



Coaster Chatter

CALIFORNIA COASTERS VISIT Oregon, Washington & Idaho August 23 - September 20, 2016

A stalwart group of Coasters took on the Pacific Northwest this summer. Following are a few photos of their adventure but please, visit the Coaster Flicker page for many more photos. The complete Travelogue appears later in this copy of the Chatter.



Jet Boat Ride on the Rogue River



All Wet after the ride.

Officers

President

Paul Springer

1st VP

John Wright

2nd VP

Leroy Davis

Treasurer

Dale Johnson

Secretary

Carol Wright

National Dir

Jamie Strachan

Alt. National Dir

Dennis Zaferis

Chapter Directors

Dick Perry

Bob Wyrick

Membership

Sharon Rendall

Wagon Master

Denny Wheeler

Asst Wagon Master

Howard Jones

Appointees

Sunshine

Cris Warren

Historian

Donna Brodt

Photographers

John Stocksdale

Sharon Randall

Newsletter Editors

Court &

Cris Warren

Canada Bound Coasters

A second group of Coasters also went North. Here is their Photo Journal:



Type to enter text

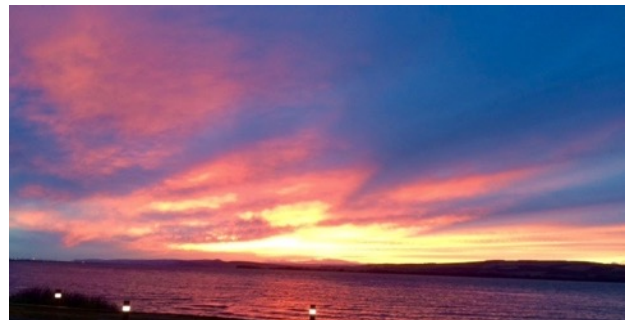
Destination: Chateau Lake Louise



Following Columbia River Dinner



Canadian Rockies



Sunset on the Columbia River



Dinner on the Snake R. Clarkston W.



Mt. Shasta



Geebie, Buster, Sophie & Pooter

October Birthdays

Bonnie Barber

Keith Bonner

Mike Carle

John Hyduchak

Ellen Johnson

Arlen Kurtis

Judy Martinez

John Murray

Roger Rendall

Linda Strickland

Dennis Wheeler

Joyce Witt

Debbie Zaferis



October Anniversary

64 Years

Billy & Sylvia Hale



Click On Link below to go to Site

Coaster Chapter Links (newsletters)	wafmca.com/?p=340
Coaster Rally Photos:	flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/sets/
Coaster Member Photographs:	flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/sets/72157610995972874/
FMCA Website	fmca.com
FMCA Digital Magazine	fmcmagazine.com
Western Motor Home Association	wafmca.com
Western Assoc. ByWays Newsletter:	http://wafmca.com/wp-content/uploads/fall_2015_ByWays_Color-.pdf

Annual Dues:

Please go to the next page of this newsletter for your Annual Dues Invoice.

**Financial Report
August 27 - September 26**

Beginning Balance	\$ \$11,397.09
Receipts	\$ \$0.00
Expenses & Deposits	\$ 216.18
Ending Balance	\$ \$11,180.91



**FMCA California Coasters Membership Renewal for
2017 dues**

Payable no later than January 1, 2017

Notice is hereby given:

1. As provided by the Chapters bylaws that membership dues are now being accepted for 2017.
2. The membership renewal fee is \$ 18.00.
3. In accordance with the Chapter bylaws, they are due by **January 1, 2017**
4. [Make your check payable to California Coasters.](#)
5. Include your FMCA # on your check.

