



# TRAILBLAZER



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Always open to feedback, email me at [cnbreeding52@gmail.com](mailto:cnbreeding52@gmail.com)  
Nancy Breeding, Editor

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So I've never been responsible for planning a rally before. I'm still reluctant to accept the label of "host". But I knew that I wanted the Club to have this rally in White River Junction, Vermont. It's beautiful country, and Jeannie and I had had a really nice stay at the campground last year. I wanted to go back, this time with other Chinookers. So I took a deep breath and I told myself I'd at least handle the arrangements with the KOA.



Now the whole thing could still go south: the rally hasn't happened yet, and my party-throwing skills have never been great. It is really presumptuous of me to say that hosting a CCC rally is not that big a deal. But you know what? So far, so good! A few emails to the campground, some reaching out to a few clubs members for help, a short afternoon of researching some area attractions online, and a little time making an agenda and a flyer, and I'm feeling pretty good about things. Will it be another Asheville? Of course not, I'm not a miracle-worker! Will we have a chance to share things about our Chinooks while enjoying good company and some good eats? You betcha!

"So just what is your point, Mr. President?" Putting a rally together \*is\* within your skill set! If you know a place where you'd like to see us go, you do have the ability to make that happen. The burden really \*is\* light with so many hands helping.

Mark McCluski  
El Presidente

## SPRING RALLY WRAPUP

Asheville KOA

Hands up, all ye who attended the Asheville KOA rally--was that not one of the best rallies ever? Congratulations to the Stampers and the Gibsons for treating us to such an amazing event.

From cleaning, preparing and decorating the pavilion to setting up an outstanding program of activities, everything was top notch! Bingo (see photo at right of the bingo caller), square dancing with instruction by Ken and Lillian Schmidt and a bluegrass concert were



special highlights.

Terry Arnold took on the tech talk, and gave us tips on things he doesn't leave home without (See Mark McCluski's summary in additional article below).

And as usual, our Chinook cooks and members gave us meet and greet snacks, two club breakfasts and the belly-filling potluck! The last evening meal featured a BBQ put together by the awesome hosts--those beans were delicious!!! Many thanks to our awesome kitchen crew as well as to all our talented cooks. It was also good to see first time rally attendees: (from left) Beverly and Earl Willett, Frank Scatigna, Wayne and Dottie Norris, Paul and Gini Oneto. And so good to see Fred and Evelyn Erb, who stopped in to visit.



### **UPCOMING RALLY SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

*With any rally please make sure you say you are with the Chinook Camping Club rally.*  
**VOLUNTEER HOSTS NEEDED, CONTACT T BURGESS AT [cccrallyvp@gmail.com](mailto:cccrallyvp@gmail.com)**

### **Summer Rally –Quechee/Pine Valley KOA, White River Junction, Vermont**



**July: Monday 18th – Thursday 21st**

Quechee/ Pine Valley KOA, White River Junction, Vermont

\$50 – 3700 Woodstock Rd. White River Junction, Vermont 05001 (20 sites)

Reserve: 800-562-1621 / Info: 802-296-6711 / [quecheekoa@comcast.net](mailto:quecheekoa@comcast.net) <http://www.pinevalleyrv.com/>

HOST: (Volunteer Host needed, contact T Burgess)

Speak with Cindy ONLY\* 802-296-0014 (cut off date is **March 15, 2016**)

**Plans for future fun are coming along!**

**FALL ANNUAL RALLY- Nashville KOA TN, October 2-5, 2016 REGISTER NOW!!!!**



**The last rally we had in Nashville was a blast, don't miss this one!**

The KOA is close to restaurants and there is an inexpensive shuttle that will take you to downtown and other attractions! The fall rally also includes a catered dinner, and annual business meeting with elections, so we need as many members to attend as we can get!

