



EVENT CALENDAR

All events sponsored by NWCCers unless noted otherwise by *

2012 Calendar

May 17-20 Hoodspert, WA. Frank and Dana Suttell have 15 sites saved

***June 21-24 NW Area FMCA ~ Mill Casino RV Park, North Bend, OR**

July 11-15 Sisters, OR. Quilt Show Rally. David and Karen Roberts

Sept 19-22 Casey's Riverfront RV Park, Wesfir, OR, Wayne and Sarah Gabel

Additional Country Coach Rally Information around the country:
Country Coach International (CCI)

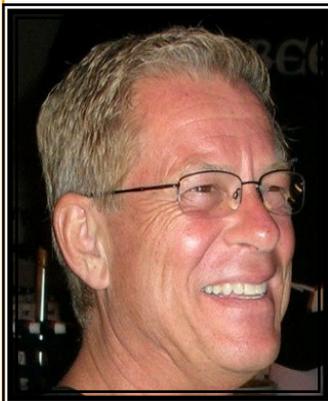
www.countrycoachclub.org

Country Coach Friends International (CCFI)

www.countrycoachfriendsinternational.com



President's Corner



Happy Holidays!

I hope this newsletter finds each of you happy and well and looking forward to a joyous holiday season in your family's tradition. For many of us, this is the busiest season of the year getting ready for family visits, decorating our homes and RVs, attending holiday programs and company parties, traveling to be with friends and family and, of course, holiday shopping. Then, there are the holiday pageants that our kids and grandkids are presenting and, of course, getting

our holiday cards and packages to the post office in time for holiday deliveries. In all of this frenzy, I hope you all find the peace and joy these holidays promise.

As 2011 draws to a close, I hope you find time to reflect about what our club means to all of us. We are truly a family of Country Coach RV enthusiasts and enjoy the opportunities we have to get together all year long. This is also the time of year that NWCCers begins our annual dues renewal. Watch your e-mail for a renewal notice from our Treasurer, Dana Suttell, in the next few weeks. Our \$25 annual renewal pays for your monthly newsletter and helps defray costs for our club gatherings and club overhead costs (postage, supplies, etc). Please renew your dues promptly so we don't have to incur the costs of a direct mailing early next year. We accept checks or credit cards for your renewal. If you are not comfortable mailing your credit card information or posting it on our online renewal page you can call Dana and she will be happy to take your information over the phone.

Your Board is putting together our calendar for next year. The sidebar on the front page of this newsletter has the events currently reserved. Do you have an idea for something else to add? Let your Board know your thoughts. We have had two or three members in Washington suggest that perhaps we should plan an NWCCers Thanksgiving weekend next year. I know many of you have family plans for the weekend, but if there are enough of us who won't be with family, perhaps we can plan an event. Please let me know your thoughts.

On behalf of all of us at NWCCers have a safe and happy holiday season.

Fred Dent, President, NWCCers

Officer Contact List

Our Board of Directors is ready to help you at any time.

Fred Dent, President
President@nwccers.org
206-915-9638

Russell Warren, Vice President
Vicepresident@nwccers.org
360-479-7012

Wayne Gabel, Secretary
Secretary@nwccers.org
503- 658-4260 home
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Dana Suttell Treasurer
Treasurer@nwccers.org
360-876-1197

Don Schleuse National
FMCA Director
Nationaldirector@nwccers.org
949-230-0390

Herb Harris Alt. National
FMCA Director
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360-430-3697

Terry Apple* Newsletter Editor
Newsletter@nwccers.org
503-982-0280; Cell 619-318-0318

David Roberts, Past President
dakatsrv@gmail.com 541-550-9660

Kris Casebeer*, Membership Chair
Lee Casebeer*, Assistant Membership Chair
Membership@nwccers.org 503-807-9936

*denotes non-voting member

Country Coach Destinations Magazine
<http://destinations.countrycoach.com>

Northwest Country Coachers Chapter of FMCA
c/o Wayne Gabel
22952 S.E. Bohna Park Rd
Damascus, OR 97089

Please Join the NWCCers Yahoo Group

The Yahoo Group is a great way to share information in a quick manner. There is considerable conversation about parts, repairs and general items of interest. This site is even more popular as we all search for answers about our Country Coach. It's fun, informative and free.
Contact Lee Casebeer at Lcasebeer@gmail.com.

Newsletter Editor

Notes

January's newsletter: Please have newsletter information to me by the last day in December. If you will be late, please let me know.

A member profile?

Pictures always welcome.

Plain text = Helpful/timesaving.

