



TRAILBLAZER



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Nancy Breeding, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Members,
We have begun our 2018-2019 club year and it is an honor to serve as your president. I hope many of you will consider serving in the future!

A very grateful "thank you" to **Bob Gibson** for his outstanding leadership of our club. We are all sorry Bob had the need to step down, but we all thank him for his service and wish him well.

Many thanks to **T Burgess** for her time served as Rally VP. In addition, I'd like to thank our returning Board Members – **Gerry Rutter**, Membership VP; **Dottie Norris**, Treasurer; **Debbie Person**, Secretary; **Charlie Breeding**, Nominating Committee Chairman and **Nancy Breeding** for her continued hard work as Editor publishing our "Trailblazer" quarterly newsletter. We want to welcome aboard our newest officer, Linda Henderson, Rally VP. Linda has left the runway at full speed and is soaring higher and higher with a completed rally schedule for 2019 and has begun on the 2020 sites. Please give her a hand, step up and host a rally!

As we begin our new club year we hope to have 100% renewals, welcome new members and have everyone participate to reap the benefits of membership as part of the Chinook Camping Club.

We extend a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season to all! See you in January!
Eileen



FALL RALLY WRAP-UP



The club had another great rally in Asheville in the fall, with 38 Chinooks and one cabin at the Asheville East KOA. Welcome to new members and first time rally attendees: **Gary & Sherry Higgins, Jan Shaffer, Phoebe & Jim Reed.**

As usual, food was a star of the rally, from the first night meet and greet through the tasty breakfasts, pot luck dinner and barbecue on the last night. Many thanks to **Bob & Charmaine Gibson, Linda & Jim Stamper** for making the catering, entertainment arrangements (a joyful return engagement by the Sigmon Stringers) and shopping. **Terry and Sally Arnold** brought the fall colors to the tables with beautiful and creative candle centerpieces. And thanks to all



those who helped out with setup, cooking, cleaning, and other tasks, and especially to **Ed Cremens** for his ever-present camera skills. That's what is so great about our club—members jump in to get it done!

Terry Arnold did a terrific job as always sharing tech tips, with additional contributions by **Tom Jackson** and others who shared experiences with problems, upgrades, or solutions. Especially as our rigs are no longer in production, advice from others with knowledge and experience can help us keep running and traveling. We had some productive time visiting each others Chinooks to see updates, changes and fixes, including admiring the new paint job of **Eileen and Russ Disbrow's** new-to-them Chinook. And watched **Greg Snedden** as he did an install of bright new headlights. New to the event: a first-ever single female traveler roundtable, but open to anyone.

We were sad to say goodbye to **Bob Gibson** as president, and thank him for his service to the club. He and Charmaine have stayed on as associate members, so it will be great to keep in touch. And we also want to thank **T Burgess** for her time as VP Rally chair, making sure we get together four times a year!

The Annual Meeting & Election brings us the following officers for the 2018–2019 year:

President: Eileen Disbrow
VP Membership: Gerry Rutter
VP Rally: Linda Henderson (Assisted by Deborah Marks & Pat Bosley)
Treasurer: Dottie Norris
Secretary: Debbie Person
Nominating Committee Chairman: Charlie Breeding



TECH NOTES FROM THE FALL RALLY— from Mark McCluski

Tech Talk - Fall 2018 Asheville East KOA

Winterizing - Many different ways. Terry uses a compressor to blow water out of lines. Need a plastic air valve to screw into city water connection. Empty gray and black tanks. Open fresh water drain valve (under the sofa between the tank and the water pump). On hot water heater, make sure water in heater is not hot. Remove anode: takes an 1 1/16 inch socket. Open release valve to drain. Use garden hose to clean out debris from bottom of water heater.



Set an air compressor for 20 to 40 PSI. Open up all the faucets. Extend hoses for showers and toilet. Turn on compressor ("just give it a pop"). You'll hear the water come out. Drain water out of line. The water from your lines will drain into the grey water tank, which theoretically is safe to empty onto the ground. Operate toilet handle until drained. Turn off compressor. Close faucets or leave open. Hang hoses back up. Remove remaining water in bottom of water heater with a turkey baster.

