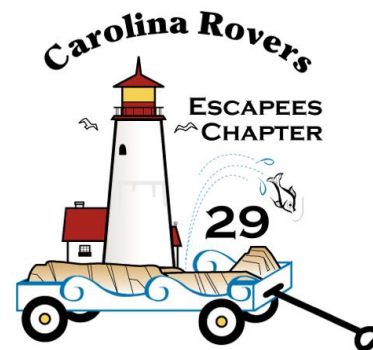


ESCAPEES - CHAPTER 29 CAROLINA ROVERS JANUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2017 – Enough Said

For the first time in my life I can truly say that I am glad 2016 is history. Not because things aren't going to be exciting in 2017 but because it was a year that seemed to be filled with negativity and turmoil. Thinking of what to say for this newsletter was very difficult because for those of you who know me well, know that I love to debate. Well, that's not going to happen in this newsletter or at our rallies. The Carolina Rovers' sole purpose is to promote relationships, share knowledge and enjoy each others company AND I feel we do a great job!

Since our last newsletter in July 2016, many of us went to the Escapade in Vermont where we had a great time. Some of use toured the northeast before and/or after the Escapade. For me, this was the first time in 11 years that I returned to the northeast. The good news, I love the mid-atlantic states, the Carolinas, Florida, Tennessee and everything west of the Mississippi. My goal for 2017 is to avoid major metropolitan areas. Give me a nice campsite in the low country of Charleston or in the Blue Ridge Mountains or Carolina Beach or Savannah and I will be a happy boy.

(Continued on next page)

President, Steve Masterson
SKP#95338

Vice-President & Newsletter
Editor, Dianne Wood
SKP#113382

Secretary, Marie Rickenbach
SKP#72083

Treasurer, Terri Wirtz
SKP#93910

Officer at Large, Keith Martin
SKP#97531

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President's Message

(continued)

Rallies

Spring 2017 - Our Spring rally will be held at Zooland Family Campground in Asheboro, NC from April 20 to 23, 2017. This rally will be hosted by Terri Wirtz and Craig and Marie Rickenbach.

SKP ACRE - Following our Spring rally will be SKP ACRE (Escapees RV Club All Chapters Rally East) in Sevierville, TN at River Plantation RV Resort from April 26 to May 2, 2017.

Fall 2017 – We need co-rally masters and a location for the rally.

Elections

At our Spring rally we will hold elections for Vice President and Treasurer. If you are interested in running, please email me at [REDACTED].

Financial Review

Once a year we ask for 3 volunteers to conduct a financial review. Basically this is a review of our Treasurer's books and the processes we have in place to safeguard the millions of dollars in our treasury. Oops. Toooo many zeros. We try to maintain between \$500 and \$1,000 in our account. The 3 volunteers cannot be officers or spouses/significant other of an officer. Please email me if you are able to do this for the chapter.

Hugs,
Steve

Escapade Request

Hello fellow RVers! Even though it's cold, snowy, and gloomy, this is the perfect time to be thinking about attending the 2017 Escapade. Where else can you go to enjoy approximately 350 days of sun a year and have fun with some of the best folks in the world! You can log in to escapees.com and choose Education / Escapade / 57th Escapade for all of the details from registration to entertainment.



If any of our Chapter 29 members will be attending and would like to volunteer to set up our chapter table on ROW. Please let me know ASAP. For more information, please email me at the address below.

Steve Masterson, Chapter 29 President

2017 Spring Rally - Chapter 29

We haven't really had a bad winter yet and I'm already ready to pack the RV and head to Asheboro. You can find all of the information regarding campsite registration at Zooland in Asheboro on page 20. Marie and Craig Rickenbach and Terri Wirtz, our co-hosts, have a great time planned for us and I know you'll find plenty of interesting places to visit while there or just kick your feet up at Zooland and enjoy the company of your Chapter 29 family. You don't have to be a member of Chapter 29 to join, so plan on visiting with us - we'd love to have you.

Below are some pictures provided to us by our co-hosts as a "teaser" of what's to come.

Dianne Wood
VP & Newsletter Editor



2017 Spring Rally - Chapter 29

(continued)



NC Pottery Center Museum



Seagrove Creations



Inside Seagrove Creations



Seagrove Creations Front Porch



Mural from Downtown Asheboro

2017 Spring Rally - Chapter 29

(continued)



Mural Downtown Asheboro



Pisgah Covered Bridge



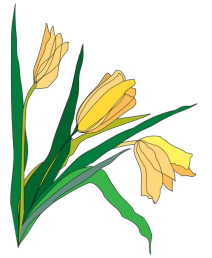
Local Golf Club

Don't delay - make your reservations TODAY!!!