MARDI GRAS NORTH



We are looking for a few people who would like to join us for the **Second Annual Mardi Gras North**. "Official" dates will be Friday, February 17, through Sunday, February 19, with a "Meet-n-Greet" on

Friday, activities on Saturday, topped off by dinner (probably pot-luck) and followed by breakfast on Sunday with Vern's famous Kansas City Cinnamon Rolls. (We promise they'll get baked properly this time just as they were at Hot Lake.) I've been assured that we will be warmly welcomed back to Portland Fairview RV Park where we had such a delightful time last year. Some of our participants will be headed South this year, but those of us who remain here to "soak up" the winter weather enjoy gathering in early Spring to shake out our coach's kinks for the activities to come.

If you're interested, please drop me a line at:
glendas@croisan.com

FMCA Director's News

FMCA continues to face serious challenges due to the slow economic growth that is impacting the RV industry. It appeared that at the start of the year, the RV industry was on the mend but then the global economic issues put a halt to it. Unfortunately, our active membership is falling due to the economics, aging of the members and those that go on to other interests. At the end of October, the FMCA membership count was 87,545, down 639 from the previous month. This year, we have lost 5,921 members, which relates to a dues revenue loss of \$236,840.

During recent Executive Board meetings held in Cincinnati, discussions were held with the topic being how to further reduce expenses.

All per diem for the board was eliminated for the near future and the travel budget for the president and executive director has been suspended.

The Convention Committee recommended, and the Executive Board agreed, that all member staff/volunteers and Executive Board members pay for electricity at the convention if they want it. In the past, free electric was one of the perks allotted at a cost of about \$150 per coach.

The advance crew dinner will not take place in Indianapolis and \$10 coupons will be issued instead. Also, there will be no box lunches provided.

The Executive Board has begun meetings with Global Underwriters, the agent of record, for our FMCAssist program. There are some benefits that are not currently in the program and those are up for renegotiation. Another issue being discussed is the cost of the program which is \$385,000 per year. At the present time, our member base does not financially support this expenditure.

During his time as executive director, Brad Koshland instituted several restructuring moves at the national office to improve efficiency. All of these moves have taken place with minimal or no financial impact to FMCA. With the elimination of some positions and the departure of the executive director, a savings of approximately \$286,000 will be realized.

Sorry for all the doom and gloom, but, on the bright side, the Executive Board is rising to the challenge of not just doing business as usual. The Executive Board has made some decisions that were not easy and were not received well by some of its members; however, these decisions had to be made.

Barbara and I wish you a happy and joyous holiday season.

Travel safe.

Don Schleuse, National Director



*Sidetracks from
Herb Harris*

It may be worth over –
nighing the coach in
Wal*Mart parking lots
just for the entertainment
value!

Today's Special at Wal-Mart: Something Weird

**With Many Stores, Lots Happens;
Pranks, Dancing, 'Norman' Behind the
Coke Rack**

By *MIGUEL BUSTILLO* *WSJ Video 07/07/11*

—James Oberman contributed to this article.



From shopping carts taken for a joy ride to alligators in the parking lot, something strange is always going on at a Wal-Mart store. WSJ's Miguel Bustillo reports on the wacky, weird world of Wal-Mart.

Somewhere, something weird is going to go down this week at a [Wal-Mart](#). And next week. And the next.

Maybe a man dressed in a cow suit, crawling on all fours, will steal 26 gallons of milk from a Wal-Mart and hand them out Robin Hood-style to patrons in a parking lot, as allegedly occurred in Stafford, Va. in April.

Perhaps a glazed-eyed 20-year-old will take a truck filled with 338 boxes of Krispy Kreme doughnuts from a Wal-Mart before police find him drowsy and in possession of a bag of marijuana, as authorities say took place in Ocala, Fla., in March.

Or perchance a rapper named Mr. Ghetto will shoot an unauthorized, sexually suggestive music video paean to picking up women in the aisles of a Wal-Mart, full of ladies

shaking their hindquarters in ways hindquarters typically don't shake, as happened in New Orleans in May.

"The same women that are going to be at the club are going to be at Wal-Mart," Mr. Ghetto, aka Robert Mayes, says of his video, which has been viewed more than three million times on YouTube. "Only at Wal-Mart, you don't have to spend \$20 on drinks to talk to them."

There's no reason to believe that zany stuff happens per capita at Wal-Mart more than at other retail locations. Rather, it's the sheer ubiquity of the big-box titan—with some 3,750 U.S. stores visited by customers 140 million times a week—and its role as the de facto town square in many corners of the country, that keeps the company's public-relations representatives busy.

"Wal-Mart has become a microcosm of American life. So it is not uncommon to see our share of the things that happen in every town across the country," says David Tovar, a company spokesman.