Use RV antifreeze (pink stuff, not automotive). Using turkey baster, put some antifreeze in base of water heater ("2 or 3 bulbs"). Replace anode or not. Pour some RV antifreeze into each drain, not more than a cup. Cup or two in the toilet tank, then close the toilet valve and put some in the bowl to sit on top of the valve. Pour some into shower drain and bathroom sink. Terry puts a couple of cups into the main water tank; some people don't. Leave all the taps open or close them.

In Maine Harold fills the entire system with antifreeze.

Cold Weather Camping - If on the road and running heat (furnace or a space heater) the water system stays functional. If its real cold open the doors so the heat can reach the water lines. Winterize as soon as you can when you're home.

The bathroom plumbing is particularly vulnerable. There is no insulation: the lines are visible if you open the outside rear compartment. You can put in some R13 insulation and stuff it up with a broom handle. DO NOT USE SPRAY INSULATION.

Some minimize use of water system on the road, using bottles and buckets during winter. Suggestion to keep a night light on under the coach: that warmth and the motion of the water in the tank will keep it from freezing. (Water only freezes when it stands still). Side note: a teaspoon of Clorox keeps water tank fresh.

If you live where it rarely goes below freezing, especially if you can stay plugged in, winterizing may not be needed. Leave door under the couch open, set a box heater to go on if temps drop and set furnace for 42°.

Headlights- There are DOT approved headlight assemblies that are easy to install. Many of us found good ones on eBay. <http://www.ebay.com/itm/1992-2006-Ford-E150-250-350-450-Econoline-Van-SMD-LED-DRL-Headlights-Clear-/371230890410?hash=item566f15d9aa:g:EvEAAOSwu4BVxXLY&vxp=mtr>



Don't spend money on 3M headlight cleaners.

Factory original headlights, if defogged, need to be retreated with clear coat.

Refrigerator - Insects can build nests near the gas orifice that the propane comes out of, preventing fridge operation. NEVER TOUCH THE CHIMNEY: IT GETS HOT! Clean out the gas tube. Sometimes the solution to a malfunction is very simple. Start with basics before looking at replacing electronics.

Air Bags - Firestone Ride-Rite kits can be installed on most light trucks, motor-homes, RVs, SUVs and vans to maximize the vehicle's safe load-carrying capacity, stability, ride quality and brake effectiveness. Firestone Ride-Rite air helper springs provide load support through the use of air pressure that can be adjusted for changing loads. They enhance the ride by reducing inter-leaf friction. Terry had an issue with a defective compressor, which company did not want to warranty. Moral of the story: be mindful who you buy from if you want this system. Buy from someone who will warranty.

Serpentine Belt - Q: How often to change? A: said to be good for 100,000 miles, but recommend to carry a spare because if it goes out *nothing* on the coach will run.

Propane Tanks - Road salt can cause serious corrosion. Even so, the tanks are 1/4 inch thick and will have to rust a long time before there is risk of a breach. Check for rust ongoingly; it can be sanded down (Terry uses power tools and says "live on the wild side". Some of us prefer to work slower and do it by hand). Brush off the old rust and paint on rustoleum. In Canada there is a law saying the color must be grey or white.

Mouse Repellency - Washer sheets, little sachet packets failed. Peppermint oil didn't work. Pine Sol and water has proven to be effective so far for one member. BUT DIDN'T WORK FOR ANOTHER: Terry says "These little buggers live in sewers: you cannot spray something that will gross them out". He uses peanut butter and a have-a-heart rat trap. There is also a firearm involved. Thanks to Mark for writing these notes up for us!

UPCOMING RALLIES

2019 UPCOMING RALLIES



January 28-30
Flamingo Lake RV Resort
3640 Newcomb Road
Jacksonville, FL 32218

We always have a wonderful time at this location which is conveniently located, right off of I-295 at Exit 32 in Jacksonville. Flamingo Lake offers your choice of sites - regular or lakefront. With beautiful surroundings, clubhouse, café and sandy beach on the lakefront, you don't want to miss another fun time on the beach!

