



TRAILBLAZER



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Nancy Breeding, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Members!

Our Winter Rally was great fun. We made new friends, shared time with old friends and were surprised to find a few other Chinooks rolling by our sites. **Nancy & Ron Coyle** who were in FL, "Chinookless" even stopped in to spend the afternoon with us, a real treat! We welcomed new members **Cathy Rubin** and **Terry & Joerg Bergelt** the "surprise" Chinooks becoming new members at the rally! Terry & Joerg take us "International" again as they hail from Canada! We met **Liz Newell, Bert & Larry Bart** and **Chuck & Ginny McMahon** for their first rally. Chuck kept our Tech Tips, Troubles & Triumphs going with his list of inquiries – thank you! **Greg Snedden** was busy with headlights and hot water light indicators, what a guy. The rest of us were on the prowl checking out updates in the coaches. We enjoyed some fun gathering for our meals together both in the Rec Hall and the Sunrise Café. Our White Elephant night kept smiles on our faces for sure. Thanks to all of you who participated and a special thanks to our Kitchen & Entertainment Crew! Those of you who were unable to attend were missed but we hope to see you all at the Spring Rally in Colfax, LA.



Spring is almost here and as you take to the roads we wish you all safe travels. Keep your eyes open for that often "rare" species hidden from view. The "Chinook" can surprise us appearing when you least expect it. Be armed with a club card to let this rare one know we are alive and well. Extend an invitation to join us!

We are always looking for new locations, members to work together to host a rally or consider joining our Board. There is fun in numbers, and we welcome members, new or long standing to jump right in and enjoy.

Let's say "good-bye" to winter and welcome the Spring! Rock 'n Roll members...it's time to take your Chinook on the road again!
See you soon...Eileen

WINTER RALLY WRAP-UP

By **Eileen Disbrow**

Wow. Yes, Wow. We had a wonderful rally in Jacksonville, regardless of the "Polar Vortex" which found it's way south. Nothing like good friends to warm you up. The surprise of the rally was the addition of two new coaches to our family. (And yes, perhaps one more on the way!) Many thanks to everyone who attended and helped out!

We want to extend a welcome to **Cathy Rubin** who joined us for the rally. Cathy is one of our newest members! Surprise as **Jim & Charlie** were walking around they spotted a Premier! Hmmm? Who is that in the Premier? Turns out it was **Terry & Joerg Bergelt** all the way from Ontario! Welcome to our second addition at the rally. Gerry recently notified us of new members **Mollie Rosenbloom & Ben Levitan** from NC. Welcome to all our new members. Your fellow members look forward to meeting you in the coming year. We also had a visitor, **Clint Lancaster**, a local gentleman who may be our next new member. It was like Chinooks were growing on trees! They were everywhere.

The rally was great fun, and I so enjoyed working with all who attended. No shortage of hands on deck. The early arrivals had dinner together at the campground Cafe' amidst a few showers which did not dampen our spirits. Monday evening our PizzaFest was enjoyed and everyone



relaxed. **Linda Henderson**, Rally VP, gave us a run down of what's to come and again asks for suggestions and volunteer hosts for future rallies.

As usual, we are never hungry, two great breakfasts, a delicious Pot Luck with our many good cooks contributing and a special treat, Jim Rohrborn & Lisa Lutzeier, our guests, brought the signature chocolate cake!

Our TTTT, Tech Tips, Troubles and Triumphs was a time to ask, and hopefully we shared some helpful hints. The sun was out Tuesday, and it was quite pleasant ahead of the cooler weather.

Wednesday **George & Phoebe Papadi** shared their slides from tours of 10 National Parks. Great photos and information shared for future trips (don't forget the tick repellent). Thank you!

The last evening we enjoyed the Hot Dog Feast with everyone having more than enough to eat. **Debbie & BJ Person** emceed the White Elephant exchange and that Wine Bottle Stopper and the Grinch certainly made the rounds. Great fun. We shook things up a bit and said our "Farewells" at the Sunrise Cafe' for coffee and breakfast on Thursday. How quickly that time came. On to COLFAX....



TECH NOTES FROM THE WINTER RALLY

If you haven't yet attended a rally, here's a tip—at each rally we try to have a tech tips, troubles and triumphs session. Owners bring their questions and problems, and others in the club help them try to sort out the solutions. We also share information on improvements and changes we've made to our coaches. At this session we tackled ideas for making the couch bed more comfortable. Solutions included getting a custom foam topper from an upholstery store, respringing the bed to make it more firm, using thermarest camping pads, putting plywood between the springs and cushion, and using a duvet cover with a granny feather bed. Just a few of the many suggestions!

