The Road Runner E





IS A PUBLICATION OF THE CHINOOK RV CLUB

November 2007



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To the members:

- Thanks for your support and attendance at the Rallies
- Contributions to the Newsletter are appreciated. The Membership Directory has contact information for Phil Beautrow, the Editor.
- The web link for the club is: <u>www.chinookrvclub.com</u>

President's Corner

With the 2007 Annual Rally in Albuquerque, NM, in the past, we who attended can savor the memories. It was truly a wondrous experience. As usual, the potluck dinner was a rousing success and a culinary delight, as was the catered dinner. The "Tech Talk" was fruitful, informative and even attended by a couple Chinook owners and potential members.

We can all thank Lena and Barry
Prentice for all the hard work that
went into the planning and preparations for this rally. The variety of
activities afforded the attendees a
glance into the many facets of New
Mexico life: International Balloon
Fiesta, Albuquerque, Madrid, Santa
Fe and more. It certainly is a place
to return to for another longer visit.

The board met via teleconference and determined that CB Davis's second term as VP of Rallies was not due to end until 2010. Linda Blackburn was very understanding and promised to run in 2010 at the termination of CB's term. The board would like to thank Linda for her continued support of activities and for agreeing to serve for the next period. CB and Linda will work together to assure a smooth transition.

The proposed new By-Laws were discussed and all suggestions were taken into consideration. The ed-



ited By-Laws will be sent to all members for ratification and approval. Marta Wall will receive and tally the results.

Finally, I would like to express our appreciation for all of the members that attended this year's rally and look forward to seeing you all at the next rally at Yellowstone National Park, not to mention the mini-rallies. Speaking of which, if anyone has an idea for a mini-rally location contact, please contact Carole Davis to set it up.



Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

October 4th-9th, 2007

Attendees



Barry & Lena Prentice, Bert & Marta Wall, Jerry & Kelli Scheese, James & Janice Still, Roy & Gwen Elf, Ray & Linda Blackburn, John & Carol Reininghaus, Chuck & Carol Bennett, Bob & Barbara Diehl, Doug Potts & Sara Ammelrooy, William & Gloria Wolfe (Gloria's sister),. Eddie and Dorothy Henthorn, Jerry & Jane Earley, Ole & Barbara Jensen, Al & Lucy Enriquez, Bill & Shona Franz, Jan Olmsted & Kathy Bailey, Michael & Marjorie Froess, Clement & Connie Verdeur, Robert & Vera Raudman, Jim & Linda Spencer, Richard and Suzanne Bowers, Bill & Dolores Graham, Lynn & Trixie Ewer, Stan & Kit Oliveira, Tom & Joy McGoldrick, Sal & Shirley Lazzara, James & Marnie Weidmaier

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Here are some great pictures taken by Connie Verdeur. Due to space limitations we can only publish a few. Please see the following sites to view her albums:

http://picasaweb.google.com/ConnieClement/BalloonNightimeGlow07,

http://picasaweb.google.com/ConnieClement/SantaFeAlbuquerqueOldTown07,

http://picasaweb.google.com/ConnieClement/BalloonsNewMexico10122007

http://picasaweb.google.com/ConnieClement/BalloonFiesta2007AlbuquerqueNM



Dawn Patrol

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Places

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The Daily Flights

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chinook RV Club

Held in Albuquerque, NM on October 11, 2007

The following Board Members were present: Jerry Earley, President; Kelli Scheese, V.P. – Membership; Marta Newcomb-Wall, Secretary; Bert Wall, Treasurer,; Al Enriquez, Member at Large; and Barry Prentice, Immediate Past President.

In addition, most of the Club Members attending the Rally were present in the audience.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10PM by President Jerry Early. Everyone was welcomed, and Jerry thanked Lena & Barry for organizing this 4th Annual Rally.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business remained from past meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

A discussion was held about the proposed revision of the Club's Bylaws.

Article II, Paragraph 3 added the word "only."

Article III, Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 added the words "built by Trailwagons/Chinook of Yakima, WA."

The Board also decided to review the Bylaws every 3 years.