Mail this form and check to:

Sharon Rendall
Membership Chairperson
15455 Glenoaks Blvd. Spc 319
Sylmar, CA. 91342

Please complete the following:

Name(s): -----

F.M.C.A. #-----



Address: -----



City: -----State-----Zip: -----

Home phone #-----Cell#-----

E-Mail: -----

[Thank you and please make a copy for your records](#)

 California Coasters Christmas Rally Registration Paso Robles, CA 				
Place: Wine Country RV Resort 2500 Airport Rd Paso Robles, CA 93446 Date: December 5th - 8th, 2016	Trail Bosses: Bob & Julie Wyrick Dave & Karen Dixon Dennis Martin & Lauren Krups Kerry & Robin Ray Registration Deadline: November 5, 2016			
Name(s):		Arrival Date:		
Phone:		Email:		
Cell Phone:		FMCA #		
Emergency Contact:		Emergency Phone:		
Relationship:		Handicapped Parking : Y N		
Coach Length:	License #	Tow: Y N	Number of Slides:	
ITEM	# OF People/Nts	AMOUNT CHARGED	AMOUNT TO PAY	COMMENTS
PARKING FEE PER NIGHT		\$49.00		
FOOD COST PER PERSON		\$62.00		
TOTAL ENCLOSED =				
SEND FORM and CHECK PAYABLE TO: CALIFORNIA COASTERS MAIL TO: Bob & Julie Wyrick 374 San Luis Ave Pismo Beach, CA 93449 NOTE: Registration checks will be deposited no more than five days prior to the start of the rally. If you are coming in early or staying later, call the Wine Country RV Resort at 805-238-4560 and make your own reservations for those extra days. The rates for the weekend are different. Tell them you are with the California Coasters RV Club." " Do not forget to bring your Auction items and Toys for Tots gifts (unwrapped)" " Some people at the closing of last year's Christmas party had asked to help and had some great ideas. But we did not write your names down. If you are still interested in helping please call us at (805) 305-1830. "				
The County of San Luis Obispo and the City of Paso Robles are rich with ideas about what to do and see. Check out the following web sites before you leave home and plan on what to do with "time on your own" .www.pasorobleschamber.com www.sanluisobispo.com				

	RALLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE Wine Country RV Resort Paso Robles, CA	
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DAY/DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
Sunday December 4, 2016	2:00 PM	Committee & Early Arrivals Check-in
Monday December 5th	2:00 PM	All, Check-in
	5:00 PM	Social Time - BYOB - Club House Snacks Provided by Committee
	6:00 PM	Light Meal Provided by Committee BYOTS
Tuesday December 6th	8 - 9 AM	Coffee, Light Breakfast Provided by Committee
	10:00 AM	Membership Meeting - Installation of Officers
	3 - 5 PM	Eberly Winery to Provide Free Wine Tasting in the Club House (20% Discount).
	5:30 PM	Social Time - BYOB Snacks Provided by Committee
	6:00 PM	Catered Dinner
	7:30 PM	Entertainment - TBA
Wednesday December 7th	8 - 9 AM	Coffee, Light Breakfast Provided by Committee
	9:00 AM	Golf - Paso Robles Country Club - \$50.00 - Sign Up with Bob Wyrick
	3:00 PM	Tour/Tasting TBA
	5:00 PM	Social Time - BYOB Snacks Provided by Committee
	6:00 PM	Catered Dinner
	7:00 PM	Entertainment by the Treble Makers - Barbershop
	7:30 PM	Pictures with Santa Claus
	8:00 PM	Auction Featuring LeRoy Davis
Thursday December 8th	8:00 AM	Coffee and Leftover Breakfast Items
		Departure Day - Say Goodbyes and Travel Safely

Volunteers Needed

Indio Rally January 8 – 15, 2017



Once again the California Coasters have stepped up to volunteer to drive the six-passenger Handicapped Trams (golf carts) to assist FMCA members get around the Riverside County Fair Grounds during the Indio Rally. To erase the “handicapped” stigma, the committee has decided to change the name of our service to the more appropriate terminology of “Courtesy Trams,” because you do not have to be handicapped to ride on the trams.

Having 5 six passenger trams in service during the Rally requires about 65 volunteers to drive two or three 3-hour shifts. To meet this requirement, we have partnered with the Monaco Roamers (Roamers) Chapter to help us meet the demand for volunteers to drive the golf carts during the rally. The benefit that we and the Roamers receive is that we both get to park close to the venues on asphalt with 30 Amp electrical hookups during the Rally. We are usually located next to the new and almost new motor home display area.



