



EVENT CALENDAR

All events sponsored by NWCCers unless noted by

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2012 Calendar

Aug 31-Sept 3 Labor Day on the Ocean Annual Meeting ~ Long Beach, WA, Fred Dent, pp.7-8.

Sept 19-23 Casey's Riverfront RV Park, Westfir, OR ~ Wayne and Sarah Gabel, pp.9-10.

Oktoberfest ~ need Wagonmaster and location.

Nov 21-25 Thanksgiving with NWCCers ~ Portland Fairview RV Park, Fairview, OR, Fred Dent, p.16.

2013 Calendar

Feb 7-10, Mardi GrasNorth, Woodburn RV Park, Next to Woodburn Company Stores, Woodburn, OR, Les and Terry Apple.

May 16-19 Hoodspport, WA. Frank and Dana Suttell.



Editorial Note: The story of Rose was submitted by Glenda Serex. The source is: inspiring_quotes_and_stories.com. The story has been published herein with only scant editing from that of the source. Although the story is about Rose and inspiration, it is also a story about friends, which is the overriding theme expressed time and again by our NWCCers members. Thank you, Glenda.

ROSE

The story, Rose, is about someone who goes on to fulfill her dream of graduating in spite of her old age. This is rare in our culture now. But if we can be inspired from her attitude, we may have the courage to learn regardless of where we are or how old we are.

The first day of college our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know.

I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?"

I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze. "Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked.

She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids..."

"No seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age.

"I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milk shake.

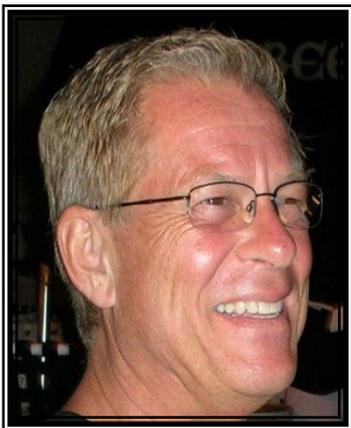
We became instant friends.

Every day for the next three months, we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

Continued on page 14.....

President's Corner



I received some feedback from the Board regarding Bylaws changes. Most of the comments were affirmative for everything with some questions about the rotation of Board members. The way the proposed change is stated reflects our current practice. We can

certainly discuss it at the meeting and change the rotation any way the membership sees fit.

I have left the proposed changes the way they were when I sent them to the Board last month and have asked Lee Casebeer to send the proposed changes with the Annual Meeting notice to all the members before August 2.

The Annual Meeting Notice and the proposed Bylaws changes will be in the Newsletter as well.

The Membership Directory topic has also brought constructive comments as well as a few cautionary comments along the lines of "You can please some of the people some of the time, but..." Lee and I have worked together to put the membership database into Microsoft Access to facilitate making a photo Membership Directory

Based on Board feedback, we will move ahead with three versions:

1) Color Photo Directory in PDF format e-mailed to the members to keep the cost minimal. The Directory will have a comment that the Directory is for chapter member use only and should not be distributed. Requests for copies of the Directory should be referred to the Membership Chairman. This Directory will contain mailing address, e-mail address and phone numbers as well as membership information. Members can print their directory on a color printer or request a color printed copy from the Membership Committee at cost.

2) A Membership Directory exactly like the Photo Directory, but without photos, available from the Membership Committee.

3) A Web Directory will be posted in a password protected area of the NWCCers web site. This Directory will have basic chapter membership information, but list only an e-mail address for contact information.

Rally Directory - we will be able to easily produce a Rally Participant Directory from the chapter records for each Chapter event.

I hope to have the Directory ready for the Annual Meeting. Copies of the current versions of the Photo and Web Directories have been distributed via e-mail.

Fred Dent, President, NorthWest Country Coachers an FMCA Chapter

President@nwccers.org

**?????? Do we have your photograph ??????
NWCCers Photo Directory coming soon**

Don't let this happen to you!!



We are currently preparing a Membership Photo Directory from our current database and collection of photographs that we have collected at various chapter functions over the past few years, but we are missing lots of folks' pictures! If you have a favorite close-up photo you would like used or just want to be sure we have your photo, you can easily send it to us via our chapter web site. You will find a link on the left side of our home page or use this direct link <http://nwccers.org/Members/photoupdate.htm>. You can also find someone with a camera at a chapter function to capture your smiles for the directory.