There followed a discussion about ceasing to use the words "western region" in reference to our Club, since we only share a website with the Chinook Camping Club and have never been a "western branch" of the CCC.

Finally, the Board decided to add language to *Article IV – Officers* to the effect that should the President step down or become ineligible to continue in office before the end of their term, the Immediate Past President would step in and function in the place of the President until the next Annual Meeting.

Flowers have been ordered to be delivered to Barbara Diehl in the hospital, and a get well card will be circulated among the attendees at the Rally.

CB Davis, our V.P. – Rallies had sent a letter to Jerry and the Board, observing that she had served five years and offering to step down to allow a new person to assume the duties of that office. The Board interpreted the wording of her letter as meaning that she would not stand for reelection, so Jerry appointed Al Enriquez, Barbara Jensen and Barry Prentice as a Nominating Committee to recruit a replacement.

It was suggested that a card be sent to Gary & Mary Lukehart, wishing them well and offering them an honorary membership in the Chinook RV Club.

Bert Wall suggested that the Club consider holding the 2009 Annual Rally at the Pioneer RV Park in Quincy, CA.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45PM. Marta Newcomb Wall, Secretary

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Minutes of the 4TH Annual Meeting of the Chinook RV Club

Held in Albuquerque, NM on October 11, 2007

The 4th Annual Meeting of the Chinook RV Club was held in the clubhouse at the American RV Park, Albuquerque on October 12, 2007 at 8:00 pm. 54 Members, representing 25 Member Coaches were present.

President Jerry Early began the Meeting by thanking Lena and Barry Prentice for organizing this 4th Annual Rally during the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. He saluted them for a job very well done.

He announced that the Club had received a "Thank You" e-mail from Bob and Barbara Diehl for the flowers that the Club had delivered to Barbara during her stay in the hospital.

Jerry mentioned that all Board of Directors meetings are open to all members, and he thanked all the Members who attended yesterday's meeting.

Jerry then opened the floor for discussion of the new draft of the Club Bylaws that had been submitted by Barry Prentice. He announced that suggestions for changes would be accepted up to the time that the Draft is sent out with a Mail Ballot for their acceptance.

A change to the Draft Bylaws was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote that a clause be included stipulating that should the President become ineligible or unable to serve, the Immediate Past President would step in and serve until the next Annual Meeting at which time a new President would be elected.

Carole "CB" Davis, our V.P. – Rallies had sent a letter to Jerry and the Board, observing that she had served five years and offering to step down to allow a new person to assume the duties of that office. The Board interpreted the wording of her letter as meaning that she would not stand for reelection, so Jerry appointed Al Enriquez, Barbara Jensen and Barry Prentice as a Nominating Committee to recruit a replacement.

The Nominating Committee then asked for those interested in running for V.P. – Rallies to so indicate. Linda Blackburn graciously agreed to follow in Carole's position. Linda was elected by acclamation.

The venue West Yellowstone, ID and dates August 22-24, 2008 were announced for next year's Annual Rally. It will be hosted by Ray and Carol Skillings.

Our Treasurer, Bert Wall gave an informal Treasurer's Report. He ended by reminding those in attendance that the dues for next year were due on October 1st.

Bet Wall suggested that we select the Pioneer RV Park in Quincy, CA as the site for the 2009 Annual Rally. According to Bert, it is located in Plumas County, northwest of Reno.

Jerry gave an update on the Trailwagons factory in Yakama. The property has been sold and is now a Coke-Cola distributorship, but the Lukehart's still own the molds which are stored elsewhere. It was suggested that we send Gary and Mary a card wishing them well and offering them an honorary lifetime membership.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta Newcomb-Wall, Secretary

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chinook RV Club

By Teleconference

October 26th at 10:00 AM Pacific Time

The following Board Members were present by telephone: Jerry Earley, President; Kelli Scheese, V.P. – Membership; Carole "CB" Davis, V.P. – Rallies; Marta Newcomb-Wall, Secretary; Bert Wall, Treasurer; and Barry Prentice, Immediate Past President. Linda Blackburn, V.P. – Rallies Elect was also present by telephone.