So if you are planning to go to the Indio Rally and join in on the “Beach Party” festivities that include Coaster comradery, RV related seminars, new and used motor home displays, sale of RV equipment & supplies, free coffee and donuts, Beach Party Parade, ice cream social and food booths, sign up to attend the Rally and volunteer to help out by taking your turn as a volunteer golf cart driver to help fellow FMCA members get from one place to another on the vast Riverside County Fair Grounds.

All you need to do is sign up with FMCA and the Coasters to attend the Rally (see directions in this issue of the Chatter) and email George Brodt at gbrodt@earthlink.net, or call George at (661) 904-7083, to say that you and your wife (significant other) would like to help out as volunteer golf cart drivers. Volunteers also get to participate in the free volunteer dinner on Tuesday evening and they get one-night free parking at the fairgrounds on Tuesday night (worth \$ 25.00).

REMINDER: You must complete the following registration for the California Coasters AND go online to FMCA.COM and register for the Rally with FMCA.

	California Coasters WMHA Rally Registration Indio, CA			
Place: Riverside County Fairgrounds 82-503 Hwy 111 Indio, CA 92201		Trail Bosses: Thom & Sharon Page John & Gigi Neisess Denny & Sybil Wheeler Paul & Virginia Springer		
Date: January 8 - 15, 2017		Registration Deadline: Friday, December 9, 2016		
Name(s):		Arrival Date: January 8, 2017		
Phone:	Email:			
Cell Phone:	FMCA #			
Emergency Contact:	Emergency Phone:			
Relationship:	Handicapped Parking : Y N			
Coach Length: License #	Tow: Y N	Number of Slides:		
ITEM	# OF PEOPLE	AMOUNT CHARGED	AMOUNT TO PAY	COMMENTS
FOOD COST PER PERSON		\$65		
PARKING FEE VOLUNTEERS Covers Sun, Mon & Tues nights	X	\$50		
PARKING FEE, <u>NON-VOLIUNTEERS</u> Covers Sun, Mon, Tues nights	X	\$75		
TOTAL ENCLOSED =				
SEND FORM and CHECK PAYABLE TO: CALIFORNIA COASTERS				
MAIL TO: Thom Page 1146 11th St. Los Osos, CA 93402				
NOTE: Registration checks will be deposited no more than five days prior to the start of the rally.				
Directions: I-10 to Monroe. Monroe south 3 miles to 48th. Left 1/2 mile to Arabia Street. Left on Arabia to the arival area on the right.				

	INDIO RALLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE		
DAY/DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	
Sunday, January 8, 2017	11:00am	Enter Rally and set-up party area	
Sunday, January 8, 2017	5:00pm	Heavy Hors d'oeuvres-Bring your own beverage (BYOB), Bring your own table setting (BYOTS)	
Monday, January 9, 2017	7:30am-9:00am	Donuts-BYOB	
Monday, January 9, 2017	5:00pm	Light Hors d'oeuvres-BYOB, BYOTS	
Monday, January 9, 2017	6:00pm	Catered Dinner-BYOB, BYOTS	
Tuesday, January 10, 2017	7:30am-9:00am	Donuts-BYOB	
Tuesday, January 10, 2017	5:00pm	Light Hors d'oeuvres-BYOB, BYOTS	
Tuesday, January 10, 2017	6:00pm	Volunteer Dinner or Dinner on your own	
Wednesday, January 11, 2017	7:30am-9:00am	Donuts-BYOB	
Wednesday, January 11, 2017	5:00pm	Light Hors d'oeuvres-BYOB, BYOTS	
Wednesday, January 11, 2017	6:00pm	Catered Dinner-BYOB, BYOTS	
Thursday, January 12, 2017	7:30am-9:00am	Donuts-BYOB	
Thursday, January 12, 2017	5:00pm	Light Hors d'oeuvres-BYOB, BYOTS	
Thursday, January 12, 2017	6:00pm	Catered Dinner-(Following Parade) BYOB, BYOTS	
Friday, January 13, 2017	7:30am-9:00am	Donuts-BYOB	
Friday, January 13, 2017	4:00pm	Light Hors d'oeuvres-BYOB, BYOTS	
Friday, January 13, 2017	5:00pm	Catered Dinner-BYOB, BYOTS	
Friday, January 13, 2017	6:00pm	Entertainment	
Saturday, January 14, 2017	7:30am-9:00am	Donuts-BYOB	
Saturday, January 14, 2017	4:00pm	Light Hors d'oeuvres-BYOB	
Saturday, January 14, 2017	5:00pm	Group Dinner Mario's Italian Restaurant	
Saturday, January 14, 2017	6:00pm	Awards and Entertainment	
Sunday, January 15, 2017		Safe Travels	

