



TRAILBLAZER

Governing Board

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chinook121@tampabay.rr.com

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chinookcampingclub@cox.net

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taco@windstream.net

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**Thank you to the
Webmaster for both
CRVC and CCC,
Dave Shehane,
for his time and talent in
posting our Trailblazer.**

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The Trailblazer is a publication of the Chinook Camping

December 2010

President's Message



Our group had a wonderful time at our Annual Rally & Meeting in Cape May, NJ! Seashore Campsites was the perfect setting for our fall rally.

I want to thank all of those who attended. By the end of the rally we had a total of 22 coaches, one being our newest members who joined on the spot! This is the second rally in a row that a Chinook owner appeared that did not even know a club existed or that we were having a rally. Pure coincidence, lucky for us, lucky for them!

Your Board members were all re-elected to serve another term. Many thanks to our hard working team and all they do "behind the scenes" to make our club a success!

Please be sure to send in your dues! Dues become past due after the 31st of December. Don't miss out on future events, keep your membership current.

It's time now to have your reservations made for upcoming rallies. Don't delay, sites are limited. *Happy Holidays! Eileen*



Our banner proudly displayed as 22 coaches arrived for our Annual Rally.

Club Logo Items

Orders have been taken for Club Polo style shirts and baseball caps.

The shirts and caps will be Royal Blue with the Chinook Camping Club logo in white.

We hope to be able to continue to offer these items to members in the coming year.

Who will be the first member spotted with their new shirt or cap?

The group was ready for their trip to The Lobster House for lunch.

The autumn like temperatures and a bit of rain didn't dampen our spirits.

Members not in the photo were busy taking pictures!
Photo by Fred Erb



For additional rally information, to suggest a rally site, or host a rally in your area please contact Alvin & Arline Cantrell our rally VP's.

taco@windstream.net

770-345-6484 or

770-880-9369



Membership Info:

Nita Wilkinson

VP, Membership

chinookcampingclub@cox.net

Chinook Camping Club

Saw your coach—please come join us for fun, family, and to learn more about your CHINOOK!

www.chinookrvclub.net
chinookcampingclub@cox.net
Nita Wilkinson, VP Membership



Lazy Days Rally Park, Seffner, FL - January 10—13th, 2011



Winter Rally to be held in the Tampa, FL area

Rally fun awaits you at Lazy Days Rally Park outside of Tampa, FL. Our rally begins on Monday, January 10th with a Welcome Reception in the Rally Center—and that is just the start of the deluxe treatment you will receive at this all-inclusive rally. Meals, entertainment, lots of time to tour and relax....and the best part....no "kitchen duties" for anyone! Lazy Days does it all!

We are fortunate enough to be in the area for the first day of the Florida RV Super Show held at the Florida State Fairgrounds. The Fairgrounds are less than 5 miles from the rally park. Senior Day is Wednesday, January 12th and your admission price will allow entry for 2 days to the show. Lot's to see, plenty of entertainment and vendors. Find that special new accessory for your Chinook!

In addition to the RV show, Camping World is within walking distance from the rally park, along with seminars offered by Lazy Days at their nearby dealership complex.

Be sure to take a trip down to the Channelside area of Tampa. There, along with some shops and restaurants, is the Florida Aquarium, the Tampa Seaport/Cruise Terminals, and the American Victory Ship & Museum. Within walking distance from Channelside you'll find the new Tampa Bay History Center, the St. Pete Times Forum, home of the Tampa Bay Lightning and the Tampa Convention Center. Walk the riverwalk, ride the historic streetcars and take in the downtown sights. As cities go, Tampa is very visitor friendly.

For those with a little more "kid" in you, Busch Gardens Tampa is a short drive. Or perhaps you'd like to stroll the Lowry Park Zoo or venture a little farther away to the beaches of Pinellas County! It's your choice, there's plenty to do and see in the Tampa area. Did I forget to mention you are less than five miles from the Seminole Hard Rock Casino????

For our nature lovers, nearby Hillsborough River State Park offers all the activities you enjoy—hiking, canoeing and kayaking. If you're lucky enough, you might be able to spend a few nights there in your Chinook! In nearby Apollo Beach you can view the Manatees at the TECO 's Manatee Viewing Center. This January 15th and 16th they will celebrate 25 years providing a clean, warm "home" for the manatees.

Shopping is plentiful in the area but Westfield Brandon Shopping Mall has something for everyone. A short hop on I-75 and you'll be there in less than 10 minutes! (Costco, Sams Club and Wal-mart are in the same vicinity.)

