

TRAILBLAZER

Governing Board

The Trailblazer is a publication of the Chinook Camping Club

September 2013

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Dave Shehane, for his time and talent in posting our Trailblazer

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President's Message



It is with great joy that I write this column and a bit of sadness. First, I'm eternally grateful to Nancy Breeding our new editor of the "Trailblazer"! Thank you Nancy! Next, this will be the last message I write to you as President. Sad only because it has been an honor to serve as President to such a wonderful group of friends and that time is coming to an end.

I want to thank all of you who have been loyal to the club and served in many capacities. While I could never name all of you, working with you has truly been a joy.

As our Annual Rally and Meeting approaches, I hope each and every one of you may have the opportunity to attend. Rally Hosts John & Nancy Cross have worked very hard to prepare a wonderful event at the Nashville KOA.

It is time to look forward to the 2014 club year, new faces, great rallies and good friends. I know you will be as helpful and kind to the new Board as you have been to us.

Sincerely, Eileen Disbrow

Come Join Us for our 2013 Annual Rally & Meeting

FALL 2013 ANNUAL RALLY AND MEETING

Hosted by John & Nancy Cross

NASHVILLE KOA

DATES: October 7 - 11. 2013 (That's 4 nights folks!)

Reservations: 1-800-562-7789

Location: 2626 Music Valley Drive, Nashville, TN

This year's annual rally and election of board members will be October 7-11, 2013 at the Nashville KOA. This is the one you don't want to miss! In addition to some great activities, we will elect new officers (big announcement!), get updates on upcoming rallies, share information, tips and tricks on coaches and travel destinations, and eat till we roll out the door! Catch up with old friends and meet new friends!







Notes for the Nashville Rally

Please call the resort today and make your reservation. Dates again....4 nights, October 7-11. Call: 1-800-562 -7789 or 615-889-0282 to reserve. Our rate is \$40 per night for back-in sites. We have thirty sites and a lot have been booked already! Call now and reserve your site!!!!

News from hosts John & Nancy Cross that the beautiful pool will still be open during our stay in Nashville. The resort also has a new Cafe' serving a nice little variety of choices for breakfast, lunch or dinner. The resort will help make your Nashville stay a success. All area information is available at the office. The KOA has a travel person in the club house at all times. The KOA is right behind Camping World and within one mile of the Grand Ole Opry, Opryland Hotel and massive Opryland Outlet Mall. It is about three miles from downtown Nashville. KOA can arrange transportation. You may also inquire about their shuttle transportation and local events. Major attractions such as the Opry may require advance reservations.

We have the full use of the Music Hall, its meeting rooms and kitchen for the full event, except during the Wednesday night Oldies show. The Club House has a very large, comfortable game/casual room that would probably hold us all if needed. We have to walk a bit to get to either, but will have a couple of golf carts to use. Bathrooms are nearby.

Agenda (DRAFT!)

Monday October 7 - Arrival day at Nashville KOA

Pot luck dinner - Music Hall Annual meeting - Music Hall

Tuesday October 8

Club provided breakfast - Music Hall

Tech talk - Music Hall

Wednesday October 9

Breakfast on your own

50's/60's Show - 7:00 PM - Music Hall (Kenny and the Krooners Oldies Show)

IF you want to attend the 50's/60's Show in the KOA Music Hall on Wednesday evening, please bring a



check to "pre-pay." Normal admission is \$22 per person and we have been given a HUGE discount - you will pay only \$8 per person. To accomplish this, and an easy admission that evening, you will need to bring a check made out to "Chinook Camping Club" to the rally meeting. We will collect them at that time. Single person: \$8; Couples: \$16 THIS IS ONLY IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SHOW.

We do not want to get involved with making change, etc. as we are not equipped to do so. To assist our treasurer in accepting payment we ask that you bring a check. Your cooperation is appreciated.