**NorthWest Country Coachers
Proposed Bylaws changes
2012**

Proposed Change Number 1

ARTICLE III – MEMBERS, paragraph 6

Existing bylaw:

“6. Membership Types

A. Voting Members

1. Regular Member Meets all chapter eligibility requirements and owns a Country Coach at the beginning of the dues year.

B. Non-Voting Members

1. Associate Met all eligibility criteria when joining the club but has since sold their Country Coach and currently owns a MotorHome from another manufacturer.

2. Commercial Member Membership in this classification is granted by the Board of Directors. Members in this classification must have either a personal FMCA membership or work for a company who maintains a Commercial FMCA membership.”

C. Charter Member means the initial 41 members who was a member of this chapter at the time it obtained the original charter from FMCA. The voting privileges of Charter Members will be consistent with their current membership classification.

Explanation of proposed change:

There have been numerous discussions at our rallies over the last three or four years about maintaining our members. The Board has listened to member input and proposes this change to accommodate member concerns. This change will not open our membership to new members who do not own a country Coach but will provide for retaining members that we sometimes lose. At this time we are receiving new member applications at a greater pace than we saw over the last few years since Country Coach closed and do not propose to change our initial membership requirements at this time. This change will only remove the requirement of owning a Country coach to remain a member in NWCCers. The only requirement to maintain membership will be to maintain current status in FMCA and pay NWCCers annual dues. Associate members who do not own a Country Coach will be able to vote on all chapter business including elections, serve as committee chairman, committee members and wagon masters but will not be able to be elected as an officer (ByLaw Article IV.3.A). This change will move Associate Member from the Non-Voting Members section to the Voting Members section and delete the requirement for owning a MotorHome from another manufacturer. Article IV.2.A does not need to change because it already states that an officer must own at least 1/3 interest in a Country Coach (determined by the names on the title, not the lienholder amount).

Proposed Bylaw Article III.6 (changes underlined):

6. Membership Types

A. Voting Members

1. Regular Member Meets all chapter eligibility requirements and owns a Country Coach at the beginning of the dues year.

2. Associate Met all eligibility criteria when joining the club, has a current membership in FMCA but has since sold their Country Coach.

B. Non-Voting Members

1 Commercial Member Membership in this classification is granted by the Board of Directors. Members in this classification must have either a personal FMCA membership or work for a company who maintains a Commercial FMCA membership.

C. Charter Member means the initial 41 members who was a member of this chapter at the time it obtained the original charter from FMCA. The voting privileges of Charter Members will be consistent with their current membership classification.

Continued. . .

Proposed Change Number 2

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS, paragraph 2

Existing ByLaw:

- “1. DUTIES OF OFFICERS:** *The duties of elected officers shall be as defined in the Member and Volunteer Handbook.*
- 2. TERMS OF OFFICE:** *The elected officers of this Chapter shall serve a 2 year term of office, or until their successors are elected commencing no later than January 1 of the year following their election. The terms of officers shall be staggered such that only one half of the Board of Directors is replaced each year.”*

Explanation of proposed change:

The existing ByLaws are not clear as to which officers are to be elected each year. The intent of this ByLaw is to add continuity to the Board with two year terms, allow progression from Vice President to President and from Alternate National Director to National Director. This change proposes adding clarifying language to Article IV.2 which reflects our current officer rotation.

Proposed Bylaw Article IV.2 (changes underlined):

2. TERMS OF OFFICE: The elected officers of this Chapter shall serve a 2 year term of office, or until their successors are elected commencing no later than January 1 of the year following their election. The terms of officers shall be staggered such that only one half of the Board of Directors is replaced each year. Officers shall be elected in the year indicated in the following table:

- a) Even numbered election years:
Secretary, National Director, Alternate National Director
- b) Odd numbered election years:
President, Vice President, Treasurer

Proposed Change Number 3

ARTICLE VII – ELECTIONS

Existing ByLaw:

“1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMPOSITION:

