and turning the fish. Bullet was the coffee maker each day and our early risers, Mike and Jim, got the pots going in the morning. Mike also did a good job flipping pancakes Sunday morning so Shirley could eat. Thanks, guys! The ladies in attendance provided the usual tasty side dishes and desserts. Thanks, ladies. All in all we ate well and enjoyed the fellowship. Thanks to all who turned out to make our first time hosting a great experience.

**CBC Officers****President:** Marlene Laughton**1st Vice President & Wagon Master:**

Sandra Powers

**2nd Vice President & Membership:**

Roger Ferrell

**Secretary:** Penny Kinder**Treasurer:** Pat Stegeman**National Director:**

Roy Laughton

**Alternate National Director:**

Terry Scherer

**Immediate Past President:**

Roy Laughton

**2008-2009 Nominating Committee:**Bullet Laughton, Duane Peterson,  
and Frank Ward**Sheriff:** Jim Slaight**Deputy Sheriff:**

Bob Powers

**Historian:** Norma Schultz**Membership & Sunshine:**

Penny Kinder

**Newsletter:**

Sandie Blakley

**Web Master:**Sandie Blakley  
sandie@cbcruisers.org**Web Site:**<http://www.cbcruisers.org>**Cruise'n on CB Channel #14****National Director's Report***FMCA National Convention, Bowling Green, Ohio*

Kent and I attended the National Convention in Bowling Green, Ohio July 20-24, 2009. The Candidates Forum was held on Sunday, July 19. We attended that forum followed by the Northwest Area meeting to discuss some of the issues prior to the Governing Board Meeting. On Monday, July 20, we arrived at the Governing Board Meeting at 7 a.m. We registered and were treated to pastries, fruit and coffee. The meeting started promptly at 9 a.m. There are 501 delegates and there were 422 present for an 84% quorum.

Standing Rules were adopted and then we proceeded with the Treasurer's Report and the Proposed Annual Budget with a deficit of (\$299,556) which did not include Medex. The Treasurer, Doug Key, reported that income is way down due to the closing of several RV Manufacturers who were large advertisers and supporters for the magazine, membership is down 21% since 2004, and 22,000 members pre-paid on the 5 years for the price of 4 years program. He announced that salaries had all been cut by 10% and staff had been cut to 47 full time and 2 part time employees. They have suspended matching the Employees 401K Program, cut travel costs by 50%, reduced mileage by 50% to standard IRS rate. They did more business by tele-conference and email and the Governing Board was cut back 50% on their reimbursement. The largest item to be removed was Medex. This brought on a lot of discussion and several different motions and substitute motions. The final outcome of this Line Item was that Medex would be put back into the budget and would be funded from the Rainy Day Fund (Reserves) as they felt it was pouring rain. By doing this, we would now have a deficit budget of \$794,072. A few more items were discussed, but the Budget was approved at the minus \$794,072 with the operat-

ing costs to be funded by the operating reserves. We do have approximately eight million in the reserve fund which was put there in better times for a rainy day.

We broke for a 40 minute lunch and then resumed at 1 p.m. We heard some more reports and then went into the Policies and Procedures. All the proposed Policies and Procedures were approved with the exception of Proposal #10 having to do with Interactive Electronic Communications—it was referred back to Committee to be revised and a Member Proposal changing Nominations and Elections to a one year term was voted down.

Under New Business there was a motion passed for a Committee of five members, not to include more than two Executive Board Members, to explore Medex or a similar program for the 2011 budget and present their findings to the Executive Board by November 7, 2009.

There was also a motion passed to increase 2011 dues by \$5.00. With the procedure of notification to begin this year.

Max Durbin, who passed away in February, and his wife Joanne, were awarded a Life Time Membership for their many years of service to FMCA.

FMCA will continue with two International Conventions as follows:

Winter 2011	Perry, GA
Summer 2011	Madison, WI
Winter 2012	Pomona, CA
Summer 2012	Indianapolis, IN

Election of Officers followed, with the following being elected.

Note: Bob Beers withdrew for health issues.

Charlie Schrenkel, President

Judy Czarsty, Vice President

Joanne Durbin, Secretary

Wilburn Young, Treasurer

The meeting was finally adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Pratt, Alternate Representative for Columbia Basin Cruisers

Note: I have all the information in the Governing Board Booklet if anyone is interested in seeing it.



*Photo left: Enjoying the day at Valley Camp in North Bend, August 14-16, 2009.*