We are still in need of hosts for our fall rally at Nashville KOA. John Cross has been doing local research for us (Thank You John!), but we still need actual hosts to handle organizing breakfast and such. If you are interested in volunteering or just want to ask questions about what is involved email T at [CCCRallyVP@gmail.com](mailto:CCCRallyVP@gmail.com).

Reservation number is [800-562-7789](tel:800-562-7789). Local number is [615-889-0282](tel:615-889-0282). Ask for the October 2-5, Chinook Club reserved site area. Our rate will be \$57.04 plus tax (\$5.28) per night. Those that come early or stay longer can get this rate up to one additional week. Individuals will make their own reservations and pay their own bill. One night deposit required when making reservation. Cancellation policy is a \$10.00 fee if you cancel 30 or more days before event. Less than 30 days notice will forfeit the deposit.



**Winter Rally @ Flamingo Lake RV Resort FL, January 23-26 , 2017**

Hosts: Ken & Lillian Schmidt, Debbie & BJ Person



**Spring Rally @ Rivers End, Tybee Island GA, Date TBA, 2017**

Hosts needed! If you are interested in volunteering or just want to ask questions about what is involved email T at [CCCRallyVP@gmail.com](mailto:CCCRallyVP@gmail.com)!

**Summer Rally, 2017, WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH IDEAS!!!**

Summer Rally to be determined, anyone got an idea and/or want to host? Please email T at [CCCRallyVP@gmail.com](mailto:CCCRallyVP@gmail.com)!

**Fall Rally**

Date and place to be determined: we are talking with the western club about another joint rally in Branson, MO in September 2017. If this comes to pass, the Board is considering holding the annual meeting as part of that rally.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Gerry Rutter**

We have 92 coaches registered.

We also have 2 associate members.

**New Members:**

Gini & Paul Oneto CCC# 404  
Robert "Lee" Murrer, Jr. CCC# 405  
Edna & Dave Watkins CCC# 406  
Ruthie & Chip Woyner CCC# 407  
Frank Scatigna CCC# 408  
Henry Lisowski & Mary Anne Haburn CCC# 409  
Paul and Judy Boutross CCC# 410

**Re-joined:**

Braxton & Diane Nagle CCC# 319



**Departed Members:**

Booker, Dennis & Martha CCC# 365  
Brubaker/Fritz, Charlotte & Joy CCC# 380  
Farrell, Charles & Peggy CCC# 385  
Fenton-Ray, Carl & Judy CCC# 366  
Fischer, Bill & Laura CCC# 368  
Harris, Donald CCC# 377  
Helsel, Kathy & Rodney CCC# 389  
Jones, William & Rita CCC# 57  
Morris, Theresa CCC# 350  
Rayman, JJ CCC# 371  
Tomassian, Matt & Nita CCC# 383  
Wolfe, Robert & Barbara CCC# 17  
Ziev, Jole & Barbara CCC# 379  
Zucker, Michael CCC# 391

Dave Shehane informs me that the Yahoo ChinookRVOwners group has over 800 members. The East and West Clubs combined have less than 200 members. As he says, "They are out there". So, keep on the lookout for Chinooks, and leave a "Saw Your Chinook" card, when you see them. I have placed a copy of the "Saw your Chinook" card into the shared group folder, in the event you wish to print them.

Please review your information on the Membership Directory, and send any corrections, mismatches or updates to me at [ChinookCampingClub@gmail.com](mailto:ChinookCampingClub@gmail.com)

EZ Member Directory App:

EZ Member Directory will not work on Amazon Kindle. This is because Amazon does not accept apps from the Google PlayStore. Google has been changing how they determine device compatibility. Currently they consider the EZ Member Directory to be a smart phone app, and it may not show as available from a tablet. If you need your access code or assistance with the app, please send your questions to [ChinookCampingClub@gmail.com](mailto:ChinookCampingClub@gmail.com) Instructions are also in the shared Dropbox folder.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL COMES UP IN OCTOBER!**



CLUB DUES OF \$35 PER COACH ARE DUE EACH YEAR ON OCTOBER 1.  
Dues are considered delinquent after December 1.

