

NW Country Coachers

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NW Country Coachers
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Thinking of You:
The Serex Family,
Herb Harris, Gwen
Lyon, Pat Detloff, and
Tom Lowery
We're wishing you all
the best...



Calendar Review

August 13-17 Salem Pre- Rally
August 19-23 CCI West Coast Reunion
September 24,25,26 Prosser Canceled
October 23-25 Anacortes, Wa.
November 13-15 Long Beach Rally
February 16, 2010 Yuma with Jim & Ang
March 25, 2010 ODR Cathedral City Potluck
May 22-23, 2010 Hoodsport Canal Event

Stop the World, I want to get off!

Greetings from the Wine Country. Napa, California to be precise. After a couple of weeks we are just about to leave this beautiful grape growing area and head north, eventually arriving in Salem for the NWCC rally next month.

Sometimes when learning we are headed back to our old stomping ground in the wine country people will ask if we are in the wine business? The simple answer is yes, but not grape growing, winemaking, wholesale distribution or sales. We simply consume the end product!

We like to come down to Northern California on a regular basis as it is a time to rekindle old friendships, take care of some chores, a little business and stock up on a few things we need back home that are cheaper even after the sales tax is paid!

Usually we head south in a four-wheeler, and make the five hundred mile journey in just over eight hours by making minimum stops and rotating drivers every two hours or so. This trip we used the motor coach, choosing to break the journey en route in both directions, thereby making it a little more like a vacation, plus get some use out of our mobile home.

On this trip we also took the opportunity to visit with John Davis in La Pine, Oregon, where we had the infamous PTO unit modified to avoid the possibility of future failure. I was able to watch John throughout the entire process and as a retired engineer could appreciate his skill, work ethic and why this retrofit was so important.

Leaving La Pine late in the afternoon we headed to the Klamoya casino on route 97 and joined several other RVer's who were boondocking in the parking lot. Arriving late and leaving early was a good way of avoiding the temptation to enter the casino and try our luck.

Next was a two-night stop at the Dance Country RV Park in McCloud, California, some nine miles east of highway 5. For us, McCloud is just about halfway on our journey, but more importantly it is a place where a good friend works every year as camp host at a nearby State Park. A great time to re visit the park and catch up with our friend after a three-year break.

Further down highway five we broke the journey once more in Corning. Many times we have boondocked at the casino on Liberal Avenue but not this time. We drove directly into the self-service RV Park adjacent to the casino and stayed the night in a full service site.

This gave us a chance to clean out all the tanks prior to arriving at our final destination, and also provided plenty of electrical power. The latter was very important as the outside temperatures reached the nineties and we needed to run the A/C constantly as we had pets on board.

Lunch at the casino buffet was a great deal, as we arrived on the day they had a two for one special for everyone over fifty-five. Age does have some benefits!

We never pass through Corning without a quick stop at the Olive Pit. Karen loves to shop there for olives, not just for us but also as gifts for friends.

The final leg of our journey is only one hundred and fifty miles and we plan our road time to avoid the big commuter rush on highway eighty. That plan also gets us to our Napa destination with plenty of daylight left making it easy to park the coach and settle down.

Shortly after arrival we let the cats out! They are ecstatic. After four days in the motor home they were more than ready for their vacation. For them it must be like going to Disneyland. They have the full run of the rear yard with bushes to hide behind, trees to climb and a huge sand box!!!! With the patio door cracked open they have unlimited access to the house, food and water. They are in cat's heaven.

Sebastian and Charlie should make the best of it. In a few hours we head out once more, this time heading up highway five to the Rogue River State Park near Medford. Once again a chance to stay in that nice park (we are booked into the new section with the huge sites), and meet old friends who live in nearby Grants Pass.

After three days we head the coach towards our real home in Sisters, Oregon, where we will put down roots for a couple of weeks before heading to Salem and the NWCC rally at Premier RV Park.

It is a hectic life but at least we are lucky to be able to participate when so many others are house bound due to economic or health problems. We are very blessed.

