






**ESCAPEES - CHAPTER 29  
 CAROLINA ROVERS  
 JULY 2018  
 NEWSLETTER**




**President, Craig Rickenbach  
 SKP#72083**  


**Vice-President, Steve Gerner  
 SKP#94654**  


**Secretary, Don Smart  
 SKP#107136**  


**Treasurer, Terri Wirtz  
 SKP#93910**  


**Officer at Large, Steve Masterson  
 SKP#95338**  


**Newsletter Editor, Dianne Wood  
 SKP #113382**  


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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

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Many, many, many thanks go out to Steve Masterson for leading Chapter 29 for 6 years of growth and to Marie Rickenbach for 4 years as Secretary. Steve has accepted the position of Officer at Larger. Due to being President of ACRE, his role will be more as an advisor until 2019 ACRE ends. We thank Keith Martin for his support for Chapter 29 as past Officer at Larger. We wish Keith & Carol much happiness in their new home in Delaware and hope you can make some Rallies.

If you missed our Spring Rally in Dillard, GA you missed another excellent and fun filled Rally. Many thanks to Steve & Mariann Gerner and Bruce & Connie Long for being our Rally Hosts. Fun activities and plenty of good food was had by all. Weather was good except for those who were going to leave on Monday. Sunday night the heaven opened with heavy rain and winds and continued thru Monday. Four rigs decided it was safer to stay put and left on Tuesday.

New officers were elected for President and Secretary per our By-Laws at the Spring Rally in Dillard. Craig Rickenbach was elected President and Don Smart was elected Secretary. Along with Terri Wertz (Treasure), Steve Gerner (VP) and Dianne Wood (Newsletter Editor and many other hats) I am looking forward to our new team and continuing our growth.

Continued on next page)

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

Marie and I joined Chapter 29 in 2012 because we were welcomed as “family” the minute we arrived at our first Rally. As I paraphrase one of our member’s description of Chapter 29 “Our purpose is to support the RV lifestyle, RV education, socializing with common interests, having fun, making new and renewing lifelong friendships”. I add to that a “family” that cares for each other in good and bad times, which I can personally attest to. So my message to all Escapee members, especially those in NC, SC, FL, GA, VA, is come join our “family”.

## Up Coming Events – Mark your Calendars

Fall Rally 2018 – Our next Rally will be held at Palmetto Cove in Cleveland, SC, October 4-7 (further info below). Some of us had a Rally-non-Rally here a couple of years ago. The campground is a beautiful facility with great views. Caesars Head State Park, Pretty Place and a Winery are highly recommended places to explore. Rally Hosts are Steve & Priscilla Phillips and Linda Stevens. Bruce & Connie Long are advisors.

Spring Rally 2019 – Spring Rally 2019 will be held at Raleigh Oaks Resort, Raleigh, NC April 4 thru 7. More to come later. Rally Hosts will be Mike & Lorraine Tasto and Craig & Marie Rickenbach.

ACRE (All Chapters Rally East) 2019 – ACRE 2019 will be held at Pine Mountain RV Resort, Pine Mountain, GA. Boot Camp is scheduled for April 26 to 28. Actual ACRE is April 29 to May 5. Rally fee will be \$65 per person. Call the campground to make your reservations (706-663-4329). The camping fee will be \$44 per day. Go to [www.skpacre.com](http://www.skpacre.com) or email [skpacre@gmail.com](mailto:skpacre@gmail.com) for more info. Please mark your calendars. ACRE is a blast!

Fall Rally 2019 – Fall 2019 Rally will be held at Bear Creek RV Park & Campground, Asheville, NC October 3-6. Please notify an Officer if you are interested in being Rally Hosts.

If anyone knows of a Campground that can handle Rallies, about 25 rigs and has meeting facilities please let one of the Officers know and we will investigate further.

Hugs,

Craig Rickenbach  
President  
SKP #72083



# ***Secretary Report from 2018 Spring Rally***

## ***April 21, 2018***

Vice President Steve Gerner called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The members saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The current officers were introduced.