Thursday October 10

Pot luck breakfast - Music Hall -

(This is a switch, we are asking members to bring a breakfast "finger food," pastry, rolls, jelly, preserves, fruit, etc. to share - "Pot Luck Breakfast"!) Feel free to contribute whatever delicacy you choose. This is to reward our "Chinook Cooks" and give them a morning to relax and enjoy alongside their fellow members instead of behind the frying pans!

Club catered meal - 4:00 PM - Music Hall

A catered meal will be provided, by the Club, on Thursday October 10 at 4:00 PM, in the Music Hall. The meal will be catered by Center Point BBQ in Hendersonville, TN. Center Point has fed almost every country star, and many Presidents, over the years. It was a favorite of local resident Johnny Cash. Walls are filled with their autographed pictures. All foods are prepared on-site to their unique, time proven recipes. Menu will be as follows: fresh pulled pork shoulder, boneless chicken breasts, variety of Center Point BBQ sauces, BBQ beans, red skin potato salad, cole slaw trio (mayo, vinegar-sweet-sour, spicy), sandwich rolls, corn bread patties, pecan, chess pies, chocolate brownies. Sweet and unsweet tea, lemonade, ice. Includes all cups, plates, utensils, chaffing dishes, serving items, delivery. All we have to do is show up and eat! Yummmm

Campfire - by Club house

Friday October 11 - Rally ending day

Coffee in Music Hall

Grand Ole' Opry

2802 Opryland Drive (615) 871-OPRY (local) or 800-SEE-OPRY (toll free) No telling who will surprise you at the Opry. Featuring new stars, superstars, and legends. Every weekend, the Grand Ole Opry takes music, laughter and entertainment from Nashville to all points around the globe. Broadcast live over WSM AM-650 since 1925, the Opry is the world's longest-running live radio show. Check out their backstage tour!



Country Music Hall of Fame

222 Fifth Avenue South 615-416-2096 The Country Music Hall of Fame is located beside Gaylord Entertainment Center, the 135,000 sq. foot limestone, glass and brick Hall of Fame facility houses the past, present, and future of country music for everyone to enjoy and share.

Fort Negley

1100 Fort Negley Blvd

Nashville, TN 37203Explore Nashville's Civil War History at Fort Negley. Come into the Visitors Center and learn how the Union Army captured Nashville in 1862 as you watch the film The Fall of Nashville. The river, turnpikes, and railroads had spurred the growth of the city from its beginnings. The Union Army occupied the city to control these transportation routes. Almost overnight, Nashville was transformed into the Union Army's major supply depot for the Western Theater of the war.

Belle Meade Plantation

5025 Harding Road 800-270-3991 Belle Meade is the queen of Tennessee plantations. An 1853 Greek Revival Mansion was once a major thoroughbred stud farm and nursery.

Civil War Sites

Including Stones River National Battlefield, the Battle of Franklin National Battlefield and the Fort Donelson National Military Park.

On the road to Nashville, see a little of Tennessee! Chattanooga, Dollywood, great Tennessee Parks! And drop by a couple of Tennessee traditions!



Visit the Bush Brothers Visitor Center, Museum, Café and General Store!

Get a sneak peek at what goes into making our famous beans. See the Bush's Theater, featuring Jay Bush and his dog Duke on the big screen as they star in the fun-loving movie "History of Grilling." Take a walk through a giant replica can of Bush's Baked Beans,

showing the bean's journey from beginning to end. Get a view into Duke's Doghouse for a behind-the-scenes look at Duke's antics. Learn your weight in beans and snap a photo with Duke. Learn about tools from Bush's original canning process in 1908. View a timeline of Bush Brothers & Company; how the company changed with the times and reached customers, as well as the local community, throughout the years. 3901 U.S. 411, Dandridge, TN 37725



Visit the Distillery

Drop by for a firsthand look at our distillery where one of our guides will accompany

you on a tour and tell you the complete story of our whiskey. And you'll probably hear an interesting story or two about Mr.

Jack as well.