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO  
"Chinook Camping Club" and mail to:  
Chinook Camping Club,  
Linda Stamper, Treasurer  
219 Monte Vista Drive,  
Statesville, NC 28625



**Tech Talk given by Terry Arnold at the May 2016 Rally in at Asheville East KOA  
Notes by Mark McCluski**

The most common problem on the road is a flat. Fixaflat in a can is a good emergency measure that will at least get you to a gas station. <http://www.fixaflat.com/us/index.php>

If that doesn't work Viair will put 65 lb air in 2 minutes. <http://www.amazon.com/Viair-40047-Automatic-Portable-Compressor/dp/B004B68XGC>

Stainless steel tire valve extenders (not rubber) will improve your tires' ability to keep the right pressure.

A quick check for even tire pressure all around is to touch all your tires when you stop. If one is hotter than others check tire pressures.

Carry a Serpentine belt for a Ford V10. When the serpentine belt breaks, your RV stops. They are not rare, but can be hard to get a hold of on short notice. Carrying your own can save you a day or two of waiting for a garage to get the part.

You can protect your electrical system with a Surge Guard when you're plugged in to shore power. <http://trci.net/products/surge-guard-rv>. You might not need it most of the time, but when you do plug in to a faulty pedestal or when there is a power surge it is a major repair to fix a fried out electrical system. More expensive models have digital readouts and more features. Less expensive models still provide essential protection. Terry recommends you buy a lock since these are easy to remove.

Turn off the pedestal breaker before you plug in, and make sure your appliances are turned off.

Keep the prongs of your electrical plugs clean with dielectric grease (light bulb grease). <http://www.amazon.com/Permatex-22058-Dielectric-Tune-Up-Grease/dp/B000AL8VD2>. Use it anyplace where there is a chance of an electrical arc. It also goes by the name Fluid film.

Terry travels with a 50 to 30 amp adaptor. If the 30 amp plug is in bad condition and the pedestal has a 50 amp it will give more reliable power. Don't let adapters touch the ground. Put a garbage bag over it all to keep things dry in case of rain.

Its important to exercise the generator to keep it running when you need it. Start it up once a month. Let it run for two or three minutes before you put a load on it. Exercise it with the AC or the heat pump to give it a good load. Hair dryer draws a lot of power too.

When shutting the generator off, turn off appliances and let it run for a bit before stopping.

Disinfect your water tank once a year. Add a quarter cup of Clorox to water in tank. Run it through your taps to disinfect the water lines. Run through a couple of tanks of clean water to rinse. If you add a capful of Clorox to water hose and use it to fill your tank you'll disinfect your white water hose as well. This will also help keep the water water pump from getting gunked up from impurities.

Adding a heavy duty rear sway bar will help stability in wind and when being passed by large trucks. A couple of members have also upgraded the front sway bar. Adding a steering stabilizer like the Roadmaster Reflex <http://roadmasterinc.com/products/rss/reflex.html> or the Safe-T-Plus <http://www.safe-t-plus.com/our-products/> and will also make for an easier drive and reduce driver fatigue.

Rallies are great places to bring your questions and share your experiences! Thanks, Terry for sharing!

### CHINOOK LOGO ITEMS

The club has a variety of logo items available for purchase. The Royal or White collared polo shirt is very nice. Also available are T-shirts in Royal or White, Sweatshirts and Fleece Vests in Royal. They all look great with our club Baseball Cap. Orders will be placed for January delivery. For information on availability contact Eileen at [chinook121@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:chinook121@tampabay.rr.com) or by calling 813-633-5113.