President, Jerry Early began the meeting by asking Barry to discuss the clarification that he had charted out to preserve the original goal of staggering the terms of the Board Members so as to maintain continuity of leadership for the Club.

According to the Chart, (a copy of which will be e-mailed to any Club Member who requests it) Barry stepped down one year early from his original three-year term as President in order to begin the staggering of Officer terms so that Jerry could be elected President at the Chula Vista Rally in September, 2005. The following year, Lena Prentice and Carol Skillings were replaced by the election of Kelli Scheese as V.P. – Membership and Marta Newcomb-Wall as Club Secretary. That same year, Al Enriquez was elected to a second term as Member at Large and Carole Davis continued as V.P. - Rallies.

In order to maintain the proper stagger of Officer's terms, the Board has requested, and Marta has agreed to standing for re-election one year early, at the Annual Rally in West Yellowstone this coming August. At that Rally, Jerry's three year term as President will also expire, giving us two Officer positions to elect. Also, in a effort to maintain continuity at the position of V.P.- Rallies, the Board of Directors asked Linda Blackburn, who was elected to succeed Carole Davis, to "understudy" Carole through one more term to the Annual Rally in 2010. Finally, the three-year terms of office for Kelli and Al will end at the Annual Rally in 2009.

This plan should establish a rotation where the President and Secretary will be elected in the same year. The V.P. – Membership and the Member at Large will be elected the following year, and the V.P. – Rallies will be elected the third year, completing the rotation.

Because of "technological constraints" the teleconference was adjourned to begin again at 1:00 PM Pacific Time, the same day.

The continuation of the meeting began with a discussion of the composition of the Nominating Committee as set forth in the new Bylaws. While the Immediate Past President will act as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, it will be the responsibility of the leadership at future Annual Meetings to have the membership in attendance select the committee members for the next year.

The length of our annual rallies was discussed. It was decided that the length should be at least 4-5 days. Members may be driving a great distance to attend. The Yellowstone rally for 2008 can easily add two additional days.

Carole Davis will write up a policy for those putting on the Annual Rallies.

The Fourth Annual Tiger Run Mini-Rally will be June 9-15th, with the Frisco Barbeque Cookoff on the 13th & 14th. There will be a presentation on the history of the area one night and a trip to some of those sites the next day. The cost of RV sites for 7 nights will only be \$235.

Barry sent Phil Beautrow, our Newsletter Editor, a write up on the Oct 8-11th Balloon Fiesta Annual Rally.

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CB mentioned just how helpful this conference call has been and suggested we hold them more frequently. Jerry suggested we have them as often as necessary. Barry felt we should have the next one in January, after the holidays.

The latest draft of the Bylaws was discussed and approved for distribution and mail vote.

The Teleconference Meeting was adjourned at 1:45PM.

Marta Newcomb Wall, Secretary



Please see information and announcements on our Web site...

www.chinookrvclub.com



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Chinook RV Club Stages "Best Ever" Annual Rally

Fifty-five Chinook RV Club Members, Associate Members and guests filled 26 sites at the American RV Park in Albuquerque for this year's Fourth Annual Rally, held in conjunction with the famous Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. Comments from the participants were overwhelmingly complementary of the choice of venue and the caliber of activities that everyone enjoyed.

This year's Annual Rally was the culmination of planning efforts by the Rally Hosts, Lena and Barry Prentice aided by Marta Newcomb-Wall and husband Bert Wall with great support from the staff of the American RV Park lead by Pamela Wright, the Park's General Manager. Planning started over two years ago with the suggestion from Club Members who had attended previous Balloon Fiestas that we consider holding an Annual Rally in Albuquerque during Fiesta time. New Mexico native, Lena Prentice along with husband Barry volunteered to plan and Host the rally. The Prentices and Walls traveled to Albuquerque a year in advance to make arrangements for site reservations in the Park as well as transportation arrangements for our two professionally quided tours.

When the Prentices arrived a day early to finish last minute details before the arrival of fellow Club Members we found several Chinook coaches already checked in, as their owners had taken advantage of the occasion to extend their stay and see even more balloon events. Fellow Members, the Blackburns even used the occasion to host a family reunion at the Park before the start of the Rally!