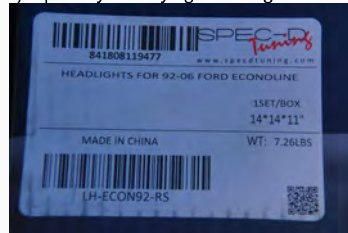
Other issues discussed included replacing the fluorescent lights with LEDs, info on satellite dish wiring, door and compartment sealing gaskets, rain water in the battery compartment, generator replacement, solar panel additions and making sure we check and replace propane and carbon monoxide monitor alarms on the five year life cycle.

Improvements included **Jim Day's** new storm door, **Bill Christophersen's** Venturi generator vent, **Liz Newell's** dowel and curtain replacement for the shades, and **Nita Wilkinson's** new headlights that we watched **Greg Snedden** install.



These tip sessions are invaluable for learning more about our coaches, especially as they age and begin to have more issues. And it's great to see what others have done to improve comfort, ride, technology and storage!

Make sure to read the additional article below provided by **Mark McCluski** about Mobile Internet and some tips from **Gerry Rutter**.



UPCOMING RALLIES

2019 UPCOMING RALLIES



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
IT'S MARDI GRAS TIME, Y'ALL! (Shhh! We know it's Lent and Mardi Gras is officially over but we did get permission from our Priest and we will share what he said later) The schedule for Colfax is as follows:

Monday

6 p.m. – Meet and Greet – Hot Dog dinner provided by the club (bring drink, plate and utensils)
7:30 p.m. – Short Business Meeting

Tuesday

8:30-9:30 – Breakfast – provided by the club (bring coffee cup, plate & utensils)
10:00 – Design a Mardi Gras mask with Sally & Linda (materials provided)
6 p.m. – Covered dish dinner (bring covered dish to share, drink, plate and utensils)
7:30 – Trivia Night

Wednesday

8:30-9:30 – Breakfast provided by the club (bring coffee cup, plate & utensils)
10:00 – Tech Talk with Terry
6:00 – Dinner provided by the Club (bring drink, plate and utensils)
7:30 – A mystery as we haven't planned the activity yet but plan to stay, it should be fun.



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 7-10
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



January 20-23, 2020
Live Oak Landing
229 Pitts Avenue
Freeport, FL 32439
For reservations call 877-436-5063

Live Oak Landing is surrounded by beautiful Live Oak trees on the Choctawhatchee River and is just minutes away from scenic Hwy 30A. With its serene and picturesque setting, it is truly a place everyone will enjoy. Located away from the crowds – north of Seaside and east of Destin.



October 12-15, 2020
Misty Mountain Camp Resort
56 Misty Mountain Road
Greenwood, VA

For reservations call 888-647-8900

Misty Mountain Camp Resort offers a delightful, relaxing vacation at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains near historic Charlottesville, Virginia. Their website says *Explore nature trails, splash in our pool, sit by the creek, fish in our pond, climb our hills, shoot hoops and spike the volleyball or pitch horseshoes, take a hayride, enjoy live music and dances, shop at the General Store, shoot pool and play video games, relax in solitude or join with new friends – the choice is yours and it's all at Misty Mountain Camp Resort!*

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 NOTES

Tech That Enhances the Ride – Part 1 by Mark McCluski (Thanks, Mark!)

We all of us know Yelp. Most of us know Trip Advisor. As RVers you probably know All Stays Camp and RV. Information available to us when we're on the road has certainly come a long way from when we had to carry guidebooks the size of a Manhattan telephone directory. Planning routes and finding resources on the road has never been easier. It can be hard to winnow out the tools which can make your ride a little more carefree, though.

Mobile Internet Resource Center

Connectivity is at the core of a lot of these things, so let's talk first about the Mobile Internet Resource Center at RVMobileInternet.com. Their mission statement reads



"We offer unbiased mobile internet information specifically for US based RVers and Cruisers. We research the options, share our personal & professional experience and analyze industry news... so you can focus on what drives you."

They go on to describe the website: "This website is our repository of knowledge on this niche topic and news stories analyzed just for travelers. We've been building this since 2013, and there's a lot of content (currently over 900 unique pages!)."