#### CHINOOK CAMPING CLUB LOGO ITEM PRICING

Prices as of Oct 2015 and are subject to change  
KC Brushed Cotton Ball Cap – KC8210S – Royal \$9.25  
Ladies Pique Polo – BG6500 – Royal/White \$15.95  
Men's Pique Polo – BG7500 – Royal/White \$15.95  
Ladies T-Shirt – GL200L – Royal/White \$8.40  
Men's T-Shirt – GL200 – Royal/White \$8.00  
Sweatshirt – GL120 – Royal \$15.10  
Fleece Vest – M985 – Royal \$21.75



### Chinook Easy Eats!

My go-to Chinook Cook came through with another mouth-watering recipe to try!

#### Secret\* Spice Cake

- 1 Cup Vegetable Oil
- 2 Cups White Sugar
- 4 Eggs
- 2 Teaspoons Vanilla Extract
- 1 1/3 Cups Buttermilk
- 1 1/3 Cups Stewed Prunes, Chopped\*
- 2 1/3 Cups All-Purpose Flour
- 1 Teaspoon Allspice
- 1 Teaspoon Ground Nutmeg
- 1 Teaspoon Ground Cinnamon
- 1 Teaspoon Salt
- 1 Teaspoon Baking Powder
- 1 Teaspoon Baking Soda
- 1 1/2 Cups Chopped Pecans or other nuts



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and sugar (flour can be substituted) a 9 inch tube pan.

In a large bowl, mix the vegetable oil and sugar with an electric mixer until smooth. Mix in the eggs one at a time, then stir in the vanilla and prunes. Sift flour, allspice, nutmeg, cinnamon, salt, baking powder, and baking soda into a large bowl. Stir dry ingredients into the oil-sugar-vanilla-prunes mixture 1/3 at a time, alternating with the buttermilk; then, add pecans.

Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake for 1 hour and 10 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the crown of the cake comes out clean. Cool on a rack for at least 10 minutes before turning out onto serving plate.

\*Yes, it is Prune cake - delicious morning, noon, or night! Try it with Vanilla Ice Cream!

### SUNSHINE UPDATES

Do you know a member who is ill or recovering that needs some SUNSHINE? Send the info to Diane Cremens at [dscremens@gmail.com](mailto:dscremens@gmail.com)





**TRAVELOGUE:** This month, we present the next part of a travelogue by member Cyndy Gabrys, who took about a 6 month trip across the country, accompanied by her elderly dog Tipper. She agreed to write up her travels for us to enjoy and this month we join her in Oregon! She's back on the road this summer with her new dog, braving the heat in the southwest! We look forward to a new set of travelogues!

Thanks Cyndy for sharing!

<http://chinookrvclub.com/livingmydreams5.pdf>

### Campgrounds Worth Visiting

The newsletter is a little late this month because this editor and her husband and two pups have been on the road since the last rally ended the first of May. We drove out though the midwest, Missouri to Nebraska to South Dakota to Wyoming into Canada. We visited the South Dakota Badlands, Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, Glacier, Waterton, Banff and Jasper, returning through North Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin. We didn't have any really bad campgrounds or boondock stops, but there were some we really enjoyed. One was called the Indian Campground, in Buffalo, WY.

Buffalo WY was just before entering the Bighorn Mountain range on the way to Yellowstone. The campground is just off the main highways and is reasonably priced, sites are level and shady, and they have some of the most friendly and helpful staff we met. There are laundry facilities, and close-by restaurants. And the cleanest bathrooms and showers I've ever encountered! It is also the town that author Craig Johnson of the Longmire books and TV series uses as his character's home base. The historic Occidental Hotel, and the Busy Bee cafe are there, and the headquarters of the Longmire for Sheriff campaign. It's a cute little town that hosts the yearly Longmire Days festival in July and lots of other events.