The town of Lynchburg is the seat of Moore County, the smallest county in Tennessee. Even though it's home to the Distillery, it's a dry county and has been ever since Prohibition. And while the Distillery may be the main attraction here, you don't want to miss other local favorites like lunch at Miss Mary Bobo's Boarding House and a trip to the Lynchburg Hardware & General Store. If you want to explore all the sights in



Lynchburg, take your time. There's plenty to see. 182 Lynchburg Highway, Lynchburg, Moore County, Tennessee 37352

Club Logo Items

The club has a variety of logo items available for purchase. The Royal or White collared polo shirt is very nice. Also recently added are T-shirts in Royal or White which look great with our club Baseball Cap. In addition to the above, a few members have purchased a lightweight fleece vest which is very sharp. For information on logo items contact Eileen at chinook121@tampabay.rr.com or by calling 813-633-5113.



2014 Rally Schedule

PLAN NOW FOR THE UPCOMING RALLIES!

January 28-31, 2014: Lake Oklawaha RV Park - Fort McCoy, FL 352-546-2151 \$26.73/night (SEE PAGE 7 FOR MORE INFO)

April 27-30, 2014: Emerald Beach RV Park - Navarre, FL 850-939-3431 \$46.85/night

***If interested, follow your friends to Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores, AL immediately following the Emerald Beach rally. Make your reservations early as Gulf State Park is very popular. Call: 251-948-7275 to reserve the state park. GULF STATE PARK CAN NOW BE RESERVED ONLINE! Go to the following website: http://www.alapark.com/gulfstate/reservations/

June 23-26, 2014: Elkhart Campground, Elkhart, IN 576-264-

2914 Rate TBA We've issued an invitation for the Western Chinook Club to join us for this wonderful event! Here is your chance to visit the Elkhart area, the RV History Museum and see the Amish areas. Also near the huge Shipshewana Flea Market. Another rally you don't want to miss! More info soon!

October 5-8, 2014: Williamsburg, VA at American Heritage RV Resort. An "Oktoberfest" Celebration is being planned by Nita & Klaus Wilkinson so mark your calendars for an authentic German celebration at the 2014 Annual Meeting!



khart Campground

For now, blocking out those dates on your planner will do but it is not to early to reserve the Winter or Spring rallies. The 2014 Rally Schedule will soon be posted on www.chinookrvclub.net under "Eastern" - Upcoming Events. Phone numbers, rates, dates, etc. will be provided.

Sunshine for a quick recovery to Sue Jackson, our indefatigable biscuit gravy expert!



Editor's Corner

Hello from your new editor of the newsletter! I hope to be as good as Eileen at keeping you all informed and entertained. And I hope you will all help me with that by sending:

Article ideas, improvements to your coaches, tips and tricks, sources for parts, recipes, photos, sunshine requests, travel information, apps you use often, campground recommendations, and more! I'll be collecting info at the rallies too, so make sure to find me. Thanks! Nancy Breeding cnbreeding52@gmail.com and on Facebook.com/nbreeding

Thoughts for the day

Be The Change: Take a moment today to find a miracle in the small details of your life – is there a moment that may cause a sense of awe or joy if you just held onto it a little bit longer? Facebook: DailyGood



FloridaWinter Rally January 28 - 31, 2014

Come to our Winter Rally at Lake Oklawaha RV Park located in the Ocala National Forest

A location that is surrounded by the magnificent Ocala National Forest, one of the south's best bass-fishing lakes and the site of many awe-inspiring sunrises and sunsets.

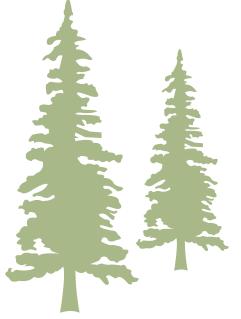
3,700 feet of privately owned water frontage on magnificent Lake Oklawaha!