"Here are the main areas of the website:

- [News](#) - We track the mobile internet industry to keep an eye out for news releases about products & services. We then analyze those stories for how it impacts travelers keeping connected.
- [Guides](#) - Our guides are in-depth and written to teach you about the various topics that play a role in a mobile internet setup. They're updated constantly as technology shifts. Our members also have access to our [Classroom](#), walking them through the guides.
- [Gear Center](#) - We track gear specific to mobile internet and overview the options on our radar. We try to get hands on time with a representative sampling, and share our more in-depth reviews & tutorials with our members.
- [Video Center](#) - A lot of our content also has a video component to complement it - from our news stories, guides to tutorials. Our members also can tune in a couple times a month for our interactive Q&A webinars.
- [Forums](#) - Our premium members have access to our Q&A forums where we are pleased to assist them in their research. We also host the free & public [Internet for RVers & Cruiser](#) Facebook group, where our staff helps field basic questions.

We try to provide a lot of content on this website for free - to the public. We're only able to do so in thanks to the support we get from our premium members. In return, they get a lot of extra perks."

You might have noticed that they have a talent for clearly explaining things succinctly. A premium membership, auto-renewing subscription comes to \$69 a year, but there is a *lot* of free content if you chose not to subscribe. Their information has saved us some serious money.

55+ Cellular Telephone Plans

Mobile Internet Resources Center is where I learned about senior citizen cellular plans, and that is the other thing I want to share today. If you are over 55 and don't have a senior plan, you can save a bundle by getting one. Prices and terms vary by carrier. There may be add-ons that speak to your individual needs and preferences, such as if you want to be able to stream HD video or if you want to be able to have more hot-spot data to use with your laptop or other devices. T-Mobile started the ball rolling in 2017 by going *way* beyond the basic flip-phone service that had been the hallmark of senior plans until then. Now all the carriers are ramping up with similar plans which support everything you can do on a smart phone and with generous-to-unlimited data allowances.

Once you have yourself set up with a good plan there are bunches of apps and gadgets that can make your RV trips more enjoyable and complete. I'll be sharing some of my favorites in future newsletters.

TECH TIP FROM GERRY RUTTER—FORD SERVICE CENTERS & GPS UPDATES



Looking for a Ford Service Center that will work on your RV?

<https://fordcommercialvehiclecenter.com/findDealer/init>

Enter your location on the first page.

Select "Additional Filters" at the top of the next page.

Motorhomes are the 4th selection from the left.

Check "Class C. and "Apply Filter" at the bottom.

On April 6, 2019, the **Global Position System** will rollover the clock.

On older GPS receivers this may cause inaccurate location positions.

Log into your manufacturers site and make sure your GPS has the most up-to-date software.

ADDITIONAL VIDEOS FROM [RVLIFESTYLE.COM](#)

If you haven't signed up to follow the [rvlifestyle.com](#) website, you might want to give it a shot! The writers previously owned Roadtrek coaches, but with the demise of that brand, they have switched to a more generic site with loads of excellent information, particularly about traveling in small coaches. Here's a few samples from a recent newsletter, which comes out every Monday.



RV Podcast 231: The truth about solar power for the RV

This episode of the podcast looks at solar power and asks the question, has the RV industry over sold solar power? Just how effective is it? We'll hear from an industry insider who says while solar power is certainly beneficial for RVers, it just may not deliver all that some RV manufacturers and sales people have claimed. The truth about solar will be the topic of our interview of the week.

[LISTEN AND READ HERE](#)

Mouse Proof Your RV

Many RVers are getting their rigs out of storage for the winter only to discover that while it's been sitting there unused for the past couple of months, the RV has had visitors - mice!!

[READ MORE HERE](#)

How to test a battery isolator

Nearly every motorhome owner will at sometime experience a charging problem with their house battery.

Roger and Lynn Brucker show us what to do.

[READ MORE](#)

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,

SUGGESTION BOX

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!

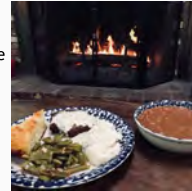
TRAVEL ATTRACTIONS

Are you traveling through Tennessee in the future? Tom and Sue Jackson ran across a unique attraction in Clinton Tennessee, the Museum of Appalachia. It's on Rt 61 just east of route 441. The outside grounds have old buildings and old machinery, and inside the main building are lots of local history, pictures and equipment that was used in the past. It also features many musical instruments that were hand made.



