

The Road Runner

Is a publication of the Chinook RV Club



**DECEMBER
2009**



Club Officers 2009/2010

President:

Marta Newcomb Wall martanw@msn.com

V. P. Membership:

Kelli Scheese Kscheese@ConMet.com

V. P. Rallies:

Barbara Jensen (626) 919-0751

Secretary:

Vera Raudman Raudvera@AOL.com

Treasurer:

Bert Wall baw012343@msn.com

Member-At- Large:

Jan Olmsted janolm43@sbcglobal.net

Immediate Past President:

Jerry Earley jearleycih@yahoo.com

Webmaster:

Dave Shehane
webmaster@chinookrvclub.com

Editor:

Mike Froess
editormike@flash.net

Historian:

Carol Skillings
mamadogface@juno.com

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***MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR !***



Christmas wish list?

Who needs a Baja, when you can have one
of these ! (see page 11)

UPCOMING RALLIES

Pahrump , Nevada

March 25-27, 2010

Paso Robles, California

April 27-May 1, 2010

Breckenridge, Colorado (Tiger Run)

Sept. 15-19, 2010

Moab, Utah

October 3-7, 2010

Chula Vista, California

December 9-12, 2010

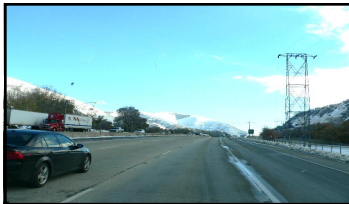
PURPOSE: This Club (Chinook RV Club) exists to promote social, recreational and informational exchange activities that provide for the enjoyment and pleasurable use of all its members. Our club functions primarily in the western and central US, although it is open to qualified members from the Eastern club (Chinook Camping Club).

DUES : Our dues are \$35.00/year. Our fiscal and membership year is October 1 through September 30. Prompt payment not only helps Treasurer in budgeting expenses, but also helps the V.P.Membership in producing our Membership Directory. Please advise V.P.Membership of any changes in e-mail and mailing addresses.

Chula Vista Rally December 9 -12, 2009

Wednesday 12-9-2009

All week the weather report for our rally was rain, rain and more rain, with snow at the higher elevations. We decided to leave a day early, in case the dreaded "grapevine" on Hwy 5 was closed due to snow. Fortunately, the snow was cleared by the time we got there, and we were able to get over that pass without incident, and we



pushed on to Chula Vista RV Park, arriving on Wednesday. The park manager accommodated us, and we settled in. Weather was clear by this

time. We spent the day getting our decorations up, looking around the park, and relaxing.

The Jensens arrived and set up next to us. We helped Ole and Barbara with some of their decorations. They got us great locations for the rally, just behind the big class "A's" who go all out with Christmas decorations, and make this weekend extra special. Their group, "The Happy Rollers" had arrived Monday, and spent Tuesday and Wednesday setting up their decorations. You



have to see them to believe the quantity and quality of their efforts.

We had a light dinner and retired for the night. Still no rain.

Thursday 12-10-2009

Today is the official start of the rally. Morning weather report said rain by afternoon, but later reports said by evening. So we took advantage of the weather and checked out the decorating still going on behind us.

Our members started arriving



about 2pm, and by 5pm, all 12 Chinooks were in place, and starting to put up our own little Christmas decorations. We had outside strings of



lights and decorations on the dashboard, and some ground decorations. Unfortunately 6 members were unable to come due to illness or weather concerns. We all missed them.

Time to set up for the catered dinner so graciously provided by Ole and Barbara Jensen. The resort let us use one of the meeting rooms, because the storm on Monday destroyed the tent they had set up for us. Caterers

arrived right on time, and started serving us.

After setting out the appetizers of spiced carrots and vegetables, and corn chips with a really HOT sauce (we traded ours back for plain chips) the first course was served. A nice green salad. Main course fol-



lowed with a large plate of 2 beef tamales, brown rice and wonderful refried beans. There was plenty of food, and many had seconds.

We thanked Ole for his generosity, Barbara made a presentation of upcoming activities, and I pro-

vided the "live" entertainment with a mechanical dancing musical chicken in a Santa Claus outfit.