**Secretary's report** - Marie Rickenbach read the minutes from the meeting at the Fall 2017 meeting. Motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and the minutes were accepted.

**Treasurer's report** - Terri Wirtz explained the treasurer's responsibilities of the chapter treasurer and the reason that the account is in her name. We do not have all of the bills for the current rally at this time. The attached report was done at the conclusion of the rally and still may not include all bills from this rally. Terri also explained that the chapter does not use dues that have been paid for future years to pay for current rallies. Terri also reported that 46 members are paid up for the current year (2018) although there are a potential of 62 members based on last year paid memberships.

**Newsletter Editor's report** Dianne Wood reported that there are 577 people on the e-mail list. This includes not only members of Chapter 29 but Escapees members from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. Members of Chapter 29 get their newsletters before others. All members are encouraged to submit articles for the newsletters. We will be adding a new section to our newsletters ---The classifieds. Members were asked not to list more than 5 items for publication in the classified and to please ADD PICTURES.

Dianne also mentioned ROW at Escapade. Our Chapter will have a table with a trifold display and information about chapter 29 for all attendees.

**Vice President Steve Gerner** mentioned an e-mail received from Steve Masterson regarding the members meeting. There was no old business

**New Business** Election of officers. Steve Wood thanked all the members who worked on the quilts for the Vets and then nominated Don Smart for secretary. Motion was seconded and taken directly to a vote. Congratulations Don. Michael Tasto nominated Craig Rickenbach for the position of President. Motion was seconded and taken directly to a vote. Congratulations Craig.

# **Secretary Report from 2018 Spring Rally**

## **April 21, 2018**

**(Continued)**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Escapade** will be held May 27-June 1, 2018 In Sedalia, Missouri. A list was left on the registration table for anyone going to Escapade to sign so those members going would know where other chapter members are camping. Andy Foster volunteered to take the Chapter 29 banner to Escapade.

**Chapter 29 Fall Rally** will be held October 4-7, 2018 at Palmetto Cove, Cleveland, South Carolina. Rally Masters will be Steve and Priscilla Phillips and Bruce and Connie Long. (After the meeting Linda Stevens also volunteered to help with this rally) It was announced at the meeting that Palmetto Cove does not take reservations but they have assured all Chapter 29 member will be accommodated. Palmetto Cove also DOES NOT accept Credit Cards please bring cash or check. *(Note: We have been informed that the campground does now take credit cards.)*

**All Chapters Rally East** will be held April 29-May 5 2019 at Pine Mountain RV Resort 8804 Hamilton Road, Pine Mountain GA 31822. Prior to ACRE an RV Boot Camp will be held April 26-28, 2019. The cost will be \$65.00 and will include 4 catered breakfasts and 4 catered dinners and entertainment.

The officers are working on setting date and location for Chapter 29 Spring Rally 2019. We are looking at April 11-14 or April 4-7 and several venues have been discussed. The rally fee will be reinstated probably \$5.00 per person.

This afternoon there will be quilt making and a tech talk in the recreation hall. At 11 o'clock the motion was made to adjourn the meeting it was seconded and carried.

Sincerely, Marie Rickenbach  
Secretary

After the rally it was decided that Steve and Priscilla Phillips and Linda Stephens would be Rally Masters for the Fall 2018 rally with Bruce and Connie Long acting as advisors.

## ***..Welcome New Officers***

During the Spring Rally, we elected a new President and Secretary and reassigned the Officer at Large. Please join me in congratulating our newest officers.

**Craig Rickenbach, President**



**Don Smart, Secretary**



**Steve Masterson, Officer at Large**



We extend our many many thanks for all of the hard work and dedication to Escapees and our chapter from our outgoing officers.

Steve Masterson, President  
Marie Rickenbach, Secretary  
Keith Martin, Officer at Large.