- A. The Nominating Committee shall consist of not less than 3 Chapter members in good standing, nominated and elected yearly by the Chapter membership.*
- B. Election of an individual to the Nominating Committee shall not prohibit that person from being nominated for elected office.*

2. NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUTIES:

- A. To select one of its members as Nominating Committee Chairman.*
- B. To nominate candidates for the Chapter Offices of President, 1 Vice President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, National Director, and an Alternate National Director for the new term to be presented for voting by the Chapter membership.*
- C. To obtain clear acceptance of the nominees to serve the Chapter should they be elected.*
- D. To make certain that nominated candidates are members in good standing and qualified under applicable National and Chapter bylaws.*
- E. To nominate candidates to fill vacancies that occur in elected Chapter offices.”*

Explanation of proposed change:

The existing ByLaws are not clear how the Nominating Committee is to be formed each year. The current ByLaw requires the Nominating Committee to be elected by the membership every year. Election by the membership is an FMCA requirement. The Nominating Term on one year is an option allowed to the chapter and was approved by the membership when our chapter was formed. This ByLaw change adds the Nominating Committee Members to the list of nominees that the Nominating Committee is to present for election each year. The committee includes a minimum of three elected members. The ByLaws are tacit as to the requirements of the Nominating Committee Member qualifications other than “from the membership” so it can be presumed that any member listed in Article IV could serve as a member of the Nominating Committee.

- E. To nominate candidates to fill vacancies that occur in elected Chapter offices.”*

Continued. . .

Proposed Bylaw Article VII.2.B (changes underlined):

2. NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUTIES:

- A. To select one of its members as Nominating Committee Chairman.
- B. To nominate candidates for the Chapter Offices of President, 1 Vice President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, National Director, an Alternate National Director and 3 members for the Nominating Committee for the new term to be presented for voting by the Chapter membership.
- C. To obtain clear acceptance of the nominees to serve the Chapter should they be elected.
- D. To make certain that nominated candidates are members in good standing and qualified under applicable National and Chapter bylaws.
- E. To nominate candidates to fill vacancies that occur in elected Chapter offices.”

End . . .

EDITOR'S NOTICE: The preceding bylaws information was published herein as submitted and without edit due to prior distribution to membership for approval.

CLASSIFIED AD

**Recommended by:
Lee Casebeer & Tom Lowery
Services: Complete RV Repair**



See listing on page 18.

Members' Corner

Nothing like returning home from vacation and finding your rig parked on the side of the road 15 kms from your house? ...Herb

Motorhome Taken on Unauthorized Trip

Police looking for culprits CFTK TV Local News
Kathy Brookes 7/25/2012

RCMP in Terrace are looking for answers after a motorhome went for an unauthorized trip.

The owner of the recreational vehicle was returning home from vacation yesterday when they discovered it on the side of Highway 16 about 15 kilometres west of Kitwanga.

Police say the 1985 GMC motorhome must have been taken from where it was left at 4534 Kalum Street in Terrace sometime between July 16th and yesterday.

When it was discovered, the vehicle wouldn't start, but it didn't appear to have been damaged, and only a few items were taken from inside.



NWCCers Annual Meeting
Labor Day Weekend
Andersen's on the Ocean
Long Beach, WA
August 31 – September 3, 2012

We will hold our Annual Meeting at our Labor Day rally at Andersen's on the Beach. We elect officers at our annual meeting and this year will consider a couple bylaw revisions. Nominations for elections were opened at a brief chapter meeting held at the FMCA Northwest Area pre-rally at Oceanside RV Park in Charleston, OR, the weekend before the FMCA Northwest Area rally in June.

Andersen's has been a gracious host for us in the past and our rallies at their facility have been popular. This is the first time we have planned a Labor Day weekend event and hope that the extra time over the weekend and gathering earlier in the year will attract more members to attend. Because it is a holiday weekend, we need to get reservations gathered as early as possible. If you are planning to come, please register as soon as possible.

Registration is now open for the Labor Day rally. We are still planning the weekend activities, but you can anticipate that the meeting will be planned for Sunday and we may plan an optional night out for dinner at a local restaurant. Here is what is tentatively planned:

Thursday, August 30. Early Bird Arrival

Informal happy hour

Friday, August 31

Check in begins around noon

6 PM - Meet and Greet – Clubhouse or lawn depending on the weather

BYO beverage and a heavy appetizer. Main dishes not required.