That's not to say Wal-Mart liked the gyrating in Mr. Ghetto's video: "We do not condone that kind of activity in our store environments," he quickly added.

Almost any imaginable aspect of American life can and does take place inside Wal-Mart stores, from births to marriages to deaths. Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin once officiated a wedding at the Wal-Mart in her hometown of Wasilla.

So, it seems, can any conceivable mishap. A Maryland man wound up in an emergency room with a toilet seat stuck to him after pranksters in March doused a Wal-Mart restroom with glue. Last year, an Ohio shoplifter who jumped in a garbage bin outside Wal-Mart later called 911; he was being compacted, and needed rescue.

A shopper at a Wal-Mart in Falmouth, Mass., uncovered a dental mystery two years ago when she found 10 human teeth inside a wallet for sale that was imported from Asia.

"I wanted to investigate it further but my supervisor said it wasn't worth the trip to Taiwan," says Falmouth police detective James Pires.

Animal sightings are a subspecies of Wal-Mart weirdness. The most notorious was "Norman the Nutria," a rodent that took residence inside a Wal-Mart in Abbeville, La., and spooked a female customer so badly that she says she ran over her foot with a shopping cart in 2008, breaking two bones. She sued in Louisiana state court, alleging workers had been chasing the animal for days and had given it a nickname.



A nutria

Continued. . .

Today's Special at Wal-Mart: Something Weird

Continued from page 4

"They should have been warning people," says Anthony Fontana, the attorney for alleged victim Rebecca White, who says she's racked up \$58,000 in medical bills. "Those things get teeth as big as a beaver's."

Wal-Mart, which doesn't dispute the existence of the rodent, argued in its legal response that if a judge finds in favor of Ms. White, he must consider her "reacting in such a way as to startle the nutria."

It also alleges the customer erred by "failing to notice the presence of the nutria from behind the Coke rack when she should have."

Wal-Mart has even played a role in an outlaw legend: the tale of "Little Houdini," a Tennessee escape artist who is the subject of bluegrass and rap songs.

Little Houdini, whose real name is Christopher Daniel Gay, was convicted of numerous crimes last decade including stealing a Wal-Mart tractor trailer which he later said he needed to visit his sick mother, and taking country singer Crystal Gayle's tour bus and driving it to a Nascar race.

He declined a telephone interview from a Tennessee penitentiary where he is currently incarcerated, after a series of breakouts that included using a zipper to unlock his shackles in 2009, when authorities transporting him stopped for a bite at Waffle House.

"Stole a pickup in Carolina, then a Wal-Mart truck with 18 wheels/He drove toward his dyin' mama in them Cheatham County hills," goes "The Ballad of Christopher Daniel Gay" by Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Tim O'Brien.

One of the latest outbreaks of Wal-Mart weirdness took place in June in Texas. A 5-foot 2-inch shopper and mother of two named Monique Lawless, who later told a reporter she was "sick of the lawlessness," chased down three brothers after she spotted them allegedly running out of a store with stolen beer.

Her actions, which included hopping up and down on the hood of a car, led to the arrest of the brothers, named Sylvester Thompson: Sylvester Andre Thompson, Sylvester Durlentren Thompson and Sylvester Primitivo Thompson. They couldn't be reached for comment.

Ms. Lawless briefly became a televised folk hero after her hood dance was caught on surveillance cameras and aired repeatedly on cable news shows.

"If you care about your country, you can't watch a bunch of kids walk out of Wal-Mart with beer and not do anything about it," says Ms. Lawless, 42, adding that she recently autographed a Bible for an admirer at church.

"Sylvester, Sylvester and Sylvester: their families reached out" to her since the incident, Ms. Lawless says. "That meant a lot to me."

Members' Corner

Out of gift ideas?



Tired Old Ass Soak Mineral Bath Salts, for the Overworked and Underappreciated
Currently \$12.95

A "customer favorite" at the Vermont Country Store. Check out the store's description and video for this product. Also, see the reviews....

<http://www.vermontcountrystore.com/store>

Terry, Editor

NorthWest Country Coachers

Invoice for Membership Dues

December 2011

For: January 1 through December 31, 2012

Amount Due: \$25.00

Please send your payment to:

Dana Suttell
NorthWest Country Coachers
1894 SE Sedgwick Rd
STE 104, PMB 32
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Please review your personal information so that we may update our records.

Name: _____

Co Pilot: _____

Address: _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____

Cell(1) _____

Cell (2) _____

Alternate Address: _____

Email: _____

Our club now has the ability to accept your dues payment through PayPal. Please send us a check, or request a PayPal Invoice to be sent to you by email to complete the transaction.

I have enclosed a check (), please send me an invoice for PayPal ().