RATES: \$61-\$67 range less 20% discount

For reservations, call (904) 766-0672 as deadline for a guaranteed site is December 15.

HOSTS: Disbrows



April 1-3
Colfax RV Park
200 Control House Road
Colfax, LA 71417

Louisianans know how to party. Join us for some Mardi Gras fun! Come experience true southern hospitality. Colfax RV Park is a COE park and all sites are booked, however, the field will be opened for anyone who wants to boondock. The campground only has 25 sites so we have the whole park. Reservations call:

318-627-2640

HOSTS: Hendersons



July 15-17
QUECHEE/PINE VALLEY KOA
3700 Woodstock Road

White River Junction, VT 05001

By popular demand, we are returning to this peaceful and beautiful campground. Close to Quechee Gorge, Simon Pearce glassblowing, covered bridges, hiking trails quaint towns, maple syrup and cabot cheese are only a few things you will experience.

RATES: \$66/range as rates had not been determined for 2019 at time of booking.

Deadline for reservations is December 31, 2018 so make your reservation today 802/296-6711.

HOSTS: Waiting on someone to volunteer - please.



October 7-9
Chincoteague KOA
6742 Maddox Blvd.
Chincoteague Island, VA 23336

Chincoteague Island is a serene, yet fun filled, tourist destination. It is Virginia's only resort Island.

Chincoteague is the gateway to the Virginia portion of [Assateague Island](#), home of the famous [Chincoteague Wild Ponies](#). Chincoteague offers a relaxed atmosphere and the beauty of unspoiled nature.

Rates are \$59/night plus tax (Min 3 nights required for this rate)

Deadline for reservations is Aug. 31, 2019. Call 757-336-3111 Ext. 1 for reservations.

HOSTS: CCC Board

The 2020 year is shaping up, with a new rally site for the January rally, with thanks to Linda Henderson and Nita Wilkinson, who drove over and checked it out. Watch for more info to come for the rally at Live Oaks

Landing in Freeport, Florida. **The 2020 FALL RALLY** October 12-15, 2020 will be at Misty Mountain Camp Resort in Greenwood, VA.

HELP WANTED: 2020 RALLY SITES are in the works. We already have our Winter and Fall Rally site but are in search for Spring and Summer. Do you know of a campground that would be perfect for a rally? Do you have a recommendation about an area of the country you would like to visit? Just suggest a campground or area and the Rally VP will do all the work searching for a possible site. Contact Rally VP **Linda Henderson** with ideas and/or suggestions @ richlinhen@aol.com or 601/941-6234.

RESOURCE: [RALLY SITE QUICK CHECKLIST](#) Take this along when you stay at a campground during your travels. Would the campground work for a rally?

RALLY HOSTS NEEDED: Please consider hosting an upcoming Rally. From what we have seen in the past, you will have lots of help. Please contact our Rally VP Linda at richlinhen@aol.com or **601/941-6234** if you would be willing to host an upcoming rally.

HELPFUL WEBSITES and ADDITIONAL TECH INFO

Need Christmas Gift Suggestions? Check out the free download list from the Roadtreking site <https://roadtreking.com/christmas>. Lots of good ideas!

Another helpful podcast episode for those who have to store their Chinooks for the winter <https://roadtreking.com/rv-podcast-episode-220-safely-and-securely-storing-your-rv-for-the-season/>

A former member recently had some issues with a bill from road tolls stacking up and incurring extra charges while she traveled. Don't forget to move your bills to electronic delivery if you're traveling for an extended period. Some additional options include:

Informed Delivery® by USPS®

Digitally preview your mail and manage your packages scheduled to arrive soon! Informed Delivery allows you to view greyscale images of the exterior, address side of letter-sized mailpieces and track packages in one convenient location.*

* Images are only provided for letter-sized mailpieces that are processed through USPS' automated equipment <https://informedelivery.usps.com/>

You can also file a temporary change of address to have mail sent to a family member or friend who can monitor it for you and let you know if there is a bill or official mail that appears to need attention. The post office will hold your mail but only for a limited time.