Sometimes I'm reminded of the play by Anthony Newly. "Stop the World, I want to get off!" Tempting but not yet. There are too many places to see and nice people to meet. David & Karen, 'On the road again'.

RALLY CANCELLED DUE TO
LACK OF INTEREST



September 25-27, 2009

The Prosser Airport & Art Fiker Stadium in Washington

Versatile Summer Berry Salad

Made by Fred Dent during Sisters Rally
Versatile Summer Berry Salad

1 large container (2 lb) of strawberries, capped, rinsed and sliced

1 large container (2 pint) of raspberries, rinsed

2 large bananas sliced

2 6 oz containers of nonfat vanilla yogurt

1 6 oz container of nonfat strawberry yogurt

chill 1 hour.

Serving Suggestions:

Serve on a bed of lettuce with lunch or dinner.

Serve over granola or Grapenuts for breakfast.

Summer desert: Use a parfait or clear rocks glass. Start with the Versatile Summer Berry Salad and then alternate with layers of nonfat Coolwhip right out of the freezer. Refrigerate for an hour or two before serving to allow the Coolwhip to soften.

Stores nicely in the refrigerator for several days.

Serves about 12

HD TV Changes– By Herb Harris

There are a lot of changes happening with HD television these days, particularly with Direct TV and Motosat. If you are looking for service or for an upgrade to your system we have experienced good service and prices recently from a company called DMS RV Satellite. They are located in Spokane, WA, but they travel to the desert and Arizona in the winter and up here in the Northwest during the summer. The service is great, they come to your coach and install or service onsite. They will also sell and install used equipment at reduced prices. The owner worked for Motosat for 10 years as an installation instructor so he knows stuff – best of all he owns and does all his travel in a Country Coach! The contact information:

DMS RV Satellite

Dale Morris

(702) 604-6757

Mary Lou Thun Running for Newsletter Editor

Retired and traveling for the past 6 years with husband, Dave, and enjoying our Country Coach. During my working years (and there were many) I was co-owner of an advertising agency in Portland and prior to that was in advertising sales for a daily newspaper. Although I am not thoroughly up to speed with the computer programs Barbara has been using, I am more than willing to learn. In fact, it will be a nice challenge for me. Thank you for your support.

2010 Officer Elections By Lee Casebeer

Are you willing to run for Vice President???? Please contact our nominating committee: Dick Winn, Don Perry, Chuck Priddy, Chris Konczey, or Dennis McCarthy.

Club Officer Candidate Status for 2010 year is:

President: 1 Candidate - Fred Dent

Vice President: Need Candidates

Treasurer: 1 Candidate – Dana Suttell

Secretary: 1 Candidate – Lee Casebeer

Newsletter Editor: Mary Lou Thun, Terry Apple

National FMCA Director: 1 Candidate – Don Schleuse

Alternate FMCA Director: 1 Candidate – Herb Harris

On the Road Again-

After leaving the CCNW motor home rally in Sisters, Oregon, we got serious about packing the coach for a month long trip through western Montana, north through Glacier International Park and British Columbia with its various hot springs attractions. East through more of the Canadian Rocky Mountains, Banff, Lake Louise and eventually Calgary when we attended the Stampede. It's a great route with beautiful scenery and we would be happy to share tips of where to and not to park.

Among the highlights for the trip was a tour of Grand Coulee Dam and the laser light show at night. Quite a nice learning experience. There is nothing so awesome as driving down the Columbia River Gorge as most of us have done many times. What a beautiful country we live in!!!!