2017 Spring Rally



April 20 - 23, 2017



Remember - if you are planning on attending the Spring Rally in Ashboro, please contact one of the following co-hosts and let them know you are attending in order for them to prepare for the proper number of attendees. If you have already notified them - Thank You!

Marie & Craig Rickenbach



Terri Wirtz



Summer On The Water Maine 2016

BY TERRI WIRTZ SKP #93910

In August, my sister drove from Iowa to NH where I was visiting friends after the Escapade. We left her car there and took the cats and the fifth wheel to Bar Harbor area of Maine. We checked in at Mountain View campground in Sullivan ME which has a beautiful view of Flanders Bay and across to Cadillac Mountain. The campground has water and electric hookups, bath house, and dump station. The few trees are along the edges of the water but even in August, shade is not an issue along the coast of Maine. Internet access is available at the antique store where we checked in. Back roads got us into Bar Harbor in about 20 minutes and the ferry stop in Winter Harbor is only 15 minutes away.



After settling in, we drove to Bar Harbor where we walked downtown along the harbor and the Shorepath.



Royal Caribbean MS Grandeur of the



Bar Harbor Inn

Shorepath sign



Summer On The Water (Continued)

**Margaret Todd
Schooner**



Views of Frenchman's Bay from the Shorepath

The next morning we drove to Winter Harbor to catch the Bar Harbor ferry. Unfortunately, signage was lacking and we ended up at Schoodic Point in the part of Acadia National Park that is on the other side of Frenchman's Bay from Bar Harbor. The drive was very slow:

low speed limit and many bicyclists. At the Point, we got directions and drove all the slow way back to WH. We missed the BH ferry but were able to take the Schoodic ferry to College of the Atlantic. We could have walked to BH downtown but decided to take the free bus. Would have been faster to walk with all the stops the bus made.



Schoodic Ferry at Winter Harbor



Laureen with friend on campus

Summer On The Water (Continued)

We arrived in time to catch our prepaid ride on the Margaret Todd Schooner. Laureen had wanted to help raise the sails but too many people got up faster than she did. Instead, she took photos, learning how to use the new camera, and I chatted with Pilot Steve. When I pointed out the Schoodic Ferry, he took affront and said the BH ferry was much better (operated by same company as the schooner). He offered a discount on the return trip to WH, which turned out to be one free ticket worth \$14!



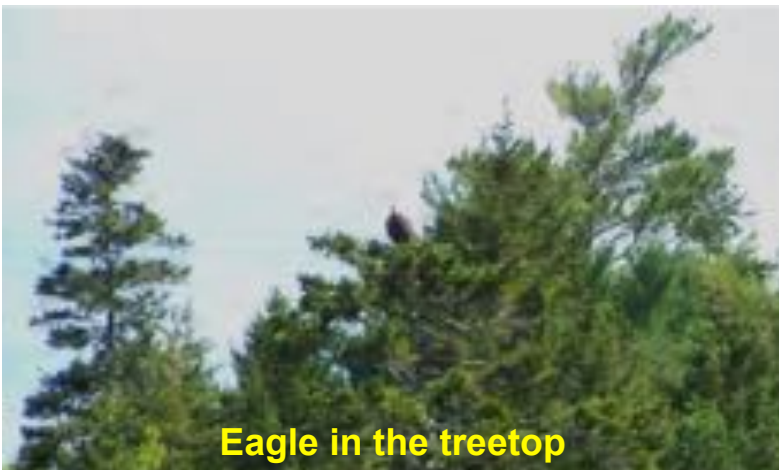
The next morning, we went back to BH for our lighthouse cruise aboard the Bay King III. The cruise was great with a good narrator and fine weather again. We saw many lighthouses, an eagle, seals, lots of rocky shore, and some beautiful shore homes, including a glimpse of Martha Stewart's house and the Campbell Soup family home.



Baker Island Lighthouse



Prospect Harbor Lighthouse



Eagle in the treetop



Seals on Egg Harbor island

Summer On The Water (Continued)

On Wednesday, we drove up to the top of Cadillac Mountain. We walked all over, stopping in the gift shop for t-shirts, then down to Long Pond for a short hike along the shoreline.