## ***..And Now a Word from our VP***

Greetings to all of the Carolina Rovers,

We had an enjoyable time at the spring rally in Dillard. It was great visiting with everyone and we enjoyed many meals together. Some of the group made "knotted blankets" for Veterans in the VA hospital of Asheville, and others enjoyed an open forum discussion of RV knowledge and experiences.

Representatives from "Sky Med", Ray and Carol Combs, paid for our breakfast one morning and gave us a presentation about "Sky Med". We surprised them by the number of people in our group who were already members! We thank them for taking their time to be with us.

A BIG Thank You to the blanket makers. Current plans call for these Veteran's blankets to be delivered to the VA hospital in Asheville at the end of the upcoming Fall rally. More information will be forth coming.

We've not been very many places this summer as we'd made a commitment to stay around home for once and tend to a garden. The garden has practically consumed us by providing tons of fruits and vegetables. Our freezer is crammed full!

Mariann and I are in the process of moving from our home into a "continuing care community". The move will most likely occur around the end of September or early October. The date is dependent upon contractors and so we do not know exactly when the move will happen.

Despite the move we are hoping we will be able to attend the Fall Rally and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

Hugs and a wish for safe travels to all,

Steve Gerner #94654  
Vice-President





## ***..And Now a Word from our Officer At Large***

As many of you know, we live in Florida and travel about 6 months a year in our motorhome. During the summer we spend about 2 to 4 weeks in Mooresville, NC, and the rest of the time west of the Mississippi. This year our departure from Florida was delayed due to some medical issues that decided to rear its ugly head just as we were packing up the motorhome for the summer. After a night in the hospital and every test under the sun and a week of wait and see, I was cleared to travel. This delay provided me with time to reflect on our RV lifestyle. Here are some statistics. I retired on 2005 and have been to every state in the lower 48, Alaska, all the Canadian Provinces that border on the US from Alaska to Maine, Prince Edward Island and Mexico for 3 minutes. Kathy is catching up and there are some places that she will never return to like Red Bay, AL. When going there I literally have to find an airport and drop her off to fly home. For those of you who have traveled to the Tiffin Meca know what I am talking about. Since 2005 I have owned 3 RVs, traveled over 163,000 miles and purchased over 20,000 gallons of diesel fuel. Think about it!!! I could have purchased a Rolls Royce by now. LOLLOLOL. For me, the RV lifestyle changed forever in 2006 while boondocking at the Albuquerque Balloon Festival south field. I was parked next to a large group of people called "Escapees". At first I locked my doors. The first day I met Mel and Evelyn Nobis who were Photographers for the Escapees. Today the event would be called a HOP, Head Out Program. There were lots of people and they had a large tent. At some point I was invited to join the group during "Happy Hour" and quickly felt like part of an extended family. Hugs played a big part in feeling that way. Before leaving the Balloon Festival I became a member of the Escapees. Since 2006 I have joined other RV groups and none could compare to how I feel when surrounded by Escapees.

Transition back to this year. We left Florida on April 27<sup>th</sup> and started our journey west via Nashville, Paducah, KY, St Louis, Sedalia, MO, Rochester, MN, Sioux Falls, SD to Rapid City, SD where we are for 3 weeks. Along the way we were blessed to spend time with Dianne and Steve Wood in St Louis and Sedalia. We also had dinner with Don and Barbara Homer and members of Chapter 42 TN/KY at an awesome BBQ place in St Louis. From Rapid City, SD we will go to Cody, WY for a month before we ever so slowly turn the motorhome around and start heading back east and home in mid-October. After 13 years of traveling we have settled into spending most of the summer in WY and SD. Each year we alter the route slightly to visit some new places and revisit many of the awesome places that we have been to before.

As lots of things change in our life, some things remain the same and many things just keep getting better and better. We are extremely fortunate to enjoy the RV lifestyle and be members of an awesome community called Escapees. We hope to see you somewhere on the road and in SC at the Fall Rally.