Check-in for those arriving for the Rally came any time after noon on Thursday, October 11th. After checking in and getting "hooked up," members were free to attend the Board of Director's meeting which started at 4:00 o'clock. Then, at 6:00 o'clock we began the event that everyone drives hundreds of miles to attend – the traditional Pot Luck dinner! We were fortu-

nate to be able to hold these events in the new Clubhouse at the Park (we say new, because it was less than a year old). After the Pot Luck, it was off to bed early to rest up for wakeup call at "o'dark hundred" the next morning.

Yes, it was for 3:45 AM that we set our alarm clocks so that we could be up, dressed and "hair combed" in time to get to the Park Office Lounge area to prepare to board the chartered school busses which would take us, at 0530 (military speak for 5:30 AM – still dark) to the V.I.P. area at the Balloon Park for the Morning Mass Ascension, Special Shape Rodeo and Key Grab Competition. Everyone dressed warmly and had a great time actually wandering onto the balloon launch field in among the crews getting their craft ready to take to the air.

Our busses then took us back to the RV Park, delivering us around 10:00. Many of us made a "bee-line" for our rigs and a mid-day nap! Later, in the afternoon we gathered in the Office Lounge area for our popular Maintenance and Care Technical session. The session was very well attended. It seemed that everyone woke up in time to come to listen and contribute. Our original plan was to hold the Annual Meeting in the Clubhouse at 4:30, but we postponed it until after dinner, because the Clubhouse was occupied by the Park staff preparing our sumptuous Catered Dinner.

At 6:00 that evening, we all converged on the Clubhouse for the much anticipated Catered Dinner. Our expectations were not disappointed, as the Park staff literally "knocked themselves out" to prepare and serve a most delicious dinner whose taste and variety could not be outdone. Certainly, our advance "publicity" for this event was no exaggeration. After dinner, our President, Jerry Earley, convened the Fourth Annual Meeting, the Minutes for which are included elsewhere in this Newsletter. On Friday morning most Chinookers enjoyed the complementary continental breakfast in the Office Lounge in preparation for boarding our Follow The Sun Tours bus for a professionally guided tour of Albuquerque. Our tour took us through many interesting parts of the city including the UNM district and the Pueblo Indian Cul-

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tural Center where we stopped to see Indian Dances and graze the gift shops. Just before lunch, our bus dropped us off in "Old Town" where we were free to enjoy lunch at any one of many "eateries" ready to fill the stomachs and lighten the wallets of tourists. Finally, at three o'clock we boarded our bus once again for the ride back to the Park.

This time there wasn't any time to nap, for everyone assembled in the Office Lounge area once again to board chartered school busses at 4:30 for the ride to the Balloon Park for the "After Glow" and "Night Magic" fireworks display. After the fireworks display ended at 9:30, our busses returned us to the RV Park for another night of rest.

Sunday morning dawned bright and early as we all, once again, assembled in the Office Lounge to board our *Follow The Sun Tours* bus for another professionally guided tour – this time of Santa Fe. On our way up the Turquoise Trail, we stopped in Madrid, the little burg which was featured in the movie "Wild Hogs" with John Travolta and Tim Allen. There, we took turns standing in front of the set for "Maggie's Diner" to get our pictures taken. Then, it was on up to Santa Fe, where after touring on the bus, we were disembarked in the famous Plaza – on our own among the historic places and tourist traps.

Our bus miraculously reappeared at around 3:30 to pick us up from our "shop-til-you-drop" experiences and take us back to the RV Park in Albuquerque. That night, we hung an bed sheet "projection screen" on the side of one of the Chinooks, and using Jerry's projector, Barry's speaker system and Doug Pott's DVD, a bunch of us watched "Wild Hogs" once again for a good laugh and another glimpse of where we had been that morning.

On Monday morning we all began the job of packing up for the trip home. With regret and the vow that we would all like to come back again for another Balloon Fiesta, we went our separate ways.