That night we went to Ruth & Wimpy's in Hancock. I am not a fan of lobster and Laureen had never had one. We expected a good one from this place. As it turned out, we had terrible service. After an hour of waiting for a table, we ordered takeout and it was cold by the time we got back to the campground. The previous day we had stopped at Y. U. Takeout, a little shack on the same route where Laureen got a crab roll

and I had haddock that was delicious, quick and cheap.

The next day we drove to Southwest Harbor. We stopped in town at a Farmer's Market for bread, wine & cheese. Of course, we also had to take a quick tour of the library. By the time we got to the Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse, we barely had a chance to snap a couple photos before the rains came in. We had our picnic lunch in the truck. We took a "rustic" back road to Seal Cove then headed home.

Summer On The Water (Continued)



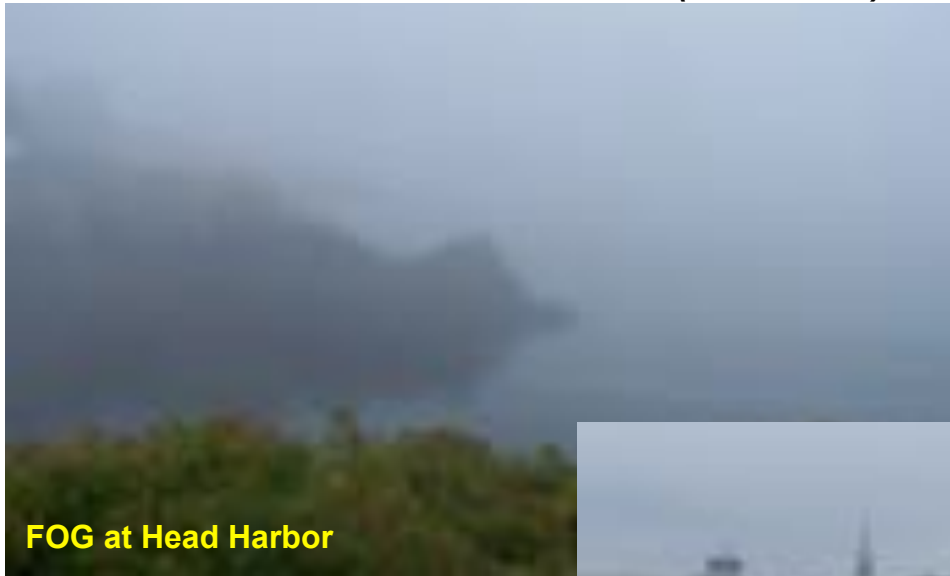
Saturday morning was gray and cool. We went to Ellsworth for the Rotary Club Blueberry Pancake Breakfast. All you could eat pancakes and sausages. Delicious! Later we shopped in BH while it rained outside. Afternoon Mass at Winter Harbor's Chapel of St Margaret was quick because Father wanted to get out of town before the Lobster Festival parade blocked Main Street. We stayed. Small town parades are fun and this one included a walking lobster, several Acadia NP entries, and bagpipers



Lubec ME sign & Roosevelt
"cottage"



Summer On The Water (Continued)



FOG at Head Harbor



Lubec from Canadian side.

On our way home, we stopped at Mulholland Point lighthouse across the water from Lubec ME, the easternmost U.S. town. On Monday, we packed up and headed down to Cedar Haven Campground near Freeport. More on our Freeport/Portland days at a later time.



Terri Wirtz

Editor's Note:

Thanks to Terri for all of the pictures she submitted. There were many more I would have liked to have included. I'm sure she will be delighted to share more details of her trip at one of the upcoming rallies. Also, if you choose to visit this area, I encourage you to talk to Terri for recommendations.

*Dianne Wood
Newsletter Editor*

HELPFUL RESOURCE

Good morning to all.

I hope this message is finding each of you well and having a good start to 2017.

The purpose of this message is to remind everyone of one of the most valuable resources on the Escapees website, in my opinion. It is the Forms and Documents webpage. Whether members are new arrivals or old hands to Escapees, this page has something to assist you and can be found at <https://escapees.com/resources/forms-and-documents>. (Editor's note: log in to escapees.com as a member first.)

Under the "Documents" section can be found an Emergency Doc to keep with you at all times or at least in your vehicle. Information kits, travel guide, etiquette information, veteran's membership and more is included there.

