



**ESCAPEES - CHAPTER 29
CAROLINA ROVERS
OCTOBER 1, 2014
NEWSLETTER**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Escapees RV Club

Over the years, our chapter has recruited several new members to Escapees, Inc and to Chapter 29. So I thought it might be a good time to talk about the Escapees and to share my experience with SKP, the chapters and some of BoFs (Birds of a Feather). For me it all started in Albuquerque, NM at the balloon festival. I pulled into the RV Park, aka sand parking lot, located at the south end of the launch site. Next to me was a 5th wheel owned by Mel and Evelyn Nobis. They were very busy taking pictures with some very nice cameras. I was very fascinated with the shots Mel was taking of the looks on the faces of people looking at the balloons. We struck up a conversation and later that day, Mel invited me to a social hour in a tent erected near our RVs. He said they were Escapees and coming from training and working with Law Enforcement over the years, I was very suspicious of this group of Escapees. So with caution, I entered the tent. Within seconds I had a name tag slapped on my chest and people approached me, introduced themselves and proceeded to hug me. I said to myself, this is not bad, a tent full of complete strangers who want to hug. Yes, I was single and a full time RVer at the time. Mel and Evelyn checked on me several times during the night but somehow they knew I would be ok. Very early the next morning, I was sitting in my lawn chair in the middle of the road drinking coffee and watching the balloons. Within minutes people passed by to say "Good Morning Steve". At first I said to myself, "How do they know my name?" Then the switch went off. Oh ya – Escapees. Well, that was the beginning of my journey with the Escapees and each year it gets better and better. Mel, who was the official photographer for SKP, Inc signed me up and I started attending Escapades, became a member of the DOVES (Disaster Operations Volunteer Escapees), was elected VP of the DOVES, and attended my first ACRE in Marion, NC where I volunteered to facilitate a meeting of people from NC and SC. People around the table included Bob & Debby Seaver, Norman & Carol Lawrence, Kaye & Erwin Heins, Keith & Carol Martin, Kathy Whealy & Bob Cathey and most likely more, but I can't remember who. I promised them that if they could elect officers and work on a draft bylaws, I would volunteer to be co-rally master for their first rally. Mind you, my domicile was Florida but I spent at least a month in NC each year visiting my son and his family.

This is my story but it's one that is repeated time and time again throughout America. We are people who have a desire to live the RV Lifestyle. I want to thank you for making Chapter 29 and the Escapees one of the best RV Clubs in America.

Hugs,
Steve



CAROLINA ROVERS CHAPTER 29 - OFFICERS

President	Steve Masterson	SKP #95338	
Vice President	Kaye Heins	SKP#91427	
Secretary	Marie Rickenbach	SKP#72083	
Treasurer	Terri Wirtz	SKP#93910	

Editor's Note: The Carolina Rover's Newsletter will be published quarterly on April 1, July 1, October 1, and January 1. Submissions must be sent to me via email at no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication. The next issue is January 1 - cutoff is December 15th. I welcome your input and pictures. If you have a suggestion to make the newsletter better, your suggestions are always welcome. Thank you for your participation.

Dianne Wood



CHAPTER 29 - 2014 FALL RALLY

Well, here we are at the completion of yet another Rally.and what a **GREAT** rally it was! There were 21 rigs, 5 new members (which also means 5 new friends), and numerous guests.



We started the Rally on Thursday afternoon with a social hour and announcements immediately followed by a dinner at The Depot at Cody Creek. The location was beautiful and the food and service were excellent. During the week, Mt. Airy was celebrating "Mayberry Days". Opportunities included tours of the Granite Quarry, Andy Griffith and Twins museums, a parade on Saturday morning, Pilot Mountain State Park, the Blue Ridge Mountains, and local attractions such as Snappy Lunch, Floyd's Barber Shop, and too many more

to list. For any who missed the pork chop sandwich at Snappy Lunch you missed a real treat!

We were fortunate to have Rick Loomis, Camping World, Colfax, NC represented during the Rally. He not only gave a presentation but also brought in new rigs for our viewing. Additionally, Camping World sponsored our catered meal which was awesome. The meal was prepared by Cousin Gary's Family Restaurant in Pilot Mountain who also generously donated the donuts for the following morning's breakfast.