Venture to Sarasota and you can visit the Ringling Museum of Art, or out to St. Pete and see the beautiful Chihuly Collection and stop by the Morean Arts Center/Glass Studio & Hotshop. Back in Tampa you may want to see the Henry B. Plant Museum with it's splendid Moorish architecture or simply take in the beauty of Bayshore Blvd. and walk, skate or bike the world's longest, continuous sidewalk. Enjoy the 3.8 miles along the Tampa Bay!

The area offers a great variety of attractions to suit any personality. Make the best of your trip to the rally and spend some extra time exploring the area. In addition to the state parks, nearby Ruskin is home to E.G. Simmons County Park situated on the Tampa Bay. Their campground has new bath houses, electric & water hook-up and provides a modern dump station. Rates are very reasonable, \$18 per night. No reservations, drive up only. They are also adding Kayak and Canoe rental!

We're anxious to see you all there, and **hopefully** we can offer some mild, sunny days for those of you escaping the cold winters of the North!

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR RALLY VP'S

Hi Chinook Club Members,

Alvin and I were very happy to hear what a great time the Cape May attendees had at the annual rally. It was hard not to be envious of those of you who attended. We are still hoping that the next rally that we attend will be Coastal Georgia. We really miss seeing our Chinook friends.

Our winter rally will be at Lazy Days in Florida. All rally sites at this time at full, but put your name on the waiting list if you want to go. I don't want to think that any of our people will have to cancel, but with a park this size there may be other cancellations.

Coastal Georgia near Brunswick is a new park that Eileen and Russ checked out. They were very impressed with it and thought the club would enjoy staying there. It is near Jekyll and Saint Simons Islands. Jekyll has a very nice historical area as well as a beach. This rally is in late March.

Don and Jo Phillips are hosting a rally in mid May at Cherry Hill RV Park near Washington, DC. It is on the bus line so there is public transportation as well as private tour companies. I know this will be a fun rally and May should be beautiful.

Our annual rally will be at a new park near Memphis. It is just off I-55 south in a newly developed area, but isn't too far from Graceland and other attractions. More information will be sent later about this rally.

If you haven't attended a rally lately, try to make plans to attend one. We have a great group of members and I think you will have a good time.

On a personal note, thank you for the continuing prayers, thoughts, and cards. Monday I had to drop out of the clinical study due to side effects. I am now on a 30 min. treatment once a week and feel much better. I was able to go to Publix yesterday for the first time. I never thought going grocery shopping would be a treat!