If someone is a commercial member or wishes to become a discount park, those documents can be found under "Business Owners".

"Advertising Opportunities" and "Mail Service" sections are both helpful and aide those seeking further information for either.

"Tips and Submissions" are for writers, photographers, chapters or BoFs that wish to submit their work or events for publication.

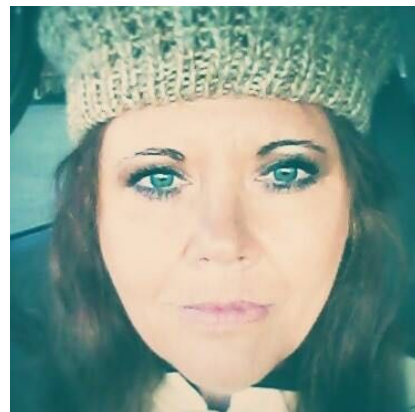
"RV Satellite TV Info" is self-explanatory and guides those that want DirecTV or Dish.

And finally, last but not least, "Chapters and BoFs". This contains a thorough list of documents that all members should be aware of, but absolutely those that are officers of your particular groups. If you've not reviewed them in a while I would encourage you to do so.

Please share this reminder with your membership, as I believe it will assist everyone in understanding more of Escapees and life on the road as members of this great club!

Have safe travels and hope to see you soon.

Lockie Sailer
Chapter/BOF Director
Escapees RV Club
[888-757-2582](tel:888-757-2582)
www.escapees.com/fun/chapters





Advocacy News

On 12/10/2016, Congress passed a bill that increases the cost of the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes.

Currently, park visitors aged 62 or older may buy a Senior Pass—a lifetime pass—for \$10.00. Under the new law, the cost of a Senior Pass will rise to \$80.00, \$20.00 for an annual pass. And, under certain circumstances the cost of the Senior Pass may increase beyond \$80.00.

The following federal agencies honor National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes:

- The Forest Service
- The National Park Service
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- USACE
- Bureau of Reclamation

If you are age 62 or older, and do not currently have a Senior Pass, consider purchasing one.

You can buy a Senior Pass in person from a participating Federal recreation site or office. For a list of sites and offices, visit: <https://store.usgs.gov/pass/PassIssuanceList.pdf>

You can buy a Senior Pass using the USGS online store. Applicants must fill out the [Online Application](#) and upload proof of residency and age. This may be done by photographing your document and uploading it to the order. You will need to provide a credit card payment of \$20.00 (\$10.00 fee for the Senior Pass, and an additional \$10.00 document processing fee). Once the documentation is verified and payment is received, a pass, with the pass owner's name pre-printed on it, will be issued to the applicant.

If you cannot order a Senior pass online, or purchase one in person, you can submit a [Paper Application](#) by mail to the USGS using the paper application and enclosing the same documents and \$20.00 fee.

Note: it is not clear on the face of the law when it goes into effective. If this increase impacts you, you may need to act quickly.

Shawn Loring
Escapees CEO

Rainbow Parks Pet Policy

To protect you and your furry loved ones, Escapees will be introducing a new pet policy effective January 1, 2017. Escapees Rainbow Parks will begin asking if your pets are up to date on vaccinations during the registration and check-in process. Proof of vaccinations will not be required at this time in order to keep your registration simple and fast as possible.

The policy will take place at the following parks:

Rainbow's End – Livingston, TX
Dream Catcher – Deming, NM
Rainbow Plantation – Summerdale, AL
Sumter Oaks – Bushnell, FL
Raccoon Valley – Heiskell, TN
Turkey Creek – Hollister, MO
North Ranch – Congress, AZ

We feel it is in the spirit of Escapees to ensure that our parks are safe and worry free. We all love our pets and hope that you understand and support this policy. Human and pet interaction is expected since we are a pet friendly parking system.



A Message from Wholesale Warranties

RV Warranty Pricing and Eligibility Changes Are Coming

Protect your RV Before it's too late! Major RV Warranty changes hit January 1st, 2017, including:

- **Model Year Eligibility Changes:** beginning Jan 1, 2017, all vehicles aged 2003 and older will no longer be eligible for RV warranty coverage!
- **Warranty prices on all RV models will go UP!** All RVs will become one year older when 2017 hits, raising prices on RV warranty policies across the board.



Why purchase an RV Warranty?