After dinner we all walked around and admired the decorated motor homes right behind ours. They had the whole street (16 spaces on each side), all totally covered in lights. After gathering at the Jensen's, and visiting for several hours, we all retired for the night

Friday 12-11-2009

We woke to light rain dur-

Continued on Page 3

Continued from Page 2

ing the night, but it had passed by morning.. We finally got some rain before noon, and it continued on and off throughout the day. Time was passed on the computer, cards, or just plain visiting under the Jensen's awning. We were free until a scheduled pot luck at 6pm.

We all enjoyed our pot luck,



as we have some of the finest and most creative cooks around.

As a side note, when you see "free WiFi", apparently it means different things to different people.

The "free WiFi" here gets you a 30 minute pass onto the network, but was only available at a table in the store, and when the 30 minutes were up, you were cut off without warning. After trying this once, I gave up and spent the \$4.95 for 24 hours use, so I could clear up the e-mails.



It was raining after dinner, so some of us gathered under the Jensen's awning, and marveled at the decorations behind us. Don't get me wrong, We had some pretty nice decorations ourselves, and only because we lacked the several hun-

dred cubic feet of cargo space under our coaches, we might have been able to compete. Incidentally, one of their members asked if we would like to challenge them next year. We would love to, and could probably beat them, at least in the putting up and taking down of the decorations! They were still putting the finishing touches on their sites because judging was Saturday night.

We went to bed earlier that night because we had to be ready to leave for our trip to the Aircraft Carrier, Midway, by 8:30am.

Saturday 12-12-2009

Ole and Barbara picked up a



rented 12 passenger van, and we were loaded and on our way by 8:45. It was a short drive, and we were among the first to arrive. Ole had arranged for his friend, who is a docent on the carrier, to give us our



own special tour. Unfortunately, it was raining, but with a few clear moments, we decided to start on the carrier deck, as heavy rains were expected. later. We covered under an overhang at a snack area, and he pointed out the various



features around us. Then we went up to the bridge, down to the mess



halls, laundry, cramped berthing areas, brig, hanger deck, and many other places. Each of them required climbing and descending narrow, steep stairways (they call them ladders), clambering over bulkheads and ducking under pipes and low doorways (hatches). You could easily get lost without a guide, and never be found again. We went back up on the flight deck and checked out all the planes there, between rain squalls. We toured from the bow (pointy end) to the stern (rear), and from the engine



room to the bridge, and most everything in between. One of our group had a pedometer, and announced that we had traveled 1 1/3 miles, and that didn't count the elevation changes. What a great tour.

I had toured this ship 4 years ago at the 2nd annual rally, and didn't see many of these places. He explained that they are constantly opening up new areas, and less than half of the ship is now open to the public.

We thanked him and headed back to the the van, and back to the resort, arriving shortly after 2.

Continued on Page 4

Chula Vista, Continued from page 3

Pot luck scheduled for 3, and early dinner so we could have room for the "Chocolate Extravaganza" which started at 6pm.



What a show put on by the resort. There were three tables set up with stacks of cookies, chocolate cake, chocolate covered cookies, crackers, candy canes, wrapped chocolate candies, marshmallow, fudge. On one table was a chocolate fountain with

flowing chocolate so we could dip cherries, crackers, pretzels, orange candy wedges, or just about anything else on the table. Of course they had hot chocolate, coffee and teas.



Then in came the Christmas Carolers, about 20 or so, who put on a great performance of songs, and some jokes interspersed.. After they finished their performance, the resort held a raffle. I'm glad to say, that out of maybe 200 people present, 4 of our members

walked off with prizes. Our bellies



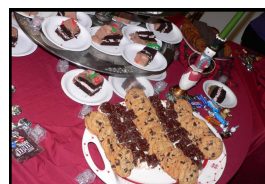
filled with chocolate, satisfied, we went back to of Chinooks, visited, took one last look at the Christmas decorations, and hit the hay.

Sunday 12-13-2009

We had heavy rain during the night, but it cleared up in the morning, and we all said our good byes, heading back home or to places unknown.