Happy Travels, Dave and Mary Lou Thun

Pilot to Buy Flying J

Submitted by Herb Harris

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. -- Court filings continue to reveal details of the > announced merger of Knoxville-based Pilot Travel Centers with Flying J Inc., and questions arise about the impact that the resulting company -- the clear travel center market leader nationwide with 550 travel centers -- would have on competition. On Tuesday, Odgen, Utah-based Flying J Inc., with 250 travel centers across the country, announced it had reached a pre-merger agreement with Pilot Travel Centers, which operates 305 travel centers nationally. The arrangement would allow Pilot to acquire the 250 travel centers owned by Flying J in return for \$300 million to \$500 million and an equity stake in Pilot Travel Centers. Pilot also would extend \$100 million in financing to Flying J Inc. to help it emerge from Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Flying J, which filed for bankruptcy Dec. 22, in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Delaware, has asked the court to set a 3 p.m. July 30 hearing date on a motion seeking court approval for its plans. Flying J Inc. also asked the court to set a July 23 deadline for any parties to file responses to the motion.

As part of the pre-merger agreement, Pilot Travel Centers would be given a time period in which it has exclusive rights to buy Flying J assets, including its travel centers, corporate headquarters, trucking operations and some other properties and business operations. Court documents detail a timeline for this to happen, with 5 p.m. Aug. 31 being the earliest date, depending on when Pilot Travel Centers notifies Flying J in writing that it has completed due diligence on Flying J's assets and operations.

The resulting company would be a multi-billion-dollar operation headquartered in Knoxville with 550 locations in more than 40 states and Canada. By comparison, Travel Centers of America had 233 travel centers in 2007 - this after announcing it had added 69 travel centers acquired from Petro Stopping Centers to its own 164. Despite the dominance that the merged Pilot and Flying J operations will have in the travel center market, antitrust issues aren't likely to be involved, said Dr. Mark Burton, director of transportation economics with the University of Tennessee Center for Transportation Research.

To read the complete report in the Knoxville News, click here.

Posted in: RV Industry, RV Owners

Hash Brown Egg Bake
From the Hoodspout Breakfast Brunch
Dana Suttell

1 (32oz) package frozen hash browns (thawed), cubed or shredded
1 pound sliced bacon, cooked and crumbled
1 c shredded Cheddar Cheese
¼ t salt
8 eggs
2 c milk
1 dash paprika

In a large bowl, combine hash browns, ½ c cheese and salt. Spoon into a greased 13-9 baking dish. In a bowl, beat eggs and milk until smooth; pour over hash brown mixture. Sprinkle with paprika. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees F for 45-50 minutes until golden. Top with remaining cheese

Dana Suttell- Running for Treasurer

Frank and I live in Port Orchard, Washington. We have been RVing for almost 30 years and love it. We get out about 40 nights a year, which is not bad with Frank still working. I worked in the banking industry for 10 years before our son Isaac was born. At that point I became a mom and full time volunteer, although with our RV lifestyle I consider myself a professional packer as well. Frank and I enjoy downhill skiing during the winter. I also build handcrafted kites and we fly a bit during the summer months. My hobbies include sewing and many different types of crafts. Several years ago Frank built kayaks for us and we get out on our local waters as much as we can. For 15 years I have been working for a weight loss organization. I have served as Treasurer several times on the local level and been the state treasurer three times. I would enjoy helping the club as treasurer.

Tech Services at our Salem Rally

Coach Tech services will be available, for purchase, at our Salem Rally. **The Country Boys RV Services**, Doug & Andy, come as a recommendation of Sarah & Wayne Gabel. The Gabels were Rally Master of our April Rally in Newport. All who received their Tech services were satisfied.

Robert Janeczko comes recommended by Caroline & Chris Konczey. The Konczeys have experienced Robert's work and were satisfied with the results. Robert can perform any coach repairs and he specializes in doing chassis inspections, changing fuel filters, belts, Hydro-Hot & Hurricanes services, water heater & generator services. He can **Not** perform ride height adjustments and main engine oil and coolant changes at the RV Park. **Robert** will have a helper with him. Both services are charging \$65 per hour. The business transactions are between the club members & tech services. The club is not responsible in anyway in the business transactions. Advance contact of the desired services by either technician is necessary to insure that they are prepared with parts that may be needed to complete their project. **The Country Boys** have work order sheets that you can complete and returned to them to assist in preparing for the work needed.