Steve Masterson  
Officer at Large  
SKP#95338



# ***New Members***

Welcome to our three new couples who joined Chapter 29 during the Spring Rally and to the Stone's who just joined recently and will be attending our Fall Rally. We look forward to seeing you at our next rally.



***Mike & Cathy Kenney***  
***SKP #141057***



***Donna & Don Loudermilk***  
***SKP #138380***



***Jeri & George Mitchell***  
***SKP #***



***Rollin and Evelyn Stone***  
***SKP#136974***



## ***TRAVELER'S CORNER***

### ***Jack & Sue Brinker SKP#65627***

Our year began in California where we came via train in December of 2017 to visit our two boys, their families and many old friends. Sue had planned this non-flight trip since 2016 which included a cruise through the Panama Canal to Florida and driving home. We arrived just before the prior Christmas after a long 20 hour day to New Orleans, overnight at the Hyatt, then two nights in a sleeper car to Ontario, CA. Our son Tobin and his wife Erin met us about 3am, we had breakfast then went to the KCAA radio studio for their morning show called "On the Brink". Enjoyed the holidays with family while staying with Todd and his wife Elaine before boarding the Westerdam, a Holland America ship in San Diego. We toured in Mexico, Costa Rica and Nicaragua before entering the locks at Panama City. After the one day canal passage we toured Cartegena, Columbia and St George in Grand Cayman before departing the ship at Port Lauderdale. We traveled with John and Dorothy Petterson and about a dozen others that were or had been full-time RVers. We met each day for dinner at two tables and had a group party along the way. Years ago we had cruised the "Mexican Riviera" with the Pettersons.

After our arrival and overnight at home to do laundry, we kept going to Triangle, VA to visit our daughter Heidi Harper and family and to meet our first great- grandchild, Talya Paige. She was born about two weeks before our arrival.

In March, we drove to Atlantic Beach, NC for a week in an exchange timeshare. It was a bit cool and no crowds, but still enjoyed the area which included a day each at Fort Macon and at Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium. The only downside of being "out of season" was the lack of many good restaurants being open.

We left home again in May driving to California for grandson Andrew's wedding to Alyssa Lilley, then his sister Reagan's wedding to Doug Suitt in June followed by a California Mission Pilgrimage with a large group via bus. That trip began in San Diego and included 12 Missions along the coast all the way to Sonoma, CA. Our sons joined us at the farewell dinner on the pier in San Francisco. After visiting our granddaughter in Sacramento the following day we drove back home.

We have no further travels planned as we are getting our townhome ready for sale as we plan to move into a new single story house this fall. Lots of work ahead.

***Jack & Sue Brinker***  
***SKP#65627***



**TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)**  
**Jack & Sue Brinker SKP#65627 (continued)**





**TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)**  
**Jack & Sue Brinker SKP#65627 (continued)**



# **TRAVELER'S CORNER**

## **Steve & Dianne Wood SKP#113382**

As some of you know, Steve and I took an extended trip - adventure this Spring. We left home April 15, returning home June 29. Our trip started in Sevierville, TN, where we had a new Dish satellite antenna installed on the roof. This was the beginning of many many weather changes during our trip. It snowed the entire 2 days we were there and was very cold. Naturally, although I thought about bringing coats on our trip, it was a fleeting thought and they were left at home. Had to go out and buy Steve a sweat shirt so he wouldn't freeze.

From there we went to the Spring Rally in Dillard, GA, where we had a great time as usual. It was so good seeing friends again - especially James and Linda Jackson who had been out of commission for quite some time. Steve and I finally had the opportunity to present James with a repayment of the \$5.00 he put forth to pay our membership dues in 2013 - and glad he talked us into joining!!! We extended our stay in Dillard one day because rain, fog, and heavy winds blessed us the last day there.