Mike Froess

Misc Rally Pictures



MORE on the MOAB Rally— 2009

Moab Rally October 4-8, 2009

October 4-8, 2009, saw 10 Chinooks and 1 apartment dwelling couple enjoying fine fall weather at Portal RV Resort in Moab, Utah.

Lynn and Marian Ewer, our hosts, had gone all out to make this mini rally a memorable one, and one that everyone would want to return to another year. Everything was timed and planned right down to the donut refreshments between hikes.

The first morning, was a hike to Delicate Arch in Arches National Park. One, I personally found difficult, but the accomplishment very rewarding. Following our donut break in the Devil's Garden, it was on to an easier flatland hike to Landscape Arch. Barry, Lynn and Bob Raudman walked out onto a fin, but alas, no pictures to prove it. The evening was rounded off with one of our usual succulent pot luck dinners, rehashing of the days events, a word of appreciation to Trix and Lynn from Marta, our president, and echoed by all, then off to bed.

The second day Lynn, Trix, Vera & Bob were up early and off to hike to Corona and Jug Handle Arches. Lynn said, "This one will be easy, it's flat." We teased him that he forgot to say it was flat vertically, not horizontally. It was only mildly difficult and the scenery along the way absolutely gorgeous, I'll do this one again! Following the hike we joined with others to drive the Schaefer trail overlooking the Colorado River gorge and on up to Dead Horse Point where we ate our sack lunches and viewed the trail from above, before visiting Bridges Arch. Others drove out to Island in the Sky to see another view of this fantastic area. Then we were off to get ready for dinner at the local Mini Brewery. Good food and good service left us happy and tired. I'm sure we all slept soundly and were ready for another round of activity the following day.

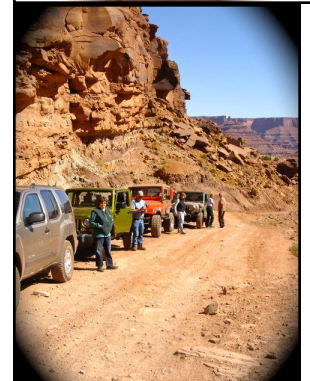
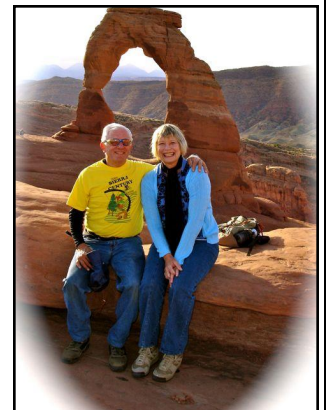
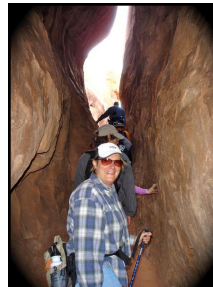
Day three was for the guys and their off road vehicles, not that the ladies didn't join in the fun. I am still amazed at how a car can climb a wall of rock and over large boulders. This day also included a very interesting hike deep in the heart of Can-

yon Lands National Park. With large rocks on either side we climbed higher and higher until we viewed the valley below, and what a view it was. For those more interested in comfortable driving, a visit to other venues before another pot luck dinner followed by Barry's pictures of the area taken at an earlier time. Dinner tonight was highlighted with local wine and goat cheese provided by our hosts.

Thursday was a day of catching up on what one may have missed earlier followed with dinner at an Italian restaurant; again it was good food and pleasant company. The group presented Vera and Bob with beer steins from the Elephant Hill Brewery in honor of their 48th wedding anniversary. They were very surprised and delighted.

Friday was sad goodbye day as we all headed out to our individual homes. We all felt very grateful to Lynn and Trix for all the labor and planning they had put into the week. They forgot nothing, and this rally will be remembered and talked about for a long time.

Vera Raudman





The next pages contain information on
our up coming rallies !

I was going to fill this page with some of the “Letters to the Editor” here, but there was only 1.
A suggestion that we invite other members into our units for an “Open House” at the rallies.
That seems like a good idea.