8 PM or so – Stories around the campfire weather permitting

Saturday, September 1

8:30 – 10 AM – Continental breakfast in the Clubhouse**

10 AM – 2 PM – Basically on your own or pick and choose

10 AM – Dogs to the Beach

10 AM – NWCCers GeoCache Challenge

10 AM – NWCCers Kite Challenge

2 PM – 5 PM – Weather permitting activities on the lawn

6 PM – Happy Hour on the lawn or in the Clubhouse depending on the weather ***

7 PM – Pot Luck Dinner – or – Dinner in town

9 PM – Ghost Stories around the campfire. Come tell your ghost story – prizes at the annual meeting dinner.

Sunday, September 2

8:30 – 10 AM – Continental Breakfast

10 AM – 2 PM – On your own or pick and choose

10 AM - Dogs to the Beach

10 AM – Treasure hunt challenge

10 AM – Go buy a kite

2 – 5 PM – Activities on the lawn – get those kites in the air!

5:30 PM – Happy hour on the lawn or in the Clubhouse ***

6:30 PM – NWCCers Dinner – NWCCers will furnish the main entrée, pot luck side dishes

7:30 PM – Annual Meeting

Campfire following (weather permitting) – tell your RV stories

Monday, September 3

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM – “Breaking Up is Hard to Do” Breakfast in the Clubhouse**

Depart by Noon

** Everybody will get one breakfast to coordinate. Continental breakfasts should be fairly light. Pastries, juice, coffee, bagels, etc. There are grocery stores in the area and a Costco not far away.

*** Bring your own beverage and a snack to share before dinner.

Included here is the registration form for Labor Day weekend or you can register on our web site using your credit card at

www.nwccers.org

**Northwest Country Coachers
Andersen's RV Park On The Ocean
NWCCers Annual Meeting – Advanced Reservation
August 31 through September 3**

Reservations: Please make your reservation through NWCC (see below) and not directly with Andersen's. We need your reservation as soon as possible

Reservation must be received by July 31!

This year will not likely be a clamming event, but we'll still have fun enjoying the Long Beach area. The park has a very forgiving cancellation policy as long as your cancellation is received 7 days before arrival. This is an open event for members and friends of NWCCers. Spread the word and invite your RV friends too. The balance of your site rental is payable upon check in. You may reserve a few additional days either before or after the planned club event when you make your reservation through NWCCers. Their nightly rate through September is \$40. A \$50.00 Deposit is required to hold your reservation (first night park rent \$40 plus \$10 rally fee). Cancellations/Refunds: Due to the holiday weekend, the cancellation policy is a little stricter than usual. Cancellations received before August 15: Full refund (rally fee and first night deposit). Cancellations received August 15 or later: The NWCCers rally fee (\$10) will not be refunded. Your first night deposit will be refunded at the discretion of Andersen's RV Park. Please make reservations and reservation changes through NWCCers for this event.

Name(s): _____

E-mail Address (for confirmation, so be sure this is legible!):

Telephone: (____) _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Coach Length: _____ No. of Slides: _____ Towing?: Yes No

Pets (number, type, size): _____

Member of NWCCers? Yes No If no, what is your FMCA No? _____

_____ I am not a member of either FMCA or NWCCers (All are welcome, rates are the same for everyone.)

All sites are full hookup (20/30/50 Amp) with cable. Please make your \$50 deposit check payable to "NorthWest Country Coachers." Complete this form and mail it with your check (payable to "NorthWest Country Coachers") (one form per coach) to:

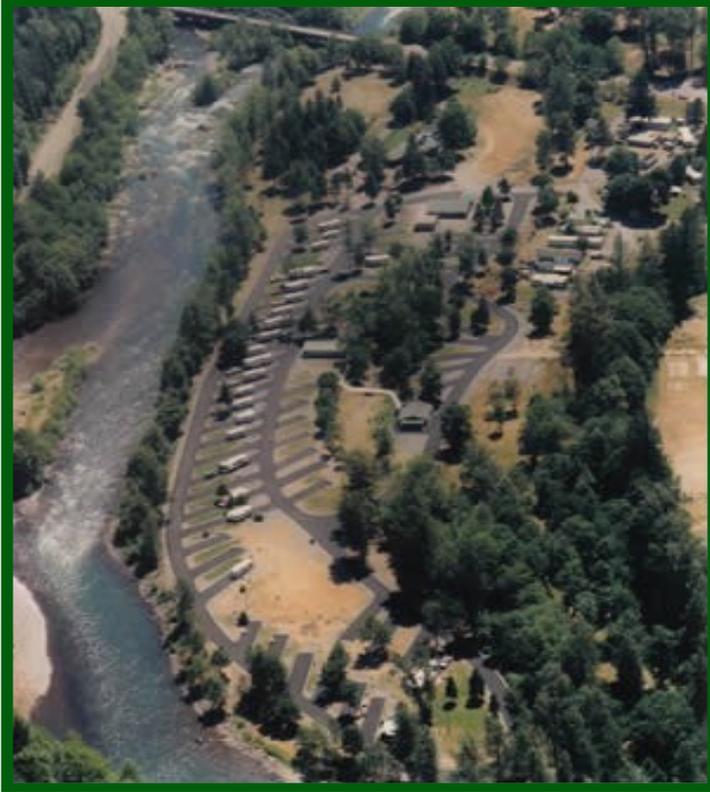
NWCCers
c/o Dana Suttell, Treasurer
3965 Bethel RD SE
STE 1, PMB 32
Port Orchard, WA 98366-1976

Reservations may also be made with your credit card online at NWCCers.org. Click on Rally Information, then choose Long Beach. Questions? E-mail to President@nwccers.org or call 206-915-9638.

Casey's Riverside RV Park

Westfir, Oregon

September 19 - 23, 2012
(541)782-1906



great clubhouse for our use, which has a large fireplace, large screen TV, fully-equipped kitchen and lots of games and puzzles for our enjoyment. There is also a covered open-air pavilion with picnic tables and propane heaters and a soft ice cream machine (only \$1 for a cone or dish). Westfir and nearby Oakridge are very laid-back towns. In the area, you'll find waterfalls, covered bridges, hiking and biking trails, beautiful Odell Lake, a fish hatchery and there is a ski lift just 31 miles away at Willamette Pass. During the non-ski season, folks can ride gondolas to the top for a spectacular view of the surrounding area. Geocachers can seek out several caches hidden in the Westfir and Oakridge area. Or just set up a lawn chair and watch and listen to the beautiful Willamette River rush by. This will be a relaxing rally and will NOT be filled with scheduled activities, but will be a chance to get together in a beautiful setting and enjoy each other's company.

We will gather in the clubhouse or the pavilion for "happy hour" with light snacks each late afternoon. We'll also have one potluck dinner and on Saturday morning, the Wagon Masters will serve a biscuits and gravy breakfast.

September is always a beautiful month in the Pacific Northwest and we hope you'll make your plans to join us. The nightly rate is \$37.28, including tax, but if you want to stay longer, the weekly rate is \$234.35, including tax. When you call Casey's at (541) 782-1906 to make your reservation, tell them you're with the NW Country Coach group and provide a credit card and a \$35 deposit to hold your reservation.

In order for the Wagon Masters to have an idea of how many are planning to attend, please email us at wsgood@frontier.com. Hurry and make that call to Casey's so you can be assured of having a riverfront site.

Fill out the registration form and send with the \$10 rally fee per coach to:

Dana Suttell
3965 Bethel Rd, SE.
Ste. 1, PMB 32
Port Orchard, WA 98366-1976

Wayne & Sarah Gabel, Wagon Masters

Summer is upon us and RV time is in full swing. Look at your calendar and see if Sept. 19-23 is available. If so, you should make plans to come to the rally at Casey's RV Park in Westfir, OR. Casey's is located about 40 miles southeast of Eugene, OR, on Highway 58. It is on the banks of the beautiful Willamette River. The 15 waterfront pull-through sites are filling up fast, but there are still a few available...but hurry. We have reserved additional sites nearby, which includes the pet area. The waterfront sites for our group face directly toward the river that is just a stone's throw away. We have stayed at the park several times and it is so relaxing to enjoy the sound of the river running just 150' or so past the front of your coach. It is a very restful setting. We've seen kayakers and drift boats going down river. The grounds are beautifully maintained and there's a



**Registration Form for NWCCer's Rally at Casey's
Riverside RV Park
Westfir, Oregon
September 19 – 23, 2012**

Name of Pilot _____

Name of Co-Pilot _____

Email address _____

Phone number _____

Length of Coach _____

Arrival Date _____ **Departure Date** _____

Call Casey's at (541) 782-1906 to reserve your site. They require a \$35 deposit to hold your site.