Robert Janeczko can be contacted at: rjsrvre-pair@gmail.com ; phone: 541-521-2468

Doug & Andy at The Country Boys can be contacted at: serv.scheduling@cbrvservices.com

The Country Boys have a web site: cbrvservices.com ; Phones 541-935-0848 or 541-255-2169

Please identify yourself as a **Northwest Country Coach Member** & will be attending the Salem Rally.

I can be an intermediary between you & the techs, if you so desire, but direct correspondence with them will be much faster.

A Tech Service in Central Oregon that several club members have had good experiences with is John Davis in Lapine, Oregon. John has been very active on the CC-Owners Yahoo message forum. David Robert's recommended John. I contacted John regarding Salem rally, but have not heard back from him at this time. When in Central Oregon, John can be reached at: 541-306-6473, his e-mail is:

jd@jdrv1.com and web site of www.jdrv1.com.

LeeCasebeer

Donald Schleuse For National Director

Barbara and I have been involved with NorthWest Country Coachers since the beginning. We were at the planning meeting in Albany when the idea was presented to a group of owners to form a Country Coach club outside of CCI. We were at the inception meeting in Salem, OR when the group assembled decided to "do it". At that time it was pretty much a question as to who wanted to serve as chapter officers. We were headed east for the summer so I volunteered to be the National Director and attend the summer FMCA convention. Paperwork was filed with FMCA to establish us as a chapter and here we are today.

It has been my pleasure to serve as the NorthWest Country Coachers National Director for the past two years and I must say that it has been a heavy learning experience. I have attended all the planning meetings for the 2008 and 2009 North West Area rallies in Albany, OR as well as attending the FMCA summer convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN where, as part of the Governing Board, we worked on the 2009 budget and the governing documents of the Association. As of this writing (July 19th) I am in Bowling Green, OH where the election of FMCA officers will take place along with the 2010 budget review and approval plus any other business that comes before the Governing Board.

My list of qualifications is short. I have been a National Director for two years. Before retirement, I worked for the federal government in the weapons reliability field. I also spent 5 years as the treasurer and 5 years as the secretary of an Elks Lodge. I am currently the president of the board of directors of a 318 unit home owners association in Birch Bay, WA.

Contact Lee Casebeer to join NW-CC-ERS Yahoo Group

From the Bowling Green Convention – some highlights-
By Don Schleuse

The meeting was called to order at 9AM by President Connie Pool.

There was a motion made to raise the dues \$5 per year. Seeing as how this was a motion made from the floor, it will be 120 days before any action will be taken by the Governing Board. I will receive a mail in ballot so if you have any concerns and wish me to vote against the increase, you will have to let me know.

MEDEX had been removed from the budget by the Executive Board for 2010 however the Governing Board voted to retain it at a cost of approximately \$500,000.

We did pass a motion to actively seek other alternatives to replace MEDEX which will be reported on at the next governing Board meeting. So, as it stands, we do have MEDEX through 2010.

The mail forwarding service that FMCA provides will increase to \$10 per month from the previous \$5 per month.

It should be noted that the budget passed was a negative one to the tune of \$794,072. It was felt by the Governing Board that it is more important to fund the member benefits than to balance the budget.

The elections followed and the following were elected:

FMCA President: Charles M. "Charlie" Schrenkel

SR. Vice President: Judith (Judy) Czarsty

Secretary: Joanne R. Durbin

Treasurer; Wilburn Young

The meeting adjourned at 8:35PM. This is no typo, it was 8:35 pm

Fred Dent- Candidate for President

Born and raised in Seattle, WA. Graduated from Queen Anne High School and the University of Washington. US Navy Veteran from Viet Nam era served 6 years on the USS Long Beach, CGN9, as a Missile Fire Control Technician, First Class Petty Officer on Terrier Missile systems. After the US Navy lived in Florida for 20 plus years as a consulting engineer in Municipal Environmental Engineering as consultant specializing in Municipal Water and Wastewater Treatment automated controls. Currently teaching Geography at Highline Community College and own a pet supply eBusiness.