One other we really enjoyed was in Banff National Park in Canada. If you haven't visited there, put it on your bucket list. It is well worth the long drive. We stayed in Tunnel Mountain Trailer campground. They also have a couple of other Tunnel Mountain campgrounds and I don't think you could go wrong in any of them. One was closed for some renovations when we were there. It is set in an area where there are stunning views of the mountains from any direction. Where we stayed, the sites were C shaped pull-ins, with full service for \$38.20 Canadian (June pricing). There is a bus that you can take to the pretty little town for free, \$2 (\$1 senior) to return, so we could enjoy eating out without worrying about the dogs sitting in a warm rig. The trail to the HooDoos was across the street, and the whole campground complex had a long trail surrounding it, with forest and mountain views. We saw deer, elk and even had two wolves stroll through. The staff is very

helpful and nice. The only downside was each restroom facility had only one shower on each side. We found late afternoon to be the ideal time when it was clean and not busy. We stayed five days, and had to change sites a few times, so reserve as early as you can.



## A SAGA OF CLUB INSURANCE

by Mark McCluski

You can skip this article or take a nap or something if you like: this is seriously unsexy stuff.

From time to time since I've been president the question has come up where or not the club needs insurance. Sometimes it's been raised by RV parks where we thought we'd like to go. Most recently it happened when the club wanted to go to Tom Johnson this spring. Several club members worked really hard running down information, and we can all be grateful for their efforts. Thank you T. Burgess, Bob Gibson, and Linda Stamper. They and I consulted with insurance agents, an insurance broker, and an attorney. Your executive summary is: the club would not benefit by having insurance.



The main kind of policy our kind of club might benefit by is General Liability. This would protect the club if it were named in a lawsuit for personal injury. The standard coverage is for \$1 million. Our special needs would require a policy that would follow the club from state to state, wherever we were traveling. This is not how insurance usually works, and would contribute to a pricey premium.

The annual cost of such a policy is in the range of \$3000 (though we did have a lower quote). Still, since our annual cash flow has been \$3000 in, \$3000 out in recent years, and since we own no property in common, the insurance would cost more than our exposure. If a suit is brought against the club, the assets at risk is the \$10,000 in the treasury and a coffee pot.

I asked about Errors and Omissions Insurance, since the attorney I met with mentioned that as a possible (though not a likely) need. The insurance broker advised us that this is essentially malpractice insurance, and he can't imagine our needing it.

We also asked about Directors and Officers Liability. This protects the officers from actions brought about because of fiduciary errors or unintentional acts that harm the club from a financial standpoint. D and O would not cover third party liability. If club officers are named in a personal injury suit they wouldn't be covered by D and O.

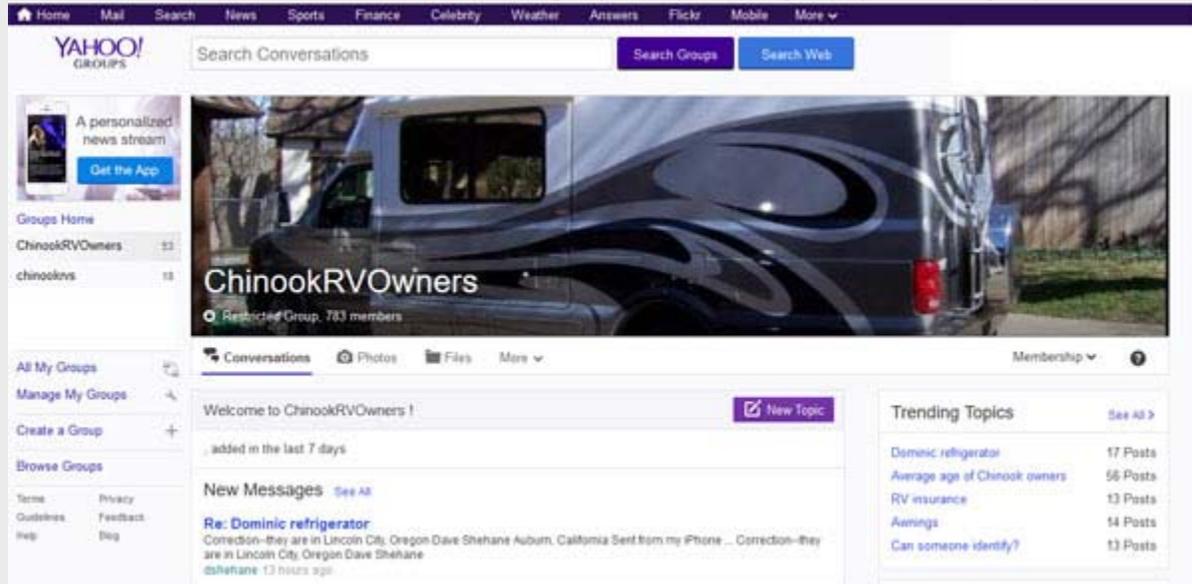
We talked about Special Event coverage. Again, we were advised that this would not help us; that the insurance would cost more than our exposure given our budget and resources. The campgrounds are insured, our individual RVs are insured. Club risk is not great. The insurance broker suggested it would be a better course for us simply to go to campgrounds that don't require insurance. (That could be a decision to revisit if we start to see more RV parks asking for coverage in the future.)