Address: 15991 NE 243rd Place Road Ft. McCoy, FL 32134

For directions go to website:

www.LakeOklawahaRVPark.com/directions.html







VP of Membership Report 2013

Our membership (currently at 108) is stable. Since June, we've welcomed 2 new owners: Annie Giere along with John and Candace Giles. Sadly, we say good-bye to the Humbrechts, who sold their Summit.

Looking ahead, it's getting time to renew your Club membership for 2014. Please send your \$35 check to Jim Runyon or bring it to the Nashville KOA Rally. New directories will be distributed at the April 2014 Rally in Navarre Florida, and mailed to non-attendees. We want your info to be included, but we must get your payment to do so.

More business cards with our contact info and rally schedule will be available at the Oct 2013 rally. As you meet other Chinook owners in your travels, please invite them to join us and pass on a card.

If you have any new ideas to enhance our membership, please pass them along to me or Gayle Wroble. We welcome your input.

Nita Wilkinson, VP Membership chinookcampingclub@cox.net

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST CLUB MEMBERS May/June 2013
Watch for our new members on the road,
and welcome them at the rallies!

- ♦ Giles, John & Candace Thomasville, GA CCC #345 2003 Concourse
- ♦ Giere, Annie (Sharon) Haines City, FL CCC #346 2000 Concourse

Members represent the following Chinook ownership: model years range from 1993 through 2005:

Concourse	51
Glacier	16
Premier	21
Destiny	10
Cascade	4
Summit	3
Eagle	2
Baja	1

2014 CLUB DUES OF \$35 PER COACH ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 1ST

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YET, PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:



"Chinook Camping Club" and mail to:

Chinook Camping Club, Jim Runyon, Treasurer 8243 The Midway, Annandale, VA 22003-3716



IMPORTANT NOTICE

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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

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www.chinookryclub.net chinookcampingclub@cox.net

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www.chinookrvclub.net chinookcampingclub@cox.net Nas Wilkleson, VP Memberahip

3-2-1 - Dessert from Sally Arnold

This is a great light dessert, bonus it's quick and easy, great for Chinook cooking.

In advance...

1 box angel food cake mix

1 box yellow cake mix (but you can use any kind that you like)

Mix the cake mixes together and store in airtight container or ziplock bag.

The angel food cake is important because it is the egg white for the cake makes it light.

Single Serving

Mug (microwave safe) place all ingredients in the cup

- 3 TBS cake mix
- 2 TBS water, stir into the cake mix
- 1 minute in the microwave

Enjoy but for extras you can add anything for variation...

- 1. Fruit on top of cake mix before cooking
- 2. Piece of chocolate before cooking
- 3. Whipped cream after it has cooked
- 4. Ice cream after it has cooked

Latter two do not make it as light but it is really good!



Upside Down German Chocolate Cake from Bob and Charmaine Gibson — a hit at the Cape May Rally!

One Box Duncan Hines German Chocolate cake mix

One cup of shredded coconut

One cup chopped pecans

One stick of margarine

One 8oz pkg of cream cheese

One box of confectioners sugar

One teaspoon vanilla flavoring

Spray bottom of 9x13 baking pan with Pam

Spread coconut evenly over bottom of pan

Spread pecans evenly over the top of the coconut

(You may choose to use more coconut and pecans)

Mix cake mix according to directions on the box

Pour cake mix over coconuts and pecans

Mix margarine, cream cheese, confectioners sugar and vanilla flavoring until creamy.

Drop mixture by tablespoons into cake mixture

Bake per package instructions. It will probably take longer than the box says so it is best to check with a toothpick Enjoy!!!



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MEMBER MAINTENANCE TIPS OR THINGS WE LEARN THE HARD WAY

PARTS LOCATOR and RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

A recent conversation on the Chinook Yahoo group turned up parts numbers and sourcing through PPL Motorhomes pplmotorhomes.com for awning endcaps for many of our awnings. Western member Dave Shehane says in a message that actual awning has a funny family history. It is a Horizon by A&E, but A&E was/is owned by Dometic, and that particular awning was built by Fiamma for A&E/Dometic, so if you need parts/support you need to look to Fiamma. More at the Yahoo group, see Social Media below.