Make your \$10.00 rally fee/deposit check payable to NorthWest Country Coachers and mail with this form to:

**Dana Suttell, Treasurer NorthWest Country Coachers
3965 Bethel Rd. SE, STE 1, PMB 32
Port Orchard, WA 98366-1976**

**You may also register online with your credit card at
<http://nwccers.org/rallies.htm>**



*Sidetracks from
Herb Harris*

Looks like there are going to be some big changes in how Washington State Parks are managed and funded starting next year! ... Herb

Washington Parks Forced to Become Self-Sufficient

August 2, 2012 by [RV Business](#)

As Washington's storied parks prepare for their 100th birthday next year, celebratory sentiment has been tempered by a fundamental question: What kind of system can this cash-strapped state afford?

With many areas of state government reeling from budget cuts, lawmakers in Olympia have given Washington's parks system an unprecedented mandate to begin operating with no state funding beginning in 2013, the *Seattle Times* reported.

It has been a rough transition. The linchpin in this new model is the Discover Pass, a \$30 annual or \$10 daily parking permit needed to access parks and other state lands. But a year after taking effect, the pass has brought in less than half of the \$32 million expected.

Now the parks system is under mounting pressure to move toward a new, self-funding model that can keep all its 117 parks and properties open.

"We are no longer getting a free check from the government," said Don Hoch, director of state parks. "We are now in competition. We have to provide people a service (users) want to come for in order to pay our bills."

The idea is for the park system to operate more like a business, but that is new ground for a system more accustomed to park preservation than collecting user data and mounting marketing campaigns.

Hoch said the parks must strike a delicate balance between attracting younger users with new amenities like Wi-Fi, developing new revenue streams and determining the level of service the parks can afford to offer.

"At no time in our 100-year history have we been in a position like this, where we have to make so many tough decisions," said Hoch.

Heads up! When travelling in British Columbia this summer near Ascension, be sure to check the bridge height signs stacked neatly next to the bridge before proceeding? ...Herb

Low crossing robs motorhome of air conditioning

The Journal Pioneer, July 25, 2012

ASCENSION – A couple from British Columbia, travelling in a 1977 Ford motorhome, lost their roof-mounted air conditioning unit Tuesday when they attempted to pass under a Confederation Trail overpass in Ascension.

Const. John Russell from the West Prince RCMP investigated the incident and said the signs that would normally warn of the three-meter overhead clearance were stacked neatly on the side of the road, out of view.

Russell said it appears the signs might have been removed while renovations were carried out on the Black Bridge, which is located on Route 160 between Tignish and Ascension.

Neither the 68-year-old driver nor his 65-year-old female passenger was injured, Russell said. He said the bridge structure caught the air conditioning unit and sheared off the bolts, which mounted it to the roof of the motor home, resulting in very little damage to the motor home itself.

The officer said another camper, which was considerably higher, was following the Ford motorhome and stopped in time after its driver observed the 12:30 p.m. collision.

Aqua-Hot 450 D - A Cautionary Tale

By Fred Dent

- “Service your Aqua-Hot system annually”
- “Have service done by a qualified professional”
- “Main heat source is diesel; use the electric for intermittent hot water needs. Use diesel heat source for continuous hot water in the shower.”

Live by the Aqua-Hot rules and life is warm and toasty, right? Not necessarily so compadre! I have my Aqua-Hot serviced every spring (usually twice because after the service man leaves it generally quits working altogether--second service always done with an apology and a lame explanation). What never occurred to me was to ask them to also check the electric heat source, which apparently is not part of the regular servicing.