Check out [Roadtreking.com's Gear Site!](#) Lots of good suggestions for travel gear for RVers. <https://kit.com/rvlifestyle/stuff-mentioned-on-our-roadtreking-blog-our-rv-podcast-and-our-rv-lifestyle-youtube-channel> [Roadtreking.com](#) <https://roadtreking.com/> is a great resource aimed at owners of smaller RVs.

Chinook RV Forum -- not the same as the Chinook RV Yahoo site, this is an additional resource. Check it out <http://www.chinookrvforum.com/>

Facebook groups with useful campsite info: search for these:
Free blm and national forest camping
Boondocking & free camping in the USA
I Love My Chinook

Harvest Hosts, the organization that offers unique overnight stops at wineries, breweries, museums, farms and more will be raising their rates in the new year for new members, but not current members. Join before the end of the year to get the best rates! For an additional fee, they have also added GOLF COURSES for those who golf. Check it out at harvesthosts.com

ANY SUGGESTIONS?



At the rallies, we hope to have some time for discussions of club business and ideas, but since not everyone attends the rallies (if you haven't attended, we hope to see you soon!) we want to make sure you are sharing your ideas, opinions, comments, issues and kudos with us! Please make sure to send along your thoughts and ideas to chinook121@tampabay.rr.com. The club is only as good as the members that contribute! Thanks for all you do!



MEMBERSHIP REPORT-December

As of December 1, 2018, we have:
85 Coaches and 4 Associate Members
68 Members are paid for 2018-2019

We have members in 29 states and cover 12 model years.

Departed Members:
Carole & David George CCC# 374
Howard & Louise Wilson CCC# 344

New Members
Liz Newell CCC# 438

EZ Member update:
I have added 2019 Rally information to the EZ Member script.
Scroll down to last name "RALLY".
Information for each rally is there.

Getting a new phone for the holidays?
DO NOT restore the old EZ Member Directory app.
It is still on the Play Store, but no longer supported.
The new directory is totally web based, and does not use any memory on your device.
Need instructions for the EZ script? See your emailed newsletter or contact Gerry.
Gerry Rutter

YOUR DUES ARE OVERDUE Due Due Due!

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO

Chinook Camping Club and mail to:
Chinook Camping Club
Dottie Norris
57 Downes Rd.
Underhill VT 05489
CLUB DUES OF \$35 PER COACH ARE DUE EACH YEAR
ON OCTOBER 1.
Dues are considered delinquent after December 1 and you will be removed
from membership rolls February 1.



ORDER YOUR CHINOOK LOGO ITEMS



Polo and T-shirts available in
Men & Ladies sizes
Sweats and Vest are "unisex"



Items available by order only
Please contact Eileen for current
pricing and sizes
chinook121@tampabay.rr.com



Zip Front Hooded Sweatshirt not shown but now available!

Polo shirt with collar – Mens (BG7500) or Ladies (BG6500); Colors available Royal, White
T-shirts – Mens (GL200) – Royal, White, Ash Grey; Ladies (GL200L) – Royal, White
Crew Neck Pullover Sweatshirts (GL120) – Royal, White or Ash Grey (Unisex sizing)
Zip Front Hooded Sweatshirt (GL186) – Royal, White, Ash Grey (Unisex sizing)
Fleece Vest (M985)– Royal – (Unisex sizing)
Ball Caps (KC82105)– Royal – adjustable
Tote Bag (UC8861) – Royal

Our items are ordered through www.stitchamerica.com. To see details about a certain item, enter the item number in the search field. We can purchase any item they carry, but have only two color options for our logo, Royal on light color items, White on dark color items. Any change in size of logo would require an additional set-up fee. Below are the prices as of June 2018 and are always subject to slight increases. Sizes over XL, such as 2XL are charged \$2 additional per size increase.

Polos – \$16
T-shirts – \$8.95

Crew Neck Sweatshirt - \$15.60
Hooded, Zip Front Sweatshirt - \$24.10
Fleece Vest - \$22.95
Ball Cap - \$10.10
Tote Bag - \$10.40

CHINOOK EASY EATS-COOKBOOK CALL!