	California Coasters Rally Registration Pismo Beach, CA			
Place: Pismo Coast Village RV Resort 165 S. Dolliver Street Pismo Beach, CA. 93449 (805)773-1811	Trail Bosses: John & Carol Wright Assistants: Lance & Judi Brown Tim & Joy Gilles Court & Chris Warren			
Date: Feb. 6-10, 2017	Registration Deadline: Dec. 31, 2016			
Name(s):	Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____			
Phone:	Email:			
Cell Phone:	FMCA #			
Emergency Contact:	Emergency Phone:			
Relationship:	Handicapped Parking : Y N			
Coach Length: License #	Tow: Y N	Number of Slides:		
ITEM	# OF PEOPLE	# EXTRA NITES ONLY	AMOUNT TO PAY	COMMENTS
PARKING (rally is <u> 4 </u> nites)	X	X	\$165.00	Coasters pays first 3 nights and 4th night is FREE
FOOD (<u> \$44 </u> per person)		X		Does not include the Elks Lodge or Rosa's Italian Restaurant
EXTRA NIGHTS (<u> \$55 </u> per nite)	X			MUST pay thru Coasters
ELK'S LODGE TACO NIGHT		X	PAY ELK'S	NOT INCLUDED
ROSA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT		X	PAY ROSA'S	NOT INCLUDED
TOTAL ENCLOSED =				
SEND FORM and CHECK PAYABLE TO: CALIFORNIA COASTERS				
MAIL TO: John Wright 5036 W. Locust Ave. Fresno, CA. 93722				
NOTE: Registration checks will be deposited no more than five days prior to the start of the rally.				
EXTRA NIGHTS before or after the rally MUST BE ARRANGED WITH AND PAID TO THE COASTERS.				
Maximum extra days is 5 days before and 5 days after the rally. Only 30 sites are reserved.				
Check in is AFTER 4:00 PM. Check out is BEFORE 12:00 PM.				
NOTE: The cost for the dinners at the ELKS LODGE and ROSA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT are not included. We are arranging for the reservations only so please indicate if you are going so we can give them a head count.				
DIRECTIONS:				
Northbound US101: Exit Price Street East . At the bottom of the off ramp, turn Left onto Ocean View Street (the first cross street). Go one block to Dolliver Street and turn Left . At the first stop light, turn Right into the resort.				
Southbound US101: Exit HWY 1 South . Proceed straight thru town on Dolliver Street (Hwy 1). At the third stop light, turn Right into the resort.				







RALLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE PISMO BEACH, CA



DAY/DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
Sun 2/5/17	4:00 PM	Committee and early arrivals check in
	5:00 PM	Social hour @ Wright's RV, BYOB
	6:00 PM	Dinner on your own
Mon 2/6/17	4:00 PM	Coasters check in
	5:00 PM	Social hour @ club house, BYOB, light appetizers provided
	6:00 PM	Dinner @ ELKS CLUB or on your own (car pool as parking is limited), Taco Nite, \$8.50 per person, pay to Elks**
Tues 2/7/17	7:30 AM	Coffee @ club house, BYO cup
	8:00 AM	Continental breakfast, BYOTS
		Enjoy the day on your own
	5:00 PM	Social hour @ club house, BYOB, light appetizers provided
	6:00 PM	Catered Dinner @ club house, clam chowder bowl, salad
	7:00 PM	Games and prizes
Wed 2/8/17	7:30 AM	Coffee @ club house, BYO cup
	8:00 AM	Continental breakfast, BYOTS
		Enjoy the day on your own
	5:00 PM	Social hour @ club house, BYOB, light appetizers provided
	6:00 PM	Catered Dinner @ club house, pulled pork sandwiches, fries, salad
	7:00 PM	Games and prizes
Thur 2/9/17	7:30 AM	Coffee @ club house, BYO cup
	8:00 AM	Continental breakfast, BYOTS
		Enjoy the day on your own
	5:00 PM	Social hour @ club house, BYOB, light appetizers provided
	6:00 PM	Dinner @ ROSA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT or on your own (car pool as parking is limited), pay to Rosa's**
Fri 2/10/17	7:30 AM	Coffee @ club house, BYO cup
	8:00 AM	Continental breakfast, BYOTS
	12:00 PM	Good byes and departure

**** Please advise if you will be going to these dinners as we have to give a head count and reserve tables for the group.**

	<h1 style="margin: 0;">2016 RALLY SCHEDULE</h1>		
2016	RALLY & LOCATION	TRAILBOSS	ASSISTANTS
Jan 3 - 10	WFMCA Rally Riverside County Fairgrounds Indio, CA	Court & Cris Warren	Ed & Geri Frank DJ & LeRoy Davis Ida-Jean & Woody Woodruff Don & Nancy Baumgart
Feb 4 - 7	Laguna Seca Monterey, CA	George & Donna Brodt	Mike & Rhonda Catron Dave & Sylvia Burns Randy & Doris Gibbs
March 1 - 5	Tombstone Territory RV Huachuca City, AZ	Paul & Virginia Springer	DJ & LeRoy Davis
Apr 7 - 10	Marble Quarry RV Park Columbia, CA	Cancelled No Trail Boss	
May 9 - 12	Bass Lake RV Resort Bass Lake, CA	Kerry & Robin Ray	Jamie & Pam Strachan
May 27 - 30	Mule Days Fairground Bishop, CA	Dave & Sylvia Burns	
July/August	DARK MONTHS		
Aug 23 - Sep 20	Trip to Oregon & Washington	Denny & Sybil Wheeler	Howard & Maureen Jones Ed & Geri Frank
Oct 19 - 23	The Springs RV Resort @ Borrego Springs	Mike & Jill Carle	Dale & Betty Johnson Randy & Doris Gibbs Pete & Ellen Mattson
November	DARK MONTH		
Dec 5 - 8	Wine Country RV Paso Robles, CA	Bob & Julie Wyrick	Dave & Karen Dixon Kerry & Robin Ray Lauren Krup & Dennis Martin

		<h2 style="margin: 0;">2017 RALLY SCHEDULE</h2>			
2017	RALLY & LOCATION	TRAILBOSS	ASSISTANTS		
Jan 11 - 15	WFMCA Rally Riverside County Fairgrounds Indio, CA	Thom & Sharon Page	Denny & Sybil Wheeler John & Gigi Neisess Denny & Sybil Wheeler Paul & Virginia Springer		
February 6 - 10	Pismo Coast Village Pismo Beach	John & Carol Wright	Court & Cris Warren Lance & Judi Brown Tim & Joy Gilles		
March	Open	Available	??		
April 3 - 8	Distant Drums RV Resort Camp Verde, AZ (Sedona)	LeRoy & DJ Davis	Paul & Virginia Springer Howard & Maureen Jones Roger & Sharon Rendall		
May 8 - 10	The Lakes RV & Golf Resort Chowchilla, CA	Dick & Rose Marie Perry	??		
June/July/Aug.	DARK MONTHS				
Sept. 11 - 14	Flying Flags RV Resort Buellton, CA	John & Carol Wright	Lance & Judi Brown Tim & Joy Giles Pat & Shirley Crawford		
October	Balloon Festival Albuquerque, NM	John & Gigi Neisess			
November	DARK MONTH				
Dec 4 - 8	Wine Country RV Paso Robles, CA				