The website describes the museum: "The Museum of Appalachia is a living history museum — a pioneer mountain farm-village that lends voice to the people of Southern Appalachia through the artifacts and stories they left behind. Roam our 65 picturesque acres and experience a recreated Appalachian community complete with: 35 log cabins, barns, farm animals, churches, schools, gardens. Over 250,000 artifacts in 3 buildings, with vast collections of folk art, musical instruments, baskets, quilts, Native American artifacts, and more."

They also serve a lunch specializing in Southern Appalachian country cooking and have a Gift Shop featuring locally made products which Tom and Sue recommend. Across the street on an access road is the Chunky Monkey Ice Cream Shop, with great hamburgers and ice cream.



Tom says you could spend the day exploring, so put it on your list of go-to places. Check it out at their web site. <http://www.museumofappalachia.org/>



MEMBERSHIP REPORT-December

As of February 19, 2019, we have 78 coaches.
We have members in 28 States & 1 Province.
Coaches cover 12 model years.

Departed Members:

Lon & Jacquelyn Muncy CCC# 8
Ervin & Betty Bean CCC# 58
Adam & Diane Morales CCC# 74
Gary & Mona Leverett CCC# 306
Mark D. & Peggy S. Barons CCC# 367
Judy Koch CCC# 378
Bert & Carol Rosen CCC# 387
Alice & Mario Signore CCC# 412
Kathleen & John Perry CCC# 418
Mike Huntington CCC# 425
Jennifer & James Gray CCC# 430
Carol Shell & Ron Pierce CCC# 431
Solandra Owens-Mincey & Michael Mincey CCC# 433

New Members:

Liz Newell CCC# 438
Jane & Bill Whitaker CCC# 439
Bert & Larry Bart CCC# 440
Mollie Rosenbloom & Ben Levitan CCC# 442
Terry & Joerg Bergelt CCC# 443
Cathy Rubin CCC# 444
Kay & Gary Black CCC# 445

Old friends returned:

Rita & Robert Mikel CCC# 255

EZ Member update:

I have added 2019/2020 Rally information to the EZ Member script.
Scroll down to last name "RALLY".
Information for each rally is there.

EZ Member update:

Below is the script for the new EZ Member list. Click on the script link.

When it opens, click the 3 dots in the upper right corner, and select "open in chrome."

Once open, it will refresh if you drag down from the top, and repeat the loading all over.

However if the browser window is not closed, it holds the information.

<https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbzV5WBA2gG3cYjfi-djTAR21DmzAqGzi8GjozFURqzTR6rptWv1/exec>

After loading this link takes you to the instructions for creating a shortcut for the program, so you do not have to search for the email to access it again.

<https://www.ezmemberdirectory.com/add-link-to-homescreen>

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 Pat Bosley

bosleybarn@yahoo.com

to place an order



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 HENDERSON'S CHICKEN SPAGHETTI RECIPE
from southernbite.com

Linda graciously shared the recipe for the delicious spaghetti dish she brought to the pot luck. It got rave reviews!

Ingredients

- 2 pounds frozen boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 (16-ounce) package spaghetti
- 1 (10-ounce) can Ro*Tel Tomatoes
- 2 (10.5-ounce) cans cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (16-ounce) package Velveeta cheese
- 4 ounces cream cheese
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 1/2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese



Instructions

Place the chicken in a large pot and just cover with water. Cook over medium-low heat until cooked through. Try not to boil the chicken as it can make it tough. Allow to cool enough to handle, then shred using two forks. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a 13x9-inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Cook the pasta according to the package directions. Drain and set aside. In a large pot, combine the Ro*tel with the juice, undiluted cream of mushroom soup, Velveeta cheese, and cream cheese. Heat over low heat, stirring constantly, until the cheeses have melted. Add the garlic powder and onion powder. Add the shredded chicken and cooked spaghetti. Mix well. Pour the mixture into the prepared dish and sprinkle with the shredded cheddar cheese. Bake for 20 to 30 minutes or until heated through and the cheese has melted.

SUNSHINE UPDATES

Your Chinook family cares about all of its 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 **Pat Bosley, Vera Raudman** 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](http://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. <https://goo.gl/8kcKHU>

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





WINTER 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!

Instructions for access:

go to this link:

<https://goo.gl/8kcKHU>

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.

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