Rally director and friend,

Arline



MARCH 24 – 27, 2011

Brunswick, GA

**CUT OFF DATE FOR RESERVATIONS IS
FEBRUARY 24, 2011**

**48 hour cancellation policy with a
\$5.00 fee**

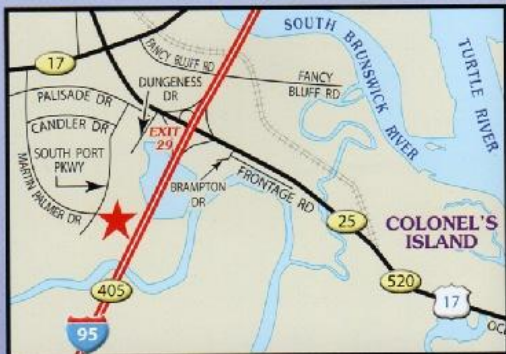


**Close to Jekyll, St Simons &
Cumberland Island**

**Reservations
912-264-3869**

Rally rate: \$32 per night +tx

Deposit: \$32



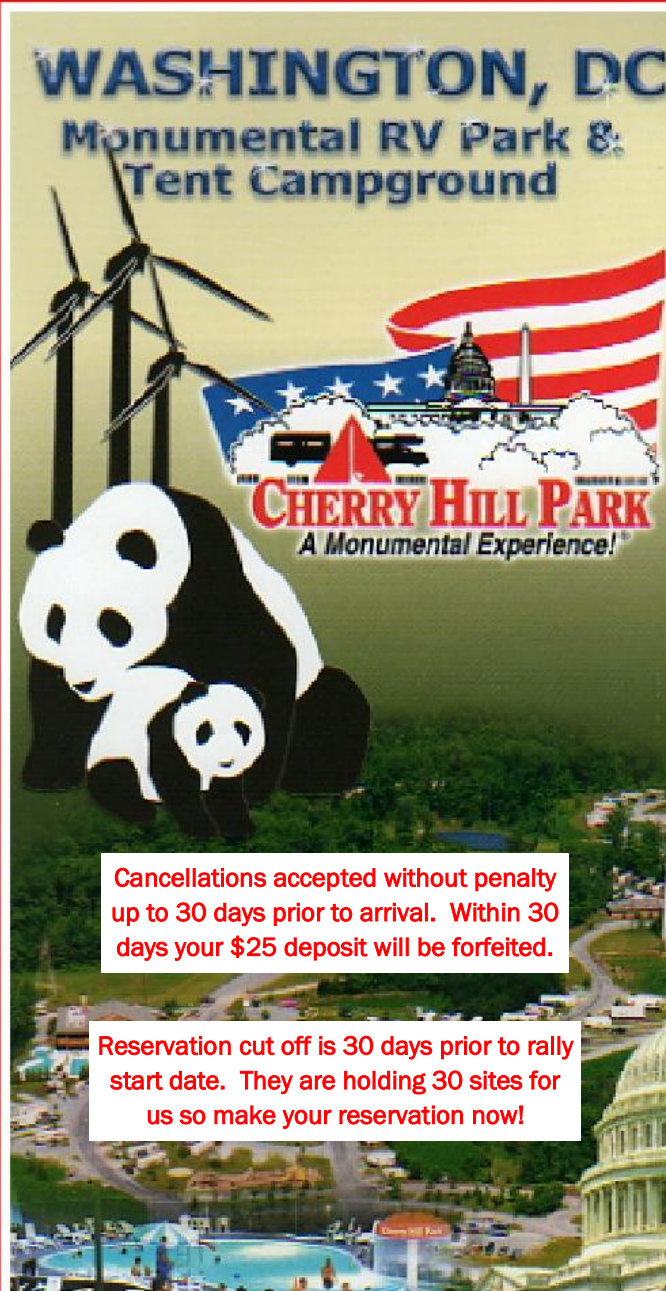
From I-95 (exit 29) & US 17: Go 1/2 mile west
on US 17, turn left onto US 17 South for 3/4 mile,
turn east onto Martin Palmer Dr for 1 mile
enter Resort straight ahead

PET POLICY:

No Pit Bulls

**New "Bark
Park" available
for your dogs!**

105 Sites (Concrete Pads)
35 Feet Wide
Length Ranging From 60 to 70 Feet
Picnic Tables • Grills
All Sites 50 30 20 Amp
Water • Sewer • Cable TV • Wi-Fi
Paved Interior Roads
2 Laundry Rooms
RV Supplies
Swimming Pool
Large Pavilion for Rallies
Fishing Pier
Conference Room
Game Room • Paddle Boats • Playground
Horseshoe Pits • Shuffleboard Court
Entire Resort is Handicap Accessible



Cancellations accepted without penalty up to 30 days prior to arrival. Within 30 days your \$25 deposit will be forfeited.

Reservation cut off is 30 days prior to rally start date. They are holding 30 sites for us so make your reservation now!

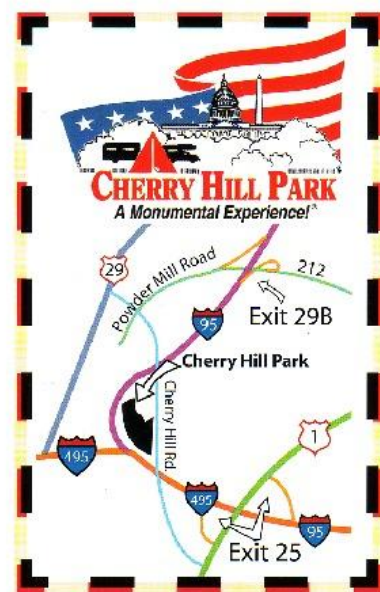
Frequent public transportation & Guided Tours daily
Pools, Hot Tub, Outdoor Movie, Free Wi-Fi, Satellite TV,
Exercise Room, Cherry Hill Cafe, Dog Walking Service,
RV Super Store
40 minutes to Baltimore & Annapolis

4 Nights
MAY 17-21, 2011
CHERRY HILL PARK
College Park, Maryland

\$52.20 per night, \$25 deposit at time of reservation.

Join us for a great time
near Washington DC
1-800-801-6449
Reserve Now!