Recommended products: Recent products that have been recommended by members:

To wash and shine your coach Eileen Disbrow recommends **Attwood Marine Cleaner Wax**. Some Walmarts carry it in the boating departments.

Dan and Maria Ashby swear by Fluid Film for any and all vehicle lubricant needs. http://www.fluid-film.com/



Sponge on a Stick! Sounds like something to eat? No, it's a handy trick to clean under your roof solar panel.

"Take an old, dry kitchen scrubbing sponge (I used one of those that was a pink regular sponge on the top and white no-scratch scrubber layer on the bottom and use an awl to start a hole about 2/3 the way in the pink sponge layer. Then I took my green garden support pole, the kind you get at Home Depot, about 3/8 in diameter and worked it into the hole by turning the pole as I pushed a little. Then wet the sponge. It's the exact perfect thickness to get under the solar panel!" Contributed on the Yahoo group by Joyce, '02 Premier.

Useful Apps: Camera Zoom FX

This \$2.99 app calls itself the ultimate Android camera app, and according to C/Net, really it is. It's certainly the most feature-filled, handling both shooting and editing duties from one interface. Check on the Google Play Store



Got an iPhone? Check out these camera apps! http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/cell-phone-apps/10-great-iphone-camera-apps.htm

Chinook Social Media

http://chinookrvclub.com/

There is a Yahoo Group called "ChinookRVOwners" that is a great resource for all things Chinook. You can ask a question about your coach and get fast answers from other Chinook owners. You can also search the group and find past posts related to what you are looking for. You can find the group at: http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/
ChinookRVOwners/ Set your preferences to send posts by email and filter in your email to a Chinook folder to read at your leisure!

Note that there is another Chinook Yahoo group, chinookrvs, that has good information, but is not moderated and gets a lot of spam.

Sally Arnold has set up a blog for us to add info about places we have enjoyed while traveling. The entries are divided by state, and it is very easy to use and make contributions. Find this blog at: http://www.chinooktravel.blogspot.com/Help your fellow travelers—post recommendations and reviews here!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/chinookcampingclub



This group is designated as "secret" which means it is only for members. You will need to request to join by sending a response to one of the weekly updates sent to you by email.

Travelogue by Sally Arnold



Long Trips and Planning... Destination Newfoundland!



Well where should we go next? Searching out new and exciting places to visit should be fun. Last year when our rally was determined to be in Cape May, we decided to head north from there to Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador. Our planning is never written in stone and we look for the exciting opportunities that come along to get us to our ultimate destination. Rarely do we make reservations.

We research the place we are going to on the Internet to see what is involved in getting there, along with places of interest. This year to go to Newfoundland we had to deal with ferries. The longest ferry is the one that went from Sydney, Nova Scotia to NF. We thought this ferry was 5-7 hours, but what we didn't know was that you have to be there two hours ahead of time to allow them to

load the ship. You really need short-term reservations for this once you know you are within a few days of arrival.

Going over we decided to go at night since Toby, our dog, would sleep in the Chinook. The ship had a kennel on deck but you were required to have your dog in your carrier. You cannot do anything for your animal in either place. Toby loves the Chinook so we left him in it with food and water and he slept. The passage over was relatively calm but it was really difficult to sleep in chairs like in a theater. We didn't get much sleep, but Toby must have—he was sleeping when we got back to the camper. Because of how great he did we decided to take the day-passage back when we returned, thinking we would see a lot on the ship. If we did it again I'd just go at night. You can get sleeping quarters; you don't really see that much during the day, plus you don't lose the whole day.

With a tentative route we get started and head for the Outer Banks to camp, not planning for tropical storm Andrea. We love the OBX especially the Hatteras NPS areas, inexpensive and beautiful, even in a storm. Finally we arrived in Cape May for the rally to see everyone and enjoy visiting for a few days before heading North.