After sharing all this information with the Board, we decided to continue operating without club insurance.

Phew! Glad \*that's\* done with!

## TECH FEATURE

This month's tech feature is the Chinook RV Yahoo group at <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/ChinookRV>



The screenshot shows the Yahoo! Groups interface for the 'ChinookRVOwners' group. The page includes a search bar, a navigation menu, and a main content area. The main content area features a welcome message and a new message titled 'Re: Dominic refrigerator'.

Here is the description:

"ChinookRVOwners" is restricted to the exchange of productive ideas, information and problem resolution between owners and non-owners of Chinook RVs interested in promoting a quality Chinook ownership experience. Please indicate your model and year of Chinook on joining our resource, if available. Discussions must be limited to Chinook related issues only. Business interests, solicitors and inappropriate topics or language are not allowed on this site and are cause for termination of membership.

**ChinookRVOwners is not affiliated with the Chinook RV Club but many of the members of the Chinook Camping Club in Eastern US and Chinook RV Club in the West, are members of this Forum and vice versa."**

Here you will find all kinds of information about Chinook RVs, with photos, videos and files. The original group was infiltrated by spam, so the current group is restricted. To request to join, send an email to [chinookrvowners-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:chinookrvowners-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) and the moderator will approve your membership. You can post questions or problems, and receive answers and advice from other owners who may have an applicable solution. You can see how others have improved their rigs, and find sources for parts and repairs. There is a wealth of information there for whatever your issue may be. If you don't want notification emails each time someone posts, simply turn them off, using the instructions at <https://help.yahoo.com/kb/SLN2509.html>



**SEE THE SPRING RALLY PHOTOS!>**

More photos have been added to the Chinook Club Flickr site. These albums will not be searchable to the general public. The address is <http://www.flickr.com/photos/chinookcampingclub/> Each of the rallies has an album, click on albums to choose a particular rally.

The photos are not available to be downloaded unless you sign in. The login for the site will be in an email sent to members. To download you would click on the photo, and then click the download arrow in the lower right corner. Enjoy! Let me know if you have any questions about how to access them. [cnbreeding52@gmail.com](mailto:cnbreeding52@gmail.com)

President

Mark McCluski

[chinookcamping@icloud.com](mailto:chinookcamping@icloud.com)

VP, Membership

Gerry Rutter

[ChinookCampingClub@gmail.com](mailto:ChinookCampingClub@gmail.com)

VP, Rally

T (Tara) Burgess

[cccrallyvp@gmail.com](mailto:cccrallyvp@gmail.com)

Treasurer

Linda Stamper

[lindastamper@bellsouth.net](mailto:lindastamper@bellsouth.net)

Secretary & Sunshine

Diane Cremens

[dscremens@gmail.com](mailto:dscremens@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor, Website Coordinator

Nancy Breeding

[cnbreeding52@gmail.com](mailto:cnbreeding52@gmail.com)

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

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