We are trying to complete a Cookbook for the Chinook Camping Club and I have been asked to coordinate this project. If you have favorite recipes, family recipes, and camping recipes please send them to me at sba@bellsouth.net. I would love to get something from each one of you. Also, we all use special cooking machines and gadgets, I will be glad to add sections for you and you can write about why you love using the device in your Chinook, along with recipes you love. Thanks! **Sally Arnold**



Linda Stampler made this for the Fall Rally and it was delicious!

My Mother-in-Law's Plum Bread

Recipe By: 3dogsinthekitchen

"A cross between a cake and a loaf bread, with sweet-tart plums and a brown sugar topping. Just like my mother-in-law used to make. Use plain, lemon, or orange yogurt."

Ingredients

1 cup pitted, chopped plums
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
1/2 cup margarine
1 cup white sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 eggs

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/3 cup plain yogurt
1/4 cup brown sugar



Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Spray a 9x5-inch loaf pan with cooking spray, or line with parchment paper.

Sprinkle chopped plums with 1 tablespoon of flour in a bowl, and toss to coat. Set aside. In a large bowl, beat the margarine, white sugar, and vanilla extract with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs. In another bowl, sift together 1 1/2 cup of flour with salt and baking soda. Stir the dry ingredients into the egg mixture, alternating with yogurt until the mixture forms a smooth batter. Lightly stir in the flour-coated plums, and pour the batter into the prepared loaf pan. Sprinkle the top of the batter with brown sugar.

Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center of the loaf comes out clean, 45 to 50 minutes. Remove from oven, and let cool in the pan 10 to 15 minutes before removing from pan for slicing.

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SUNSHINE UPDATES

Your Chinook family cares about all of it's members. Please let Debbie Person know if any one of our members is in the hospital so a card can be sent! Contact **Debbie Person** via Facebook, email debper68@att.net or call 843-226-0531.



We are keeping **Mike Bosley** and **Bob and Charmaine Gibson** in our thoughts and prayers.

CHINOOK CLUB COMMUNICATION

Many resources are available for Chinookers. Here are some to make sure you follow!

Chinook Facebook groups:

Chinook Camping Club (closed members only group, request membership) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChinookCampingClub/>

Web site: Chinook Camping Club <http://chinookrvclub.com/chinookeastclub.html>

Chinook Forums: these are a gold mine for those who work on their own rigs. The members on here can answer about any question you have.

Chinook RV Owners Yahoo group [see instructions here on how to join](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ChinookRVOwners/info)

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ChinookRVOwners/info>

Chinook Forum <http://www.chinookrvforum.com/>

Photos from rallies: See the new information at the bottom of the newsletter.

Parts suppliers list: http://chinookrvclub.com/images/Parts_and_Service_Listings_Update_Feb_2017.pdf

Travel Blog Spot: set up by Sally Arnold to share information on campgrounds <http://chinooktravel.blogspot.com/>

Dropbox for Chinook Club: contains many information documents and instructions. Email Gerry Rutter for access

RESOURCE: CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Includes the link to the parts listing, and additional online resources.



Do you have resources you consult for trips, maintenance and repair, general RV fun? Let us know! Send it to editor at cnbreeding52@gmail.com



FALL RALLY PHOTOS

The site where we hosted all the rally photos has changed to a storage-limited service, so **Gerry Rutter** has kindly undertaken the task of moving the photos to the Chinook Club's Google Drive. A round of applause for what was a daunting task to download and move the photos from many years of rallies!

The index with the links is CHINOOK RALLY PHOTOS.

Open the file and hover over the link. A short link opens, click on it.

If you want to save a photo, right click and choose save photo.

For drive access, see your emailed newsletter or contact Gerry Rutter.

President
Eileen Disbrow

VP, Membership
Gerry Rutter

VP, Rally
Linda Henderson

Nominating Chair
Charles Breeding

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF
THE NEWSLETTER.**

Treasurer
Dottie Norris

Secretary & Sunshine
Debbie Person

Newsletter Editor, Website
Coordinator
Nancy Breeding

Thank you to the Webmaster for both
CRVC and CCC,
Dave Shehane,
for his time and talent