Here is my tale. I have been living with the electric heat on most of the time and switch to diesel only when it is too cold for the reverse cycle air to produce heat or when I'm taking a shower. The other day I woke up to stone-cold water even though the electric switch was on with the pilot lamp glowing normally. I switched to diesel to get through the morning and then shut the entire system off.

I decided to troubleshoot the system myself to check the obvious, like tripped breakers or an overload trip of some sort. You know, the regular drill. The 120-volt breaker and the 12-volt breakers were fine, but I reset them anyway. I also pressed the Low Voltage Rest on the Aqua-Hot control panel. To decipher the LEDs on the panel, I had to download the Installation and Service Manuals (the Owner's Manual was little help).

The lamps on the Aqua-Hot were illuminated properly, but still no heat. I was an electronics tech in the Navy, so troubleshooting the controls and electrical didn't seem too daunting in the Service Manual. So, armed with a screw driver and my trusty multimeter, I followed the troubleshooting guide. To my relief, I found that the electronic control panel was fine. That left just a couple fairly conventional electrical items to check--a 12-volt relay and the heater element (which I was beginning to suspect). It was getting late, so the rest of the tale was saved for the following day. That evening, I read all of the relevant troubleshooting and repair sections of the Aqua-Hot manuals, including the rather daunting task of replacing the electric heating element and all the boiler antifreeze (requires a transfer pump--you fill the reservoir from the bottom through the drain fitting).

The next day, I checked the 12-volt relay and 120-volt supply. The easiest part was disconnecting shore power and turning off the breakers to the Aqua-Hot. The harder part was access to the 120-volt connections and the relay. In my Aqua-Hot, the 120-volt system is next to the diesel burner toward the bottom of the unit and, of course, on the far side in cramped quarters with the relay mounted inside a 4" x 4" box.

Continued

Aqua-Hot 450 D - A Cautionary Tale

By Fred Dent

Continued...

The first thing I discovered was that Country Coach had not installed the 120-volt terminal block outside and above the 120-volt box as depicted in the wiring diagrams and photos in the Service Manual. I removed the cover of the 120-volt box (a 4" x 4" junction box mounted over the heating element). I found not just some, but ALL of the wires burned with melted insulation! The white 120-volt return wire was completely bare up to the wire entrance into the box. The black load wire insulation was melted severely and the green ground wire was melted as well! All of the yellow wire nuts were melted. The wire nut on the white return wire was so severely melted that it fell off. Even more disturbing, the bare bond wire to the electrical box was broken off at the crimped-on connector at the bonding screw. It may have broken off when I opened the box, but, nonetheless, it was not secure. I have no explanation as to why the circuit breaker didn't trip. More surprising is that it didn't catch fire and cause serious damage to the coach.

Country Coach did not leave enough wire to pull into the box to make repairs, so I disconnected the harness and pulled it out of the Aqua-Hot junction box. I rewired the connections inside the box with new wire, made secure connections, installed a new bond to the box and ran a pigtail out to a terminal block as shown in the Aqua-Hot Installation and Service Manuals. I peeled back the existing harness until I got to undamaged insulation (about 10 inches!) and connected the existing harness to the new terminal block. When I finished installing the new wiring, I checked continuity and grounds before I applied power. I turned everything back on and checked the current draw to be sure it was within normal parameters.

Thirty minutes later I had hot water again using the electric heater.

Total cost of repairs about seven dollars. Troubleshooting took about three hours, including research and the actual repair took about two hours, not including shopping for parts.

I was lucky to have had the electric heater fail before a fire started or more serious electrical problems occurred.

Moral of the story--be sure that your service man opens the 120-volt electrical box and inspects the wiring every time you have service done. Also ask them to measure the resistance through the electric heater coil to make sure it meets specifications. If the resistance is too high or too low- you are due for a replacement element--a job best left to the Aqua-Hot man unless you happen to have the required transfer pump lying around and can tolerate the mess.

Here is the web site where I found the necessary Aqua-Hot manuals:

<http://www.aquahot.com/Library.aspx>

Rose

Continued from page 1....

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor.

Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order, so let me just tell you what I know." As we laughed she cleared her throat and began.

"We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old.

If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

She concluded her speech by courageously singing "The Rose." She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives.

At the year's end, Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be.