But, don't despair! Several of us have already made reservations for the 4 nights of October 8th through 11th, 2008. These nights are, once again over the last weekend of next year's Balloon Fi-

esta. Furthermore, you needn't worry because we/you don't have to make advanced arrangements to ride the chartered school busses from the RV Park to and from the Balloon Park events. Just call the American RV Park at 800-282-8885 and make your site reservations for these nights. When you make your reservations, be sure to tell them that you are a Chinook owner, and if we get enough interest, Lena and I will make it a Minirally and request the use of the Clubhouse for our Pot Luck as well as ask the Park to locate all of us together, like they did for us this year. Finally, as soon as you make your reservations, be sure to let Lena and I know so we can coordinate the Mini-rally.



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Chinook Camping Club Initiates Guest Reservation/Credentialing Procedure

Charter Members of the Chinook RV Club may recall that in the beginning, when the Club was organized in Yakima in 2003, the agreed upon policy in place at that time was that a Member in good standing of either the Chinook Camping Club or the Chinook RV Club could attend any event sponsored by the other Club without restriction.

Recent divergence in philosophy has resulted in the leadership of the CRVC receiving a notice from the President of the Chinook Camping Club informing us of new requirements that mandate that Members of the Chinook RV Club must apply in advance for reservations and credentialing before they can participate in any activities hosted by the Chinook Camping Club.

Although the notice that we received was not specific in its instructions on how to accomplish said application, one might start by sending your written application to the:.

President of the CCC, Mr. Harry Bufkin at 9812 Saddle Avenue, Marvin, NC 28173

As an alternative, perhaps, one could try e-mail to carolinascots@aol.com

Contrary to the open policy of the Chinook RV Club regarding "Chinook Owner Alumni," the CCC has chosen to continue to exclude such alumni who might otherwise qualify for Associate Member status in the Chinook RV Club. One may therefore safely assume that applications from Associate Members of the CRVC to attend CCC events will likely be a waste of time. Hmmmmm.



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Ins and Outs

ad times and the end of an era. The following was reported in the Yakima Herald Republic on September 19th, 2007: "
The former Trailwagons/Chinook RV facility next to Interstate 82 in Yakima was filled with...Coca-Cola trucks and vans Tuesday. Coca-Cola Bottling Co. in Yakima purchased the 7.32 acre site property on 607 E. R St. late Monday for \$3 million..."

As you may recall, the factory shut down almost two years ago after being forced into bankruptcy. But, consider that forty-four years of producing quality RVs is a tribute to the ingenuity and creativity of the Lukeharts! You can see some of the company history in the July 2006 Newsletter, pages 13-15.

RV. We noticed these pictures of a custom concept RV from Chinook/Winchester on the internet. "Take it anywhere. Nothing like it anywhere at any price." (the asking price is \$175k). Boy, if you are into cross-country and like the motif: the diamond plate underbody protection, 30-30 brass shell casing inlays, compressor, winch, etc. this is for you! Tour the planet.









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bit of history. Here are a few photos of an older Chinook that we found parked in Carpinteria State Beach. Note that the generator looked like a lawn mower engine; it was in those days! The spare tire swung away instead of back. Note the sleek hardwood floors! We invited him to join the club.





last from the past! If you were a "birder" these would be rare sightings! Somehow they just keep going.





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CHINOOK R.V. CLUB BALANCE SHEET SEPT. 30, 2007

ASSETS

CHECKING ACCOUNT \$7,631.32

MEMBERSHIP EQUITY:

SEPT. 30, 2006 8,533.32

LOSS FOR FISCAL

9/30/2007 (902.00)

\$7,631.32

INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPT. 30, 2006

INCOME

MEMBERS' DUES \$3,810.00

RALLY FEES <u>12,568.50</u>

16,378.50

EXPENSES:

RALLY COSTS 13,912.99 NAME BADGES 1,769.14

PRINTING & REPRODUC-

TION 895.76 POSTAGE & DELIVERY 334.92

TRANSPORTA-

TION 218.46

WEBSITE COSTS 149.23

17,280.50

EXPENSES OVER INCOME (\$902.00)

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Club Officers 2006/2007

Jerry Earley, President
Carole "CB" Davis, VP Rallies
Kelli Scheese, VP Membership
Marta Wall, Secretary
Bert Wall, Treasurer
Al Enriques, Member at Large





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