We then stopped in Knoxville at Tennessee RV where our Zone 1 heat sensor was replaced (did I mentioned that while it was snowing in Sevierville we discovered our Zone 1 heat sensory wasn't working and we only had heat in the rear!!!.) We also had our windshield wiper arms replace (under recall) which went nuts in the rain. Thank goodness for tape. I figure if a hammer won't fix it Gorilla tape will. The good thing about Tennessee RV is that they have a huge waiting room with lots of games - which Steve enjoyed. LOL



From there we spent a week in Racoon Valley Heiskell, TN, which is one of the Escapees Rainbow parks. The people were so friendly and once a week they had locals come in to make music which was great fun.



## **TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)**

### **Steve & Dianne Wood SKP#113382**

Our next stop was in in Walton, KY, where we visited with old friends from Cincinnati and toured the ARK in Williamstown, KY. If you've never been before it's awesome and I would recommend this to anyone. It was built to the exact dimensions from the Bible and it's huge. There's no way I can convey what the ARK looks like through pictures - it's something you'd have to see on your own.



Next stop was at the 1st RVillage Rally in Elkhart, IN. We met a lot of new people and had a good time. Since this was their first rally, there were a lot of things that didn't go well - and we can only wish them well on their next try. However, we cherish the new friends we made and hope to see them again down the road.

We then had a layover in St. Louis, MO, where we met up with Steve Masterson and Kathy Werth and Escapees Chapter 42 - Kentucky/Tennessee where we enjoyed BBQ before moving on to Escapade in Sedalia, MO. Steve and Kathy arrived before we did at an off-site campground where we stayed and Kathy (bless her heart) saved a space next to them for us and made many new friends while doing so - HAHAA. You'll have to ask her about that and enjoy her story! Escapade was a hit and we look forward to our next one.

Afterwards, we headed back east where we stopped again in St. Louis, MO, Paducah, KY, Memphis, TN, and an extended stay in Sevierville, TN before heading home. Most of you have already been to these places and know all of the wonderful things we enjoyed.



# TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)

## Steve & Dianne Wood SKP#113382

We're home now - enjoying the heat (NOT) and planning for our next adventure. We couldn't begin to include all of our pictures but know that it was a fun trip and we look forward to our next one.

Safe Travels to All!



St. Louis, MO Arch



Memphis Welcome Center



Steve and "The King"



