



THE CRUISER

SEPTEMBER 2009, No. 2

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

October 2-4

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

Photos By Kathy Storrs

Marlene asked me to send a couple of the best photos I got of the Hops tour for the newsletter. The first one (this page) is dried hops being scooped up to go into the baling machine. The second one (page 2) is the fresh picked hops coming out of the machine that separated them from the vines.

They told us that this plant processes hops from about 900 acres, and 80% of the hops grown in the world come from Washington. Some are also grown in Oregon and Idaho.



From the President

By Marlene Laughton

Looking back over the past year as your president, I will remember the fun and the interesting places we visited along the way, and the things we accomplished as a club. There are new things from FMCA as a result of the summer convention. They have established a classification of Associate chapter. The main difference is a National Director or Alternate National Director would no longer be required. The downside is there is no say in the governance of FMCA. To switch requires a bylaws change and can be changed back and forth, but only once a year. All other benefits would remain the same as now. Seems to me it's a lot of bother, and I don't see any real benefit except not having to elect National or Alternate Director. During the meeting, the dues increase was rescinded as the club is financially sound and the newsletter costs have been brought under control. Check out the web site for the minutes as they are posted there. I have enjoyed serving as your president and look forward to next year's rally season. Thank you for all your support this past year. Till we meet down the road. Marlene

Rally Road

Rally Report

By Pat Stegeman

September 10-13, Grandview, WA

HOP HARVeSt RAIly. Sixteen coaches arrived at the Country Park in Grandview where the field of green grass welcomed everyone and was especially enjoyed by the dogs.

Friday's potluck was enjoyed by everyone—lots of good food.

Saturday we car-pooled to Puterbaugh Farms. We were able to view the Hop Pickers in a field along the way. We toured the new Hop Kiln built this year. The hops were being dried and baled there. The sewing and handling of the 200 lb. bales was interesting. We also took tours through the picking machine where the hops are separated from the vines and leaves; then watched a semi truck being loaded with hop bales. We checked out the cold storage room and saw boxes of palletted hops. A "make your own sandwich" lunch was enjoyed in the picnic area next to their main office. Helpers were granddaughters, Ashlie & Mikella.

Saturday's steak dinner was provided by the host. A good job of Barbecuing was done by son Chuck and friend Rick, plus very good cakes by Marlene.

Our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers followed dinner.

Sunday breakfast was Egg in a Bag, new to some, enjoyed by all. All seemed to have a relaxing and very enjoyable weekend. Lots of sitting in the shade and visiting went on. See you all down the road and thanks for coming.

CBC Officers**President:** Roger Ferrell**1st vice President & Wagon Master:**

Sandra Powers

2nd vice President & Membership:

Bob Miller

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

John Njus

Alternate National Director:

Gary Pennington

Immediate Past President:

Marlene Laughton

2009-2010 Nominating Committee:Bob Miller, Linda Pennington,
and Mike Stegeman**Sheriff:** Jim Slaughter**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**

General Meeting

September 12, 2009, Grandview, Washington

After our rally dinner, President Marlene Laughton called a general meeting to order. She led us in the flag salute.

Marlene opened the floor for nominations for all officers for the coming year. With no responses, the nominations were closed. The votes will be counted for the slate of officers previously presented by the nominating committee. Ed Gottschalk and Kathy Storrs volunteered to count the ballots later in the meeting.

A motion was made by Frank Ward to rescind the dues increase of \$5.00 per year. Motion seconded. Motion passed.

Linda Ferrell made a motion to pay next year's dues from the general fund for Sandie Blakley in appreciation for all her work on the CBC newsletter. Seconded. Passed.

Minutes: With no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as written and posted.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Stegeman reported that we have approximately \$6,500.00 which includes our reserve fund of \$5,000.00. Report accepted.

Announcements: President Marlene said volunteers are needed for the FMCA Redmond Rally next summer.

Marlene also reported that clubs may become "associate" FMCA clubs, which means they would still get the benefits of belonging to FMCA except for NO GOVERNING VOTES at the national level.

Frank Ward also noted that only one chapter meeting is required per year, and that it now takes only 10 coaches to form a chapter with a minimum of seven to maintain membership.

John Njus invited members to "bend his ear" with any questions or comments about FMCA.

Old Business: Kathy Storrs motioned that we offer a new smaller oval shaped badge to members. They will cost \$8.00 plus tax. Seconded. Passed.

New Business: We have new members from Vancouver, WA. Rich Barskey and Betty Burnett.

After a short meeting recess in which the votes were counted, the results were unanimous. Our new officers are: Roger Ferrell, President. Sandra Powers, First Vice President. Bob Miller, Second Vice President. Penny Kinder, Secretary. Pat Stegeman, Treasurer. John Njus, National Director. Gary Pennington, Alternate National Director.

Linda Ferrell moved to destroy the ballots. Seconded. Passed.

The nominating committee for next year will consist of Bob Miller, Linda Pennington, and Mike Stegeman. Kathy Storrs made a motion to accept the nominating committee. Seconded. Passed.

Mike Stegeman reported that no parking fees will be added to the rally fees for this weekend.

Meeting was adjourned followed by the prize drawings.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Kinder, secretary