We wound up going North with lots of tolls from the New Jersey Parkway and George Washington Bridge being the worse. Also we have never experienced low bridges on a parkway. Who has ever heard of this? We will avoid this area forever! We will check our Allstays App for low bridges from now on too. I can't believe we didn't see a sign notifying us but we apparently missed it until we were on the parkway.





We love Maine and spent a few days there at LL Bean, Bar Harbor, and Lubec. Lubec is a great little place with the Eastern-most town in the US. There is a wonderful campground at Sunset Point and really nice people that we met there, but you can also stay in close-by parks too. Campobello Island, New Brunswick is just across the bridge. You can tour Roosevelt's Cottage and grounds, have tea with Eleanor, hearing all about this First Lady and what she accomplished. A wonderful experience and totally free, even the homemade cookies

and tea! At the end of the island is the most beautiful lighthouse, it was foggy when we first

got there... beautiful pictures! Even a sailing boat appearing out of the fog was surreal.

We stopped at the St. John's welcome center in NB to find nice places to see. They were very helpful and we had free parking and a trip to the City Market via their above ground Pedway passenger walk. It is easy on and off of the expressway but we

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would not have found it if the welcome center had not recommended it. A great resource for travelers with no agenda. Fundy Bay is a real phenomenon with its tide, but the rocky grounds and sands are so neat you must see it. We stayed at the Fundy Bay National Park, home of big mosquitoes that we are going to have to learn how to deal with. They will be bad at various points along our journey. Also the Provincial Parks and National Parks are usually really nice and a good price.

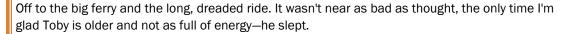


Prince Edward Island is very quaint with friendly people. Lobster dinners, Celtic ambiance, and farming are all very popular; we always try the local food. The best thing to do for Chinookers is to go to the harbors where the boats come in and buy lobster from them. You just cook them in seawater and with plenty of butter and lemon you will have the best dinner ever! We did this with mussels too.



We had been to Nova Scotia before but not camping so we only were on our way to the big ferry in Sydney. You will definitely want to explore this area because it is divided into trails and each offers different scenery. We camped at Cape Breton Provincial Park, very nice on a brook. We

love stopping at the harbors and seeing the fishing boats and meeting the people who always want to tell you places to see and things to do that aren't necessarily mainstream. Also more big lobster, paying less than \$4 a pound off the boat.



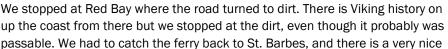






Finally arrived at Newfoundland and headed for Labrador and the Viking settlement. Time slows down once you arrive in NF, I guess because the weather and remoteness dictates a slower lifestyle. I would

not want to live there, but it was so interesting. We amble towards St. Barbe to catch a small ferry over to Labrador only two hours. Great to see whales and iceburgs! Labrador is just one tiny village after another up its steep coast. Great for watching the whales and icebergs float by.





campground just after you get off of the ferry. It isn't pretty but is fenced with very nice facilities in the building, even a kitchen you can use.

At the Viking Center at L'Anse aux Meadows, the Canadian government has built a great museum and tour of the excavated actual site. Then we went through a re-created area of the site as it would have been, all

completely to scale. Our guide was the most wonderful part. He lived there as a kid of a fisherman family of 11 children. His stories of playing on the dunes in homemade oilskin clothing and how they lived and survived was icing on the cake. When he said that in the winter he rides his snowmobile over the museum because the ice and snow cover it, it let me know real quick I could never live like that! I have a link at the bottom to a video.

I hope you all can make this journey sometime in your Chinook, will have lots more memories and another check on that bucket list. Now for the long trip home with more adventures!



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September



Cape May Rally, June 2013



























Highlights: Great Food! Thanks Russ for being the shuttle driver into Cape May! How many pizzas can one place make at a time? Ketchup for moonshine! (Ask us about this!) Ed, missed your photo talents, but Terry and Eileen filled in! Storm warnings! Old friends return!