**California Coasters Visit
Oregon, Washington, Idaho
August 23 – September 20, 2016
“Travelog”**

By: Sylvia Wheeler

We all met at Flag City in Lodi to start our journey. Our group consisted of Denny/Sybil Wheeler, Sharon/Roger Rendall, Jill/Mike Carle, Howard/Maureen Jones & Dick/Rose Marie Perry and six dogs! Before starting our trip Denny broke his toe so he was in a “boot” the whole trip. Roger broke a front tooth so superglued it back on and there it stayed the whole trip! We met in the club house for cocktails and heavy appetizers to discuss the itinerary. Only one “oops” to start out with – when time to close club house, Denny couldn’t find the clubhouse keys so we all scattered, looked everywhere, even garbage can when “bingo” Sybil discovered they were in her pocket!! Enough said!

Next stop Red Bluff: very hot so some went to the pool to cool down then we met for cocktails and some “spit and chew.” After dinner each of us told a funny story about an RV experience and that was fun. Another “oops” for Sybil/Denny was we hung our bathing suits on the awning to dry and the next day driving down the highway, Denny looked in the side mirror and noticed our suits still hanging outside! So...we pulled over and were able to retrieve them!

Next stop: Shady Cove, Oregon. We were parked right on the Rogue River where we could watch the fish jump and the fishermen hoping to catch. There were lots of rafts drifting down the river so we spent a lot of time just sitting in our chairs enjoying the tranquil setting. That night we went to a diner next door for dinner – a 50’s type diner with great food. The men had their pictures taken with Marilyn Monroe and the women had theirs taken with Elvis! At the end of the meal we all were given a stick of bubble gum so we decided to be teenagers again and see who could blow the biggest bubble. Needless to say, the teenage enthusiasm and breath are not there anymore but Mike got the biggest bubble which was really only a “pop.”

The next day we discovered a flea market just across the river so some of the group went there to buy jewelry, etc. Sybil's childhood friend, Jane, from Medford came and joined us for the jet boat trip down the Rogue River. Unfortunately, this boat trip that we remembered from years back is now a huge tourist attraction and there are about six boats with 85 people in each boat! But it was fun & we did see some osprey, one bald eagle, fishermen and beautiful homes along the bank. We left the boats to go up the hill to a large open restaurant where we had a wonderful dinner. The way back was fun and games for the drivers of two boats – ours was one – where they spun us around and one boat splashed the other back and forth until we reached the starting dock. Everyone was totally soaked and all hairdos were gone!

Next stop: Westfir, Oregon right on the Willamette River in the Willamette National Forest. Again we were parked right by the river so we all just spent time enjoying the scenery and some more “spit & chew.” Dinner was potluck outside among the trees. The next day we went our separate ways to explore but most of us ended up at the covered bridge (longest in Oregon) and up to the fish hatchery where we saw some 50-year old (300 to 400 lbs & 8 feet long) sturgeon! The park here had a soft ice cream machine so we all did partake in that!

Two more “oops.” Howard had some electrical problem which Engineer Mike took care of. Then at the Seven Feathers Casino gas station, it took Dick a half hour to get gas. Seems someone before him had put in a credit card which snapped in two then got lodged in the machine so Dick couldn't get the pump to work. Finally, after much frustration, it worked and we were all off again!

Next stop: Hood River. The drive to Hood River was a beautiful drive by the Columbia River with the forests starting to turn red and yellow. Getting to the fairgrounds where we all camped was a bit of a challenge to all but we did make it. We had the fairgrounds to ourselves to the dogs were allowed to run the whole field and they just went wild with the freedom! We all went our separate ways to explore. Most of us went on the “apple tour” – just many fruit/apple stands along the valley.