Memphis



Beale St. Memphis



Southern Attitude from Memphis



St. Jude's Hospital - Memphis



Steve & Dianne Wood  
SKP #113382



Escapade - Missouri State  
Fairground



Barge on the Mississippi at Tom  
Sawyer CG



# ***TRAVELER'S CORNER***

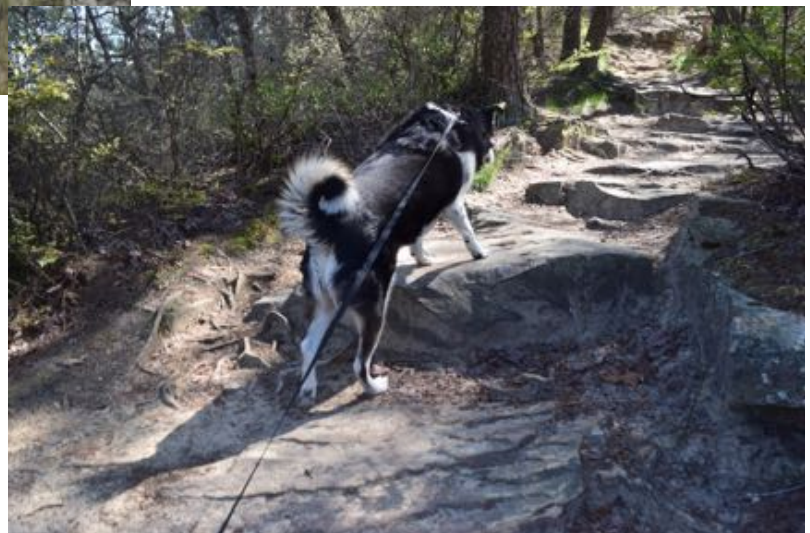
**Spring 2018**

**By Ron Johnson #104509**

**High Falls State Park-Jackson, Georgia**



**Cloudland Canyon State Park  
Rising Fawn, Georgia**



## ***TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)***

**Spring 2018 - By Ron Johnson #104509**

**U.S. Army Transportation Museum, Fort Eustis-Newport News, Virginia**

### **Vietnam War Gun Truck "Eve of Destruction"**



With the end of the Vietnam War, the need for gun trucks disappeared and most were either scrapped or returned to cargo carrying. One truck, an M54 named by its crew "Eve of Destruction" was brought back intact and is on display at the museum. Following a long standing tradition, crews of gun trucks named their vehicles and painted mascots on them. The names they chose reflected the popular culture at the time. Eve of Destruction was named for a song of the same title.

### **Cybernetic Walker**



The cybernetic walking machine was an experimental quadruped made by General Electric in 1965. The robot weighed 3,000 pounds, stands 11 feet tall, could walk up to 5 miles per hour and could haul a jeep out of a mud hole. Its four legs were able to support up to 500 pounds of cargo over extremely difficult terrain. It never made it out of testing phase. A large flaw was that it used 50 gallons of oil per minute, requiring it to be attached to hydraulic lines at all times.



## **TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)**

**Spring 2018 - By Ron Johnson #104509**

### **Airgeep II VZ-8P**



Developed to fulfill a U.S. Army Transportation Research Command contract for a flying jeep in 1957 the VZ-8 Airgeep was a prototype vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) aircraft developed by Piasecki Aircraft. The flying jeep was envisioned to be smaller and easier to fly than a helicopter. The Army decided that the "Flying Jeep" concept was unsuitable for the modern battlefield, and concentrated on the development of conventional helicopters

### **de Lackner Aerocycle**



The HZ-1 Aerocycle was an American one-man "personal helicopter" developed by de Lackner Helicopters in the mid-1950s. Intended to be operated by inexperienced pilots with a minimum of 20 minutes of instruction, the HZ-1 was expected to become a standard reconnaissance machine with the Army. Although early testing showed that the craft had promise for providing mobility on the battlefield, more extensive evaluation proved that the aircraft was in fact too difficult to control for operation by untrained infantrymen, and after a pair of crashes the project was abandoned. Of the dozen examples of the type ordered by the U.S. Army, only a single example of the HZ-1 has survived, and this aircraft is currently on display in the museum.

# **TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)**

## **Spring 2018 - By Ron Johnson #104509**

### **GEM Model 2500 Air Car**



In November 1959 Curtis Wright developed the Model 2500 Air Car with the hope that a hovercraft would be accepted as an alternative to the family car. The hovercraft concept never caught on for general use, but the possibilities were not lost on the U.S. Army. The Army purchased two air cars in early 1960s and gave them the acronym GEM for "Ground Effects Machine." The GEM was a 360 hp vehicle which traveled at speeds of 20 to 38 mph at heights of 10 to 12 inches in the air

After several months of testing, the Army decided not to fund the project further, and it was abandoned in 1961.

Unlike the pre-development marketing images, the sleek lines were replaced with a rounded off box and it was big; 8' wide and 29' long and still only had room for two.

**Ron Johnson**  
**SKP#104509**





# **TRAVELER'S CORNER**

## **By Jimmie Crawford #110674**

### **Alaska and Busted**

I'm sitting 200 yards from the entrance of Denali National Park watching cars, campers, and buses come and go, but not me. As I approached, excited about my trip into the park, lights on the dash started coming on and then kaboom clang bang pow, something broke. I pulled over and steam exploded from under the hood. Denali had to wait for another day. 3 hours later the tow truck driver dropped me off at my RV and left for Fairbanks with my car. You learn to



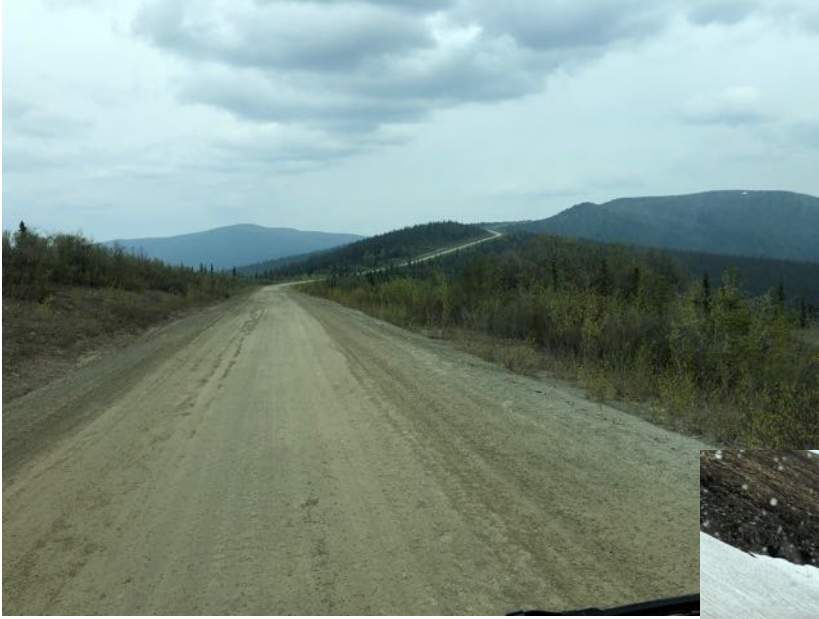
roll with the punches when you live and travel full time in your RV. Something will break, plans will change, You can't let these things upset you, it's just another day.

As I sit here sipping my morning coffee, I realize it was one month ago today that I left Seattle for Alaska. That was 2630 miles ago. I put 452 gallons of gas in the RV and another 50 gallons in the Jeep. I've seen fox, caribou, moose, porcupines, and more. I've stayed in lakeside campgrounds with a view to die for and some really bad campgrounds. I've stopped at hot springs for a soak and seen the views from the mountain tops. I've taken boat rides and train rides and really enjoyed the trip north.

After crossing the border at Sumas-Abbotsford and stocking up on Canadian cash and groceries, I stopped for the night in Harrison Hot Springs. Next day it was on to Hope and Cache Creek on CA-1 then #97 to Prince George and #16 to Kitwanga. I drove the Cassiar Hwy, #37, from Kitwanga to where it meets the Alaska Highway near Watson Lake. I took side trips to Hyder, AK and Skagway, AK before heading north to Dawson City, BC. In Dawson I drove the RV on the free ferry to cross the Yukon river and drive the Top of the World road to Chicken AK, crossing the border into Alaska for the last time along the way. I headed south to Tok, AK and on to Fairbanks. I'll eventually make it south to Anchorage and back to the states after Labor Day but for now, It's back to Fairbanks, some 120 miles north to retrieve the Jeep when repairs are completed. I hope to see Denali someday but the weather was spectacular yesterday. I don't know if and when I will have another opportunity to visit the park with optimal weather conditions. Until then there is so much to see and so many places to go, I'm having trouble deciding what's next. I'll take that kind of problem any day! Which way is the wind blowing?

***More pictures can be found at Jimmie's blog at  
<http://jimmiecrawford.blogspot.com/>***

**TRAVELER'S CORNER** (continued)  
By Jimmie Crawford SKP#110674



**Top of the  
World Hwy**



**View from the ferry crossing the  
Yukon in Dawson**





**TRAVELER'S CORNER** (continued)  
By Jimmie Crawford SKP#110674



**The Antler Arch at the  
Fairbanks Visitors Center**

**Riverboat in Fairbanks**



**Plane landing on the  
Chena River in Fairbanks**

**The pipeline north of Fairbanks**





# TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)

By Jimmie Crawford SKP#110674



Chicken Post Office,  
Chickens, and Chicken  
Saloon, Chicken, AK





# **TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)**

**By Jimmie Crawford SKP#110674**