Remember, growing older is mandatory, growing up is optional.

We make a Living by what we get;

We make a Life by what we give.

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.

Good friends are like stars...

You don't always see them, but you know they are always there.'

Submitted by: Glenda Serex

Source: inspiring_quotes_and_stories.com.

Published in this newsletter with scant edit. s/Editor

NorthWest Country Coachers

An FMCA Chapter, Chartered September 29, 2007, as a Local Northwest Area Country Coach Owner's Club.

Membership Application

Date: _____

Referred By: _____

Driver Name _____	Co-Pilot Name _____	
Date of Birth: (MM/DD) _____	Date of Birth: (MM/DD) _____	Anniversary: (MM/DD) _____
Mailing Address:		
Street: _____	City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
Phones: Home () _____	Driver Cell () _____	Co-Pilot Cell: () _____
Residence Address if different than mailing:		
Street: _____	City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
More Information:		
*FMCA # _____	CCI # -Optional _____	Email Address: _____
Your Country Coach Information:		
Year: _____	Length: _____	Model: _____ Coach # _____

Emergency Contact:	
Contact: _____	Relationship _____
Phone: () _____	Address: _____
Special Medical Information: _____	

Your Special Interests: _____
Names and Types of Pets in Coach: _____
Your Favorite Activities: _____

*We are a chapter of FMCA; therefore, our members must also be current FMCA members.

Our annual membership fee is \$25 with an additional one-time \$25 application fee. Application dues received after September 31 will cover the remainder of the calendar year and the following year.

Send your \$50 check (NWCCers Application fee + first-year dues) Payable to NORTHWEST COUNTRY COACHERS to:

Dana Suttell, Treasurer
3965 Bethel Rd SE, Suite 1, PMB 32
Port Orchard, WA. 98366-1976
treasurer@nwccers.org

Please join our yahoo group for continued communication and e-letters: NW-CC-ers@yahoogroups.com

Chapter Website: nwccers.org

Applicant Signatures

Driver _____ Co-Pilot _____

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
503- 927-2921 cell

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
AltNationaldirector@nwccers.org
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

Lee Casebeer*, Membership Chair
Kris 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.

Checkout our
website :
[http://www.
nwccers.org](http://www.nwccers.org)

Thank you to all our members for the great support of our banner project. All 12 have been sold and delivered and they have made a great presence at a couple of our events. Frank and I are willing to make a few more, but only in batches of 6 and pre-ordered. If you are interested in one of the banners, please send me a note and I will put your name on a list until we have 6, then I will let you know when to send in the money.

Thanks, Dana

Additional Event Information

Thanksgiving with NWCCers
November 21-25
Portland Fairview RV Park
Fairview, OR

This is an open rally, so all RV friends are welcome to register. Drive-in and walk-in guests are welcome, but space might be limited for guests at dinner. Please register guests with NWCCers in advance.

Fred Dent, Wagon Master

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	Doug Beaudry, 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 Effective 01/03/2012: Current NWCCers Badge gets 10% discount on Parts.*	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 Fax: 541/762-1509 www.oregonmotorcoachcenter.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 K&M Mobile R.V. Repair LLC 95430 Noraton Rd. Junction City, OR 97448 <u>541-953-6162</u> (Cell)	Kevin Waite (Former Country Coach Service Tech. & Owner)	Mobile Repairs Technical Support Country Coach Parts <u>kvn.wt.7629@gmail.com</u>
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	Kael Beebe, Owner (Referred by Herbert Harris)	Pressure wash and hand wax coaches, cars and boats, Eugene OR to Longview WA. <u>3riversmobiledetailing.com</u>
Premier RV Services Sales - Service - Storage 325 E First Ave, Junction City, OR 97448 Office: <u>541-998-2640</u>	Gary 541-554-3997 (Referred by: Brian & Kay Case Bend, OR)	<u>premierrvstorage@gmail.com</u>
Bend RV Repair 62980 Boyd Acres Rd. Unit A-2 Bend, Oregon 97701 <u>541-388-5448</u>	Jeff Spear (Referred by Lee Casebeer and Tom Lowery)	Services: Complete RV Repair <u>www.bendrrepair.com</u>

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. 08/05/2012*