TERRIBLE'S LAKESIDE CASINO AND RV PARK, PAHRUMP, NEVADA

Enjoy the beautiful view of splendid nature - Our Lakeside RV Resort is honored to be one of less than 20 RV Resorts in North America to have earned both Trailer Life and Woodall's Campground Directories highest ratings. With our lush landscaping, incredibly quiet surroundings, old west artifacts including bug-gies, wagon wheels and even historic iron pot stoves you will feel the Old West charm during your stay.

Terrible's Lakeside RV Resort has 160 sites around a 7-acre man-made lake stocked with largemouth bass, crappie and bluegill. Each RV site averages 55 ft in length with many sites large enough to handle today's biggest RV's. All sites include full service hook-ups with 30 and 50-amp electrical service and a concrete patio. There are 3 comfort stations located on property each with laundry rooms. The resort's amenities include heated swimming pool and hot tub, kayaks, peddle boats, fishing, nine hole frisbee golf, and horse-shoes. Relax on the sandy beach under a cabana. Pick up sundries in our gift shop. The gift shop is located in the RV Office.

PAHRUMP MINI RALLY March 25th through 27th, 2010

TERRIBLE'S LAKESIDE CASINO AND RV PARK, PAHRUMP, NEVADA

10 sites have been reserved in the same general area as in 2009.

Available sites #123-127,135-139.

Reservation & contact: To claim the site of your choice contact hosts
Vera or Bob Raudman (310) 378 5107 or raudvera@aol.com

Deposit: \$20. Send check payable to Chinook RV Club to Vera Raudman 23427 Susana Ave. Torrence, CA 90505

Cost: Depending on how many sign up, under \$95 including deposit.

Deadline: Sites unclaimed by February 25th will be cancelled

Questions...contact Vera or Bob Raudman (310) 378 5107 or raudvera@aol.com

Order of the rally will be...

Thursday Attitude adjustment and welcome, 4pm site # 130- Raudman's BYOB

FridayBring your 4 wheelers and tour Red Rock Canyon (57 miles)
Go for a swim, kayak in the lagoon, peddle a boat, fish, or visit the Casino
Cocktails at 4pm #138--BYOB
Pot Luck dinner 5pm

Saturday Dinner on your own or left overs

Sunday We say farewell Have a safe ride home.

Paso Robles Mini Rally

April 27– May 1, 2010 —

Wine Country RV Resort, Paso Robles, CA
www.winecountryrvresort.com



Wine Country RV Resort is California's newest and nicest destination area RV Resort. Whether you're looking for relaxation, exciting activities, or a romantic setting, we've got it all!!

Come and experience the essence of Paso Robles and the offerings of its surroundings, including more than 170 winery tasting rooms, professional golf courses, beaches, lakes, shopping, fine dining and much more! As a family owned and operated business we're dedicated to making your stay a most enjoyable one.

Paso Robles Mini Rally

April 27—May 1, 2010

20 sites reserved

Reservations and Contact: Co-Hosts: Dianne O'Connor / Barbara Jensen (626) 919-0751

Deposit: \$100. Send check payable to "Chinook RV Club" to :
Barbara Jensen, 1255 Sandy Hill Drive, West Covina, CA 91791

Cost: To be determined on number of sign-ups (approx \$160 for site only)

Deadline: March 27, 2010. Deposit refundable up to this date.

Activities proposed: + Presentation by Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce

- + Wine tours by rented van ? + War Birds museum tour w/lunch(1 mile away)
- + Traditional Chinook pot-luck(s) + At least one Catered dinner-BBQ Tri-tip?



+ One day free for self tours of area , winery next door, Mission San Miguel, old town stores,etc

+ Daily use of clubhouse

+Bring bathing suit for relaxing hot tub use.