NWCCers Directory for CC Service and Parts

The following companies have been submitted to this directory by our club members. They have been found to be knowledgeable and helpful about Country Coaches. Most of these companies offer services locally (unless noted otherwise) but in many cases have provided technical assistance over the phone. If you need service or technical assistance call one of these companies to get started. **** Offers NWCCer Discount**

Company	Contact/NWCCers Relationship	Services
** Country Coach Corporation (2011) 135 East First Street Junction City, Oregon 97448 541-234-2167	Jim Cooley, Service Manager Ask about service discounts for NWCCers	Service Center www.countrycoach.com/coach-service-center/ CC Apparel: http://countrycoachwearables.promoshop.com/
** Guaranty RV Center So Hwy 99, Junction City, OR 877/463-0067	NWCCers exclusive sales dealer NWCCer \$25 discount on retail service	Service, Parts, Body Shop and RV Sales www.guarantyrv.com
Silverleaf Electronics 2472 SW Ferry St., Albany, OR 97322. 888/741-0259, 541/220-5494		Total Coach Monitoring System, Vehicle Monitoring System www.silverleafelectronics.com
Coach Solutions 3451 Kendra St Eugene, OR 97404 541/514-9000	Brian Van de Walker	House and Chassis Electrical; Audio/ Video including RTI Remotes Local service and Fly-in Anywhere USA
** Oregon Motorcoach Center 29417 Airport Rd Eugene, OR 97402 541/762-1505	Bob Lee, Founder of OMC and NWCCer Honorary Lifetime Member Present your NWCCer badge for discount. You will need verification that your club dues are current.	Interior restoration, modifications, remodel, service and parts www.oregonmotorcoach.com
Ollie's Fiberglass Lynnwood, WA 425/776-6040		Fiberglass repairs
Country Boys RV Mobile Service Eugene/Albany, OR area	Doug 541/935-0848 Andy 541/255-2169	General Motorhome repairs - mobile service www.cbrvservices.com/
RV Glass Solutions Eugene, OR 888/777-6778	Doug Rutherford – former CC Service Manager	Windshield replacement, glass and windows. Many CC windshields in stock. Call for a referral in your area. www.RVGlassExperts.com
Specialty Crate, Inc Logistics Division 41 North Danebo Ave Eugene, OR 97402 541/689-8840	Randy Stout	Country Coach parts – chassis, body and house.
Splendide (Westland Sales) 15650 SE 102 nd Ave Clackamas, OR 97015		Washing machine repairs
Salem Brake and Wheel Inc. 1235 12th Street SE Salem, OR 97302 503-581-3214	Kevin Smith	Alignment, Wheel Balance, Chassis Repair, Complete Brake Service, Complete Service, Gas/Diesel Repair, and More

Specialty Marine and RV 20781 Olmstead Road NE Aurora, OR 97002 503/678-6595 503/678-6501	Tom Dinsmore	Diesel powered coaches only Custom Accessories, Installations, Repairs and Services
Davis Cabinets 150 E 10 th Ave Junction City, OR 97448 (541)998-8778	Shaun Davis	Interior upgrades, cabinetry, window shades www.daviscabinets.com
Amazing Creations 93150 B Prairie Rd Junction City, OR 541-556-0501	Scott Adams	Custom cabinets, flooring and general remodeling/upgrades Amazingcreations1@yahoo.com
Kustom Coach Works PO Box 395 Halsey, OR 97348 541-501-3371	Bobby Vodden	Custom audio/video installations KustomCoachWorks@yahoo.com
Coach Masters of Bend 29525 Brandis Ct Bend, OR 97701 541-330-6863	Blake	Parts, Service, Repair Coachmasters@bendcable.com
Dave Root RV Glass Repair Bend, Or 541-280-3612	Dave Root	Reseals ,Thermo-Pane windows, all RV side windows www.daverootrvglassrepair.com/
Kevin Waite Junction City, OR 541-998-8132 (home) 541-953-6162 (CELL)		General coach repairs
Kaiser Brake and Alignment 265 Taylor St Eugene, OR 97402 541-344-5887		Alignment, brakes, tires
JDRV Inc LaPine, OR 541-306-6473	John Davis	Service and Repairs
Three Rivers Mobile Detailing Salem, 503-580-9261 (Referred by Herbert Harris)	Kael Beebe, Owner	Pressure wash and hand wax coaches, cars and boats, Eugene OR to Longview WA. 3riversmobiledetailing.com

Do you have experience with anyone else who offers CC expertise and assistance that has helped you in a pinch? Send us their information and we'll add them to our list. newsletter@nwccers.org *Rev. 10/04/2011*