Continued

Mike & Jill went to Bonneville Dam. Sybil & Denny met a college friend of Sybil's and she and her husband took us all over the valley. The valley is absolutely spectacular with its mountains, trees, and miles and miles of apple orchards. One day all of us went to the Discovery Center in The Dalles which told us the story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Indians, floods of the ice age. We celebrated Roger & Sharon's anniversary with apple pie.

Next stop: Leavenworth Wa. Once again we are parked overlooking the Wenatchee River. Leavenworth is a Bavarian town with fun and interesting shops. We all ventured into town for one day but went our separate ways the next day. Tonight Sharon & Roger treated us to a German dinner of knackwurst, sauerkraut, potato salad and Rose Marie furnished the cake. (Howard drove to Costco 30 miles away to buy gas and save money!!!!) After Leavenworth, we drove to Brewster driving along the Columbia River. It is a beautiful valley with thousands of acres of apples which were visible clear up the mountainsides. We stopped overnight in Brewster but decided to stay only one night & next day drove on to Dry Falls Park near Coulee City, Wa. We all went to the visitor center to learn the story of the ice age floods which have now produced huge canyons and many lakes. Thursday, we all drove to Grand Coulee Dam and took the tour of the dam (actually drove onto the dam with the guide). We had dinner at a restaurant then to the visitor center to learn about the building of the dam. We stayed to see the spectacular light-night show which is portrayed on the flow of the water going over the dam. We will reluctantly leave this beautiful sight! Tonight a windstorm came up and shook our rigs to the point that it made us all very nervous!

Oops! Unfortunately, the next morning Roger's slide would not go in. We all pushed and shoved to no avail. So after much discussion we left them to get some professional help. A mechanic did get the slide in but they had to spend one more night in Sun Lakes Park and their slide will stay in until they get home to get it fixed.

Continued

The rest of us got to Blackwell Island RV park in Coeur d'Alene, Id. Wow, what a beautiful park! We have decided to stay an extra day. Friday night we ate dinner at a floating restaurant (the best salmon steak cooked on a cedar plank & delicious prime rib) and free drinks courtesy of the RV park! (We went back the next night so Roger/Sharon could go when they got to the park). Here Mike/Jill Maureen/Howard, Roger/Sharon took boat trip around the lake. Sybil/Denny took a drive around the lake, ate in the small town of Harrison (300 people), stopped next door for homemade fudge and met a couple from Paso Robles! Just missed seeing a tour of 30 horseless carriages dating as early as 1913 We did get to see a few of the cars because the drivers were staying at the same park as we were. The day we left, we saw a moose & her two young ones, and flocks of geese flew over the park in the morning to the lake then back again to go home at night.

We stayed in Clarkston only one night – Mike/Jill took the jet boat trip up the Snake river. The rest of us just hung out and watched the fishermen in boats trying to catch Steelhead trout. In the morning, we counted 43 fishing boats on the river!

OOPS: Howard's steps would not go in and when he finally got them in, they were in for good during the rest of the trip. Wish I had a picture of Howard lifting Maureen into their rig – sort of a "butt raise!!"

Getting to Lyons Ferry RV in Starbuck was a bit of an adventure! It is out "in the boonies" but on the Snake River. Seems the GPS guided people in different directions! Sybil/Denny ended up in construction because our GPS told us to turn – then, Sharon's GPS told them the turnoff too late (Maureen/Howard were following them) & they all ended up going over a very narrow long bridge but someone told them to turn around in a park so they finally met up with us. RV park was small, on a hill near a train bridge which once was the highest in U.S. We all settled in and then drove to Palouse Falls – another ice age falls.

Continued

Next: Madras, Or. Long drive but beautiful country with mountains, trees and miles and miles of wheat fields. Needless to say we all had “an adventure” just finding then next park! GPS’s told drivers a route which turned out to be horrendous. This park is on the Deschutes River but way, way down a canyon! And I mean WAY down! Straight down! Narrow road! Other RV’s following GPS ended up on a VERY narrow bridge, sharp turn: one car tire rubbed the bridge, Howard left some RV paint on bridge. That first night was definitely a “two-martini drink night!! Jill/Mike were gone two days in Walla Walla, Dick/Rose Marie left today (they had to go home on business), Roger/Sharon are leaving tomorrow because of family illness and Mike/Jill arrived here this afternoon. We seem to be playing musical chairs!!!