Hosted by
Don & Jo
Phillips



MEMBER TRAVELOGUE

Tallulah Falls, GA

By Cyndy Gabrys

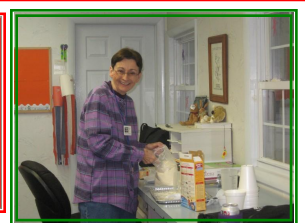


Tallulah Falls is an easy day trip from Moccasin Creek. I traveled through Clayton, GA and headed south on Route 441. Just a few miles down the road I came to **Goats on the Roof** located in Tiger, GA. What a fun place to spend an hour or two and it would have been more if I had visited during the regular season. The goats live on the roof and are always ready for you to send some food up to them. I bet the kids have a great time riding the bicycle that puts the conveyor belt in motion that sends the food up to the hungry goats. They looked like they didn't miss many meals. There's a nice store to browse through and I enjoyed an ice cream cone there - under the watchful eyes of the goats on the roof.

The town of Tallulah Falls is just a few miles south of Tiger and is home to Tallulah Gorge State Park. Tallulah Gorge was a popular vacation destination. Train service began in the late 1800s and thousands traveled to the gorge to escape the summer heat. But as is sometimes the case, the popularity of the area fell and the town began to die. The power company took interest in the area and a dam was built to harness the water for a power supply to Atlanta. All this changed in 1992 when the state announced a state park would be created along the rim of the gorge. The combined efforts of the state and the power company have produced a popular tourist attraction and we enjoyed it a few times while we were here. We especially enjoyed our visit during the fall water release. The water from the lake is released into the gorge and the kayakers will flock to the white water thrills.

The gorge at normal flow - during a release day - and the kayakers came to experience the white water:





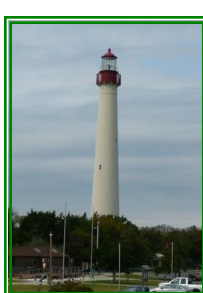
*Annual
Rally &
Meeting*

*Seashore
Campsites*

*Cape May
NJ*

*October
18-21*

2010



Membership News

As of 30 November 2010, we have 102 paying members, the same as last year this time. Members represent the following model ownership:

Cascade	4	Glacier	15	Premier	13
Concourse	55	Destiny	11	Summit	3
Toyota	1				

This is almost identical to last year in number by type. Members come from the following 27 states and Quebec, our Canadian connection:

AL 3	IL 2	MN 1	OH 3	VT 1
AR 3	IN 2	MO 2	PA 3	WI 1
CA 1	LA 2	MS 1	QB 1	
CT 2	MD 3	NC 7	RI 1	
FL 23	ME 2	NJ 4	TX 7	
GA 5	MI 3	NY 4	VA 5	

I sincerely thank the 67 members who have already paid their dues for 2011. Please, please mail your \$35 to Jim Runyon ASAP so we can publish the new directory in time for the Coastal George RV Resort rally in March. According to our by-laws, you are considered delinquent as of December 31st. Those not paying by March 31st are dropped from our rolls. We so enjoy every friend we have in the Club and hope you continue to sustain your membership.

Meanwhile, don't forget to share your Chinook Camping Club info cards with Chinooks you find on the road, in parking lots and in campgrounds.

Merry Christmas to all and we hope to see each of you in the New Year, on the road or in a campground.

Nita Wilkinson
VP, Membership

**DUES
REMINDER!**



**Past Due as
of Dec 31st!**

CHINOOK CAMPING CLUB

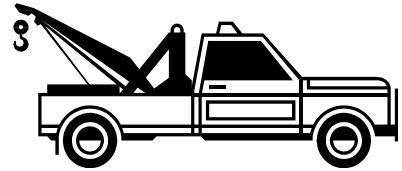
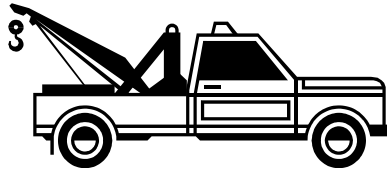
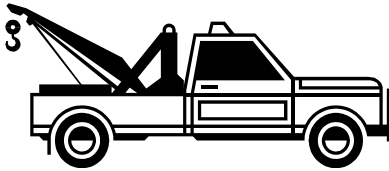
Saw your coach and hope you join us!

www.chinookrvclub.net
ENHANCE YOUR CHINOOK EXPERIENCE
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Nita Wilkinson VP, Membership