My RV experience goes back nearly 50 years. When I was little my Dad took us tent camping all over Washington State. When I was about 10 I helped my Dad build our first travel trailer from the frame up. We traveled all over Washington and Oregon in that 20 foot trailer towed behind a custom ordered International Travel All with a twelve speed truck transmission!!

While I lived in Florida 'RV camping' was always by boat. I was Lt Commodore of my local yachting group. We organized bi-weekly outings during the winter months and then spent our summers traveling the west coast by boat. When I was ready to move back to Seattle I sold my yacht and bought my first travel trailer. I towed that 30' trailer across the country with my two cats as travel companions along the southern route through Texas and up the West Coast. That was in 1994. After trailering around Washington for 2 years I bought my first 32 foot Winnebago motor home and was hooked on the RV, motor home lifestyle. Five motor homes later I'm in my beautiful 2008 45' Intrigue, Jubilee. Along the way I was the Washington State Rep for another RV affinity group for two years. We grew the club from about 25 members to over 100 and outings from none a year to regular club events each month year round. Since I have been back in Seattle from Florida I've motor homed all over the West Coast from Calgary, Alberta, Canada to Palm Springs, CA; from Long Beach, WA, to Glacier National Park in Montana south to Reno, Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas. My travel kitties that came with my cross country in 1994 have long since passed away. Today you will find me traveling with my two Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Covington and Windsor (the guys), and on longer trips their two kitties Precious and Tink (the girls). We've all (me, the guys and the girls) have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know everyone in NWCCers and look forward to seeing you all as often as we can.

Herb Harris Biography Running for Alt. National Director

Pat and I have been married for 30 years. I grew up at the beach in San Diego, Pat is a Sacramento girl. Our son, Les, and daughter, Cassie, are college graduates.

After graduating from college I served in the Navy, in SE Asia. Then I returned to get a graduate degree in business. I've worked 36 years in the steel industry and plan to retire. . Some Day? Pat works with the IT team in the Vancouver School District.

We owned and operated a boutique winery in California for 10 years as a side business. We love traveling & visiting geographic and historic sites. I enjoy fly-fishing but my real passion is chasing big fish in Mexican waters and also maintaining an interest in the wine industry, the joys of the grape and everything viticultural.

Earlier we bought a 30' sloop and lived on it a couple of years on Galveston Bay. We sailed the Gulf coast and gunkholed into small ports, this experience primed us for our later interest in RVing. We then transferred back to the west coast, and spent 20 years in Redondo Beach, CA. We have an affinity for the ocean and enjoyed coastal living.

My company's corporate offices moved to Kalama, Washington in 1996. We lived in a 5th wheel while our house was completed. After owning a 1995 Intrigue, we purchased a new 2005 Allure. With Pat summers free, we traveled the western states and caravanned with our County Coach friends. We have property above the Columbia River, in Kalama, where we will build a smaller house when the kids move on. We've been full timing in the coach for over 2 years. We like the ocean and are looking for a home base on the Washington/Oregon coast for the summer months.

I am a past President of a professional and amateur winemaking association in California, and have served with several trade and professional associations in the steel industry. I look forward to meeting each of you, learning more about FMCA as the club's alternate National Director, which I've been for the past 2 years.

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This is the Biography of Lee Casebeer, candidate for Club Secretary.

My wife, Kris, & I live full time in our 36 ft. Country Coach. We call 6 acres in Redmond, Oregon home. I've been retired 4-1/2 yrs after 30 yrs as a licensed Mechanical Engineer. I have been an officer of a Portland area ski club. I'm knowledgeable in MS-Word, Excel, Access & Publisher.

I participated in the formation of the **NWCCers** club in 2007 and have been club secretary since then. I enjoy interacting with people and doing computer "*stuff*".

Thank you for your past & future support.

Lee Casebeer