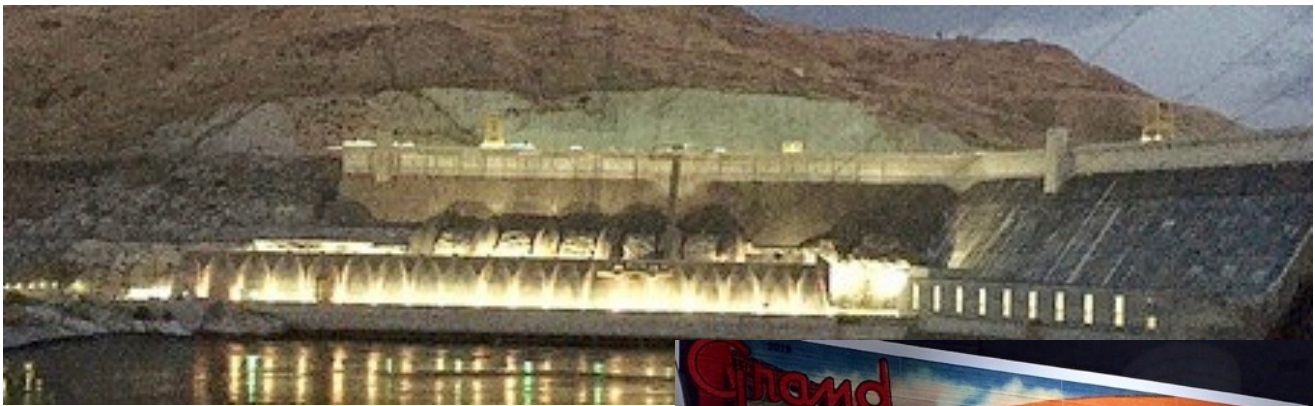
In Bend, we stayed at Crown Villa RV Park. It is a very large park with 140 spaces. We asked the manager if they would refund Roger’s money because of an emergency at home and they said “no.” And the park would not refund Dick/Rosemary either because they called in two hours too late under “their policy.” They did rebook both spaces so they made \$240 for two spaces for one night!! Just for your info in case any of you think about booking in that park. In Bend, Jill/Maureen/Sybil decided to go “dumpster diving” (going to thrift shops) and Denny was our chauffeur. We hit three shops and all of us bought something. Lots of fun and laughs.

We are now in Diamond Lake and on our last leg of the trip. What beautiful country!!! We are parked right in the forest – the weather is cold at night (37 degrees) but pleasant during the day. Jill/Mike went hiking to see the falls in this valley and to do some birding. Maureen/Howard & Sybil/Denny went to Crater Lake, had lunch, then drove around the lake which is spectacular. After dinner we all walked down to the lake (Diamond Lake) to have ice cream (Howard is a big fan of Umpqua ice cream!) Jill/Mike left the next morning so we are down to two rigs. Sybil/Denny & Howard/Maureen decided to go see some of the many falls around the lake. There are 14 falls but we could only take in three. Tonight we decided to celebrate our last night with pizza at the café on the lake. Tomorrow Maureen/Howard head for home and Sybil/Denny are heading to Bandon and the Oregon Coast.

Continued

are heading to Bandon and the Oregon Coast.

Needless to say, it has been quite a trip. Denny has worked on this trip for a year and being the adventurer that he is.....I think all those on the trip would say IT WAS AN ADVENTURE!!! And all of them were really great troupers through it all with the "oops", steep hills, back roads, bumpy roads, narrow bridges, bees, sharp curves, etc. etc. etc. but spectacular country and fun cocktail gatherings telling the events of each



Grand Coulee Dam Light Show