CHINOOK CAMPING CLUB

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Nita Wilkinson VP, Membership



MEMBER MAINTENANCE TIPS . . . OR THINGS WE LEARN THE HARD WAY

Power can be a painful experience

You can't take your electrician along with you, so you must be mindful of this before you plug in your RV at a campground or RV resort. Never, ever plug your home-on-wheels into an outlet without first checking the voltage coming out of the receptacle. We know it's exciting to arrive at your destination, but you should always invest a few extra minutes into ensuring that you aren't running the risk of blowing out your electrical circuits. In just minutes, 240 volts of electricity surging through your RV can destroy thousands of dollars worth of appliances, as well as your entertainment systems. This type of damage is not covered by your warranty and can easily take weeks to repair. One of the best after-market investments you can make to protect your RV is the purchase of a voltage meter, which can be picked up at your local RV accessory store. For maximum protection, purchase a voltage regulator equipped with a surge protector. By doing so, you will prevent damaging electrical currents from damaging your pocketbook. When checking the receptacle, if you detect a problem do not plug your cord into it. Go immediately to the campground office and have the receptacle checked, request a different site, or hit the road once again and find a safe haven for your RVing enjoyment. Technicians report hearing this type of frightening and costly story four to five times every week.

Adhesives come and go

Like the roof, but a lot easier to inspect, are the windows, doors, slideouts and storage compartments that can be found gracing the exterior of your motor home or tow behind. Butyl tape is installed by the manufacturer around these openings and then sealed. This deteriorates quickly and short-term window leaks can cause long-term damage. You should also inspect and reseal all adhesives around the gravity fill doors, all compartments and especially the slideouts, where you must check for tears and areas where water can breach the seal and find its way inside your RV. You will also want to check all of the hose fittings and valves in the waste management systems as well as look inside the compartment with a flashlight to check the connections on the dump valves and water fittings. One small crack in the sealant of these systems can cause more than \$5,000 in damage.

Articles obtained from "BetterRVing.com"

WEBSITES /PRODUCTS OF INTEREST:

www.vistaprint.com - Nita used this website to order her nifty magnetic sign for her Chinook. Prices are reasonable and you do not have to order a quantity. Design your own sign to display at the rallies...great way for fellow members to get to know you! They offer an endless array of products...take a look!

www.earth-kind.com - Learn about the product "Fresh Cab" on this site; product is available at Ace Hardware also. This aromatic pouch has been great at deterring mice and rodents from making our Chinook their home.

www.octaineforyourbrain-seminars.com - Visit this site if you are interested in "engaging your brain, keeping your mind sharp, as their ad states "why run on 4 cylinders when you can run on 8!" There are over 100 brain stimulating exercises you can do in the comfort of your Chinook!

www.rvtruckclearcoating.com (RV & Truck Clear Coating, Inc.) Local business in the Tampa, FL area specializing in RV exterior reconditioning. Repairs scratches, dents, cracks, de-lamination. Collision repair, paint or decals, faded stripes and clear coat. Check website or email: rvclearcoat@aol.com . Jake Pilcher, Proprietor. 813-626-4487



BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY WISHES



MEMBERS PAGE

BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

Alvin Cantrell Larry Dennison

DECEMBER

Diane Cremens Jack Cummiskey

David DeMartini

JANUARY

Rena Hull Don Phillips

Fred Pahl Jim Runyon

FEBRUARY

Dan Ashby Randall Wells

ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

Dan & Maria Ashby

JANUARY

Terrell & Carol Hart

Mark & Jennine McCluski

FEBRUARY

Lance & Ann Bedwell

Russ & Eileen Disbrow

Bob & Deanna Gorecki

To all of our members,
regardless of how you
celebrate, we wish you all a
very joyous holiday.

Be it Hanukkah, Christmas,
or Kwanzaa, may you
experience the love of
family, the warmth of
friendship and be blessed
with peace and good health
for the coming year!



THE GIFT

*A friendly look, a kindly smile, one good act,
and life's worthwhile!*

Please keep the following members in
your thoughts and prayers:

Theresa Merrill

Arline Cantrell

REMINDER REMINDER REMINDER REMINDER REMINDER REMINDER REMINDER

2011 CLUB DUES PAST DUE DEC. 31st -- \$35.00 PER COACH

Checks payable to "Chinook Camping Club" may be mailed to:

Chinook Camping Club, Jim Runyon, Treasurer

8243 The Midway, Annandale, VA 22003-3716