Tiger Run 7th Annual Rally

September 15-19, 2010

Tiger Run RV Resort , Breckenridge, CO
www.tigerrunresort.com

Experience the real Rocky Mountain magic! Tiger Run RVResort is located in the beautiful Ten Mile Range of the Rocky Mountains, just 75 miles west of Denver, between the historic towns of Breckenridge and Frisco. To reach Tiger Run Resort from Interstate 70, take Exit 203 and proceed south on Hwy 9, six miles past Frisco. The 12,000 sq.ft. Clubhouse is centrally located in the Resort complex and contains an indoor swimming pool, hot tub, game room, TV lounge, laundry facility, bathrooms with showers and dressing area. Volleyball court, basketball court, two tennis courts, and children's playground outside. For the fishing enthusiast, the Blue River borders the Resort on the west boundary, and the Swan River runs through the Resort.

Attendees are encouraged to come several days early and get acclimated to the altitude. Tiger Run is at 9,100 feet and Leadville is over 11,000 feet. Those who come early can get three more days for an additional \$68—the difference between the weekly rate and the four individual nights the club will be paying for.



Tiger Run 7th Annual Rally

September 15-19, 2010
30 sites reserved

Reservations and Contact: Hosts, Barry and Lena Prentice “bprent@earthlink.net”

Deposit: \$150. Send check payable to “Chinook RV Club” to
Barry Prentice, 710 Wildflower Drive, Longmont, CO , 80501

Cost: \$300 single, \$450 double. (Note: can extend stay for 3 additional nights for total of \$68)

Deadline: August 1, 2010 Deposit refundable up to this date.

Proposed activities

Wednesday, 9/15—Check in & Pot-Luck at the Pavilion

Thursday, 9/16—Morning charter bus to **Copper Mountain** www.coppercolorado.com for a mountain chairlift ride and views of the Rockies. Then on to **Vail** for the afternoon: www.vail.net (or) www.visitvailvalley.com
Dinner in Vail at the Sweet Basil Restaurant, <http://sweetbasilvail.com> followed by our **Annual Meeting** in the Private Dining Room

Friday, 9/17—**On your Own!** Catch the free bus to Breckenridge, www.townofbreckenridge.com or the Factory Outlet stores at Silverthorne, www.silverthorne.org . Tech session also possible.
Group could go to a restaurant in Breckenridge for dinner, or rent the Pavilion again and get Bar-beque from “Q4U” for dinner.

Saturday, 9/18—Charter bus over Fremont Pass to Leadville for a ride on the **Leadville, CO and Southern Railroad**, www.leadville-train.com Sightseeing in town, lunch on your own and possible visit to the Molly Brown House, www.mollybrown.org. Could return by way of Tennessee Pass with a brief stop at the historic site of Camp Hale, www.camphale.org/History/History.htm

Sunday, 9/19—Depart Tiger Run

Moab Mini Rally

October 3-7, 2010

Canyonlands RV Campground

www.canyonlandsrv.com

Conveniently located right in downtown Moab, Canyonlands Campground is an ideal place to stay when you visit this spectacular area.

Whether you are visiting Arches National Park or Canyonlands National Park or have come to conquer the myriad of easy-to-hard off-road trails, Canyonlands Campground provides a unique variety of accommodations to fit your needs.

We are the only RV park located in the town of Moab, so walking to restaurants, shops, grocery stores and entertainment at night is easy and convenient. You won't be disappointed!



Moab Mini Rally

October 3-7, 2010

14 sites reserved / 5 nights

Reservations and Contact: Hosts: Ray / Linda Blackburn (209) 274-2165 "LLB@volcano.net"
Bruce /Sharon Gallagher (970) 625-1895 "bgallagher@garfieldre2.org"

Deposit: \$100. Send ASAP a check payable to "Chinook RV Club" to:
Linda Blackburn, 406 Depot Rd, Ione, CA. 95640-9724

Cost: \$300 (Cabins are available if you need one. @\$65/night. Should be reserved right away if you need one.)

Deadline: September 1, 2010. Deposit refundable up to this date.

Proposed activities: Daily outings are being planned and info will be provided later. Group dinners each night.

10-3 Sunday Potluck

10-4 Monday Club provides simple BBQ

10-5 Tuesday Club provides side dish and desert, bring your own meat to BBQ

10-6 Wednesday Club provides hors d'oeuvres, if you have favorite dish and want to share, bring it.