On Saturday night we topped off the week with the SKP Pot Luck dinner - which as always - was delicious. And just when we thought it couldn't get any better, it did with the ice cream social! The good thing about all the fine food and ice cream (and the added weight!) is that we have 6 months to diet in preparation for the 2015 Spring Rally. Each night ended with a campfire where we made new friends and bonded with old ones. If you don't know what the ballerina, the ambulance and the toe, and the chicken and the out house have in common - then you'll just have to join us for the Spring Rally to find out what you missed.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to all who participated in the rally meal preparation, social hours, cleanup, suggestions, and campfires for making this event such a success. We have also extended our sincere thanks to Cousin Gary's Family Restaurant, Camping World of Colfax, Mt. Airy Chamber of Commerce, and the entire staff of the Mayberry Campground for their much appreciated contributions. It was also our pleasure to donate extra left over food to the Shepherd House of Mt. Airy, enabling those less fortunate to enjoy a good hot meal and dessert.



We missed those who were unable to attend due to illness, RV problems (and hope they are now back on the well-traveled roads of our beautiful country) or for other unknown reasons. Here's hoping that you will travel safely in the future and we look forward to seeing you all at the 2015 Spring Rally.

Minutes of Escapees Chapter 29 Carolina Rovers

2014 Fall Rally, September 26, 2014, 5:00pm – 6:00pm
Mayberry Campground, Mt. Airy, NC

President, Steve Masterson called the meeting to order, welcomed members and guests, introduced new members, officers present and Volunteer Chapter Representatives Tom and Mary Ann O'Brian and Sue Spahn.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – The chapter membership fluctuates between 45 and 55 rigs. We are sound financially and due to funds collected at the Spring Rally and not spent, the cost of this rally to attendees would be zero.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Marie Rickenbach read the minutes from the meeting at the 2014 Spring meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The motion was passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Terri Wirtz confirmed that we are sound financially. The ending balance in our check book is \$993.42. There are some debits such as shipping for shirts and patches and \$178.80 designated to send to CARE that will be deducted from this as well as bills from this, 2014 Fall rally. Our Bank account has been changed from a business account to a personal account to avoid \$12.00 per month charges for accounts with less than \$1500.00. Terri reminded members that they must be a member of Escapees before they could be a member of Chapter 29. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was passed.

President Steve Masterson explained CARE (Continuing Assistance for Retired Escapees) to new members and reported that we had 23 rigs, 43 people including 6 new members and 5 guests attending the 2014 fall rally.

VCR Report - Tom and Mary Ann reported that the latest Escapee number was 119069. Escapees has about 65,000 – 70,000 active members. There is also a golden age membership available to members 72 and older who no longer travel for \$14.95 per year. Golden Age members must pay non-member fees for camping at Escapee campgrounds. There is also a veteran's discount of 5% available; a copy of your DD-214 needs to be provided to Escapees. More information can be obtained at www.escapees.com/veterans. Tom and Mary Ann thanked Steve and our rally masters.

New Business -

1. Escapade will be March 8 – 13, 2015 in Tucson AZ. If no one is attending we need to find out if we can have flyers for Chapter 29 on a table for distribution. (After the meeting, Mary and Andy Brown volunteered to staff the ROW.)
2. Chapter 29 2015 Spring Rally will be held April 11-14, 2015 at River Plantation RV Resort, 1004 Parkway, Sevierville, TN 37862 <http://rvcoutdoors.com/river-plantation/> We have reserved 30 sites for the Chapter 29 rally. Members need to make their reservations directly with the campground and tell the campground

they are with Escapees Chapter 29 so they will be assigned campsites with our group. They also need to confirm with the campground that they will (or will not) be staying for SKP ACRE so they will not have to move. Campground rates are \$30.50 (plus tax) for the Chapter 29 rally – the same rate as SKP ACRE. Sue and Jack Brinker, Dave Young and Helen Thompkins will be Rally Masters.

3. 2015 SKP ACRE (All Chapters Rally East) will be at River Plantation RV Resort (see info above) April 15-21, 2015. Members need to make their own reservations with the Campground. Please remember to tell them your are attending the SKP ACRE and want to park with SKP Chapter 29. For more information on SKP ACRE go to <http://skpacre.com>
4. Chapter 29 2015 Fall Rally. Rally Master Keith and Carol Martin. It has been presented to have the rally at Willow Tree RV Resort in Longs, NC (37 miles NE of Myrtle Beach). Other venues were discussed. Norman Lowrance will look at other venues and rates next week. Norman will share this information with the Officers to determine next steps. We are looking for a campground with rates less than \$35.00 per night.
5. Chapter 29 2016 Spring Rally – we need volunteers for rally masters. No one volunteered.
6. Chapter 29 elections – Spring 2015 Vice President and Treasurer will be up for election. Kaye Heins has indicated she will not run for reelection. Terri Wirtz has indicated she will run for reelection.
7. Chapter 29 Financial Review – a 3 member committee was selected to conduct the review. They are Craig Rickenbach, Barb Homer and John Martin with Bob Seaver acting as an alternate. Craig will be chair the committee and schedule the review.
8. A change in collecting dues was discussed. A plan was suggested to pay for 3 years and get the 4th year. It was decided to keep the current plan of \$5.00 per year with the opportunity to pay for more than one year at a time.
9. It was mentioned that our goal with rally fees is keep them below \$10.00 per person and as close as possible to the actual cost.
10. Name tags. Steve Masterson will post all resources for obtaining name tags on our website. Three major sources for obtaining nametags were mentioned.
 - A. Too Crazy Ladies (yes they are still in business) have Chapter 29 Logo. Too Crazy Ladies are long time SKP members. <http://toocrazyladies.com>
 - B. SKP Inc. <http://www.escapees.com/badges/>
 - C. Best Badges Plus - <http://bestbadgesplus.com>

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. Motion carried.

CHAPTER 29 - 2014 FALL RALLY

“MOMENTS IN HISTORY”



CHAPTER 29 - NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming our newest Chapter 29 members!



Ed & Bobbie Escolas



Jerry Snyder &
Maggie Highsmith



Ron Johnson

CAROLINA ROVERS GOODIES

During past rallies we have realized what talented cooks we have in our chapter. In future newsletters we would like to share recipes, particularly those that are easy to fix and cook in an RV environment. Since this is the first newsletter in a while and we didn't have time to ask for submissions, I will use two of the recipes we enjoyed last week. Stay tuned for more goodies in future issues.

Goulash

Ingredients:

1 1/2 pounds ground beef or turkey - browned	2 (15 oz.) cans tomato sauce
1 small onion, diced	24 fluid ounces water
1 small bell pepper diced	1 tablespoon chopped garlic
4 large mushrooms, diced	1 tablespoon grated parmesan cheese
1 pound macaroni	dried parsley
1 (8.75 oz.) can whole kernel corn drained	1 teaspoon white sugar
1 (14.5 oz. can crushed tomatoes	1 teaspoon olive oil if using turkey
4 (6 oz. cans tomato paste	

Mix all ingredients in large pot. Simmer 20 to 25 minutes.

Helen Thompkins

Swedish Meatballs

Ingredients for meatballs:

1 lb. ground beef
1/2 cup bread
1/3 cup minced onion
1/4 cup milk
1 egg
1 tablespoon parsley
1 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon black pepper
1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire Sauce
1/4 cup shortening

Ingredients for sauce:

1 - 8 oz. jar grape jelly
1 - 8 oz. jar chili sauce

Mix meatball ingredients, roll into 1" balls and brown in shortening. Place meatballs in crock pot and add grape jelly and chile sauce. Recipe may be doubled to fill crock pot.

2015 Spring Rally - Chapter 29

When: April 11-14, 2015
Where: River Plantation RV Resort
1004 Parkway
Sevierville, TN

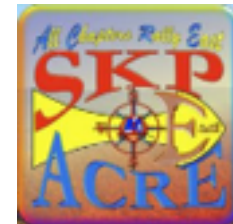


Rally Masters: Sue & Jack Brinker
Dave Young & Helen Thompkins
Fee: Camping \$30.50 FHU
Rally - TBD

Reservations: <http://rvoutdoors.com/river-plantation/> 800-758-5267
Identify yourself as a SKP Chapter 29 member and if you're attending the chapter rally and SKP ACRE let them know so you won't have to move your site between events.

2015 SKP ACRE

When: April 15-21, 2015
Where: River Plantation RV Resort
1004 Parkway
Sevierville, TN
<http://rvoutdoors.com/river-plantation/>
<http://www.skpacre.com>



President Steve Masterson
Fee: Camping \$30.50 FHU
Rally - TBD

Reservations: <http://rvoutdoors.com/river-plantation/> 800-758-5267
Identify yourself as a SKP member and if you're attending the Chapter 29 Rally and SKP ACRE let them know so you won't have to move your site between events.

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Thank you and remember, please send all future submissions, travel news, photo opts, and suggestions for the newsletter to me at 

*Dianne Wood
Newsletter Editor*