RVing can get expensive quick, especially when your budget is hit with unexpected repair bills. Most RVers simply aren't prepared to cover the rising cost of RV repairs, which currently run at an average of **\$300 per hour between parts and labor for each and every repair** you may face out on the road.

Don't worry, there's good news too:

RV Warranty policies will step in to pay for these skyrocketing repair costs, allowing you to control your travel budget! There are a variety of coverage options available to RVers, and you owe it to yourself—and your wallet—to know your options! Get a **free quote for RV Warranty coverage before prices go up on January 1st, 2017**, and travel with confidence on your next RV trip.

A New Perspective on Camping Life



If you start to think about getting a new RV just because you “*think*” yours is outdated, remember these and you’ll feel better about what you have. HAHA



A New Perspective on Camping Life

(continued)



We can't wait for you to see our new
"Toad" in Asheboro!!!

This is my idea regarding
boondocking at Quartzsite.
HaHa!



A New Perspective on Camping Life

(continued)



And last but not least, Steve and Kathy have agreed to entertain us during our upcoming SKP ACRE!!!!

Upcoming Events

2017 Spring Rally - Chapter 29

When: April 20 - 23, 2017; Rates apply to early arrivals and extended stays.

Where: Zooland Family Campground
3671 Pisgah Covered Bridge Rd.
Asheboro, NC 27205



Co-Rally Masters: Craig & Marie Rickenbach
Terri Wirtz



Rates: \$31.05 / night (10% off rack rate)
25 sites have been reserved all together w/FHU

Reservations:

- Individuals are responsible for their own reservations and identify yourself as a member of Escapees Carolina Rovers.
- Unreserved sites will be released two weeks prior to rally.
- Site numbers will not be assigned until arrival.
- After you register, please send the Co-Rally Masters an email to let us know you plan to attend.
- <http://www.zoolandfc.com>
336-381-3422

2017 SKP ACRE

When: April 26 - May 2, 2017

Where: River Plantation RV Resort
1004 Parkway
Sevierville, TN



<http://rvoutdoors.com/river-plantation/>

President Steve Masterson

Fee: Camping - \$32.00 per night FHU
Rally - \$50.00 per person

Reservations: <http://rvoutdoors.com/river-plantation/>
800-758-5267

Identify yourself as a SKP member.
SKP Registration will begin January 1, 2017. You must be registered at River Plantation RV Resort prior to registering for SKP ACRE.

Upcoming Events

Join us for Escapade!

March 19 - 24, 2017 in Tucson, AZ

Join your fellow SKP's in Tucson March 19-24, for the Escapees RV Club's national rally, *Escapade!* Escapees will gather for five fun-filled days, giving you the opportunity to experience caring and sharing as you learn everything the Escapees RV Club is all about.

The *57th Escapade* promises to be an exciting event you won't want to miss. Educational and lifestyle seminars, shopping the *Escapade* marketplace, line dancing and Zumba sessions, craft classes, evening socials and happy hours along with exciting nightly entertainment will prove to keep you busy from morning 'til night.



Spring will soon be upon us, yet there's still time to make plans to join us in March at the *57th Escapade*. Cool nights, warm days and limitless sunshine make it the perfect time of year to visit the Sonoran Desert.

Registration is still open and sites are available. Visit <https://escapees.com/knowledge/escapade/57th-escapade> or call our registration hotline at **888-757-2582** and make your reservation today.

Come and join the fun at the *57th Escapade!* Experience the Escapees RV Club motto of caring and sharing for yourself. We look forward to seeing you there!

Duane and Jean Mathes #115955,
Escapade Directors



Newsletter Articles

I am always amazed at how many of our folks travel extensively and visit places that are still on my future bucket list. I would like to thank Terri Wirtz for her article and pictures for this issue and for the article provided by Lockie Sailer, our new Chapter/BOF Director Escapees RV Club.

Our next newsletter will be published in April. Although I normally wait until after a rally, since our Spring Rally and SKP ACRE will not conclude until May, I will be publishing before either of these two rallies.

Sooooooooooooooooo please provide articles and pictures of your adventures during the Fall and Winter 2016 to share in our April Newsletter.

The July Newsletter should be packed with information from both Rallies.

The deadline for our April newsletter is **April 1** - so put on your writing hats and dig out those cameras.

Dianne Wood
VP & Newsletter Editor
Carolina Rovers - Chapter 29