10-7 Thursday Leftovers. Bring your own meat to BBQ, or if no leftovers, we'll cook all fresh.

Please bring your own table service (plates, bowls, silverware, napkins) and of course, BYOB. Also, please bring a table lantern if you have one as pavilion has no lights. We will have daily use of large BBQ grill.

Join us in Moab for a fun filled Mini Rally, Oct 3-7, 2010. The 2009 rally was great, and you can expect the same high quality to continue in 2010. Canyonlands RV is a full service campground with full hookups, cable TV, free Wi-Fi, swimming pool and pavilion.

You can join in on the planned outings or go out on your own. Visit Arches National Park, Canyonlands National

Park, Dead Horse Point (listed as one of the 25 most scenic views in the US). Do what you like doing best; bike, hike, jeep, sightsee, golf, drive the scenic routes, shop Moab, go for a River Cruise with dinner if you choose. We will also be gathering nightly for dinner at the park pavilion or at a restaurant in Moab. You can also go off by yourself if you so desire. Anything goes.

Editor's Page

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU !

In preparation for the end of the year, I was going through some old papers on my desk, I have come across a short story that I received in an e-mail several years ago. It is supposed to be a letter written by Joseph to his mother from Bethlehem. If you would like to read it, go to :

[HTTP://www.joyfulheart.com/christmas/joseph.htm/](http://www.joyfulheart.com/christmas/joseph.htm/)



Tracked Chinook Concourse?

Amazing what can be done now with “photo shop”. The Concourse is mine, however the tracks were cut from a photo from Yellowstone. They have two tracked busses used in winter. Makes a nice combination, don't you think?



SURVEY RESULTS from last issue

I have received only 6 responses from the 76 members to the survey from the last Road Runner. It seems that most will read the Road Runner on the internet, and also print out a copy.

They like the pictures but want them bigger.

(Just in case you are not aware, in order to even see the Road Runner you have to use Acrobat Reader When you open the page, immediately above the issue, is a toolbar that has a minus (-) sign and a plus(+) sign. If you click on the plus (+) sign, it will enlarge the page more each time you click on it. Now move the curser onto the page and you will see the arrow turn into a small hand. Hold down the left mouse button and you can move the page around to enlarge any picture or just make the print larger)

I'll be working on a slide show in the near future, that will show many more pictures from rallies that I take or sent to me. Thanks to all who have sent me some pictures in the past.

PARTS ANYONE ? This is not the place for “Tech” info, but I came across a couple of nice changes for my Concourse when the fluorescent bulbs burned out.

1. I changed all of the fluorescent light bulbs from the standard “Cool White” to a more natural light, called “Daylight”. It's a much brighter light. The cost is reasonable (\$2 to \$4 each plus shipping) If interested, www.1000bulbs.com/

2. The little lenses for the “porch” light are available for about \$10 from www.winnebagoparts.com/ They have part # 008089-01-700

IF you want info on repair, parts, and “Tech” info for the Chinooks, check out and join the Yahoo group at <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/ChinookRVOwners/>

**CHINOOK R.V. CLUB
BALANCE SHEET
SEPT. 30, 2009**

ASSETS:

CHECKING ACCOUNT	<u>\$4,394.12</u>
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MEMBERSHIP EQUITY:

SEPT. 30, 2008	3,524.31
INCOME FOR 9/30/2009	<u>869.81</u>
	<u>\$4,394.12</u>

**INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPT. 30, 2009**

INCOME:

MEMBERS' DUES	\$4,223.00
RALLY FEES	<u>8,688.75</u>
	12,911.75

EXPENSES:

RALLY COSTS	11,041.04
WEBSITE COSTS	375.00
PRINTING	251.29
POSTAGE	145.02
SUPPLIES	134.89
NAME BADGES	<u>94.70</u>
	<u>12,041.94</u>

INCOME OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$869.81</u>
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Submitted by:

Bert Wall, Treasurer

What do current members have?

Baja	Concourse	Destiny	Eagle	Glacier	Premier	Sport	Other
1	31	12	2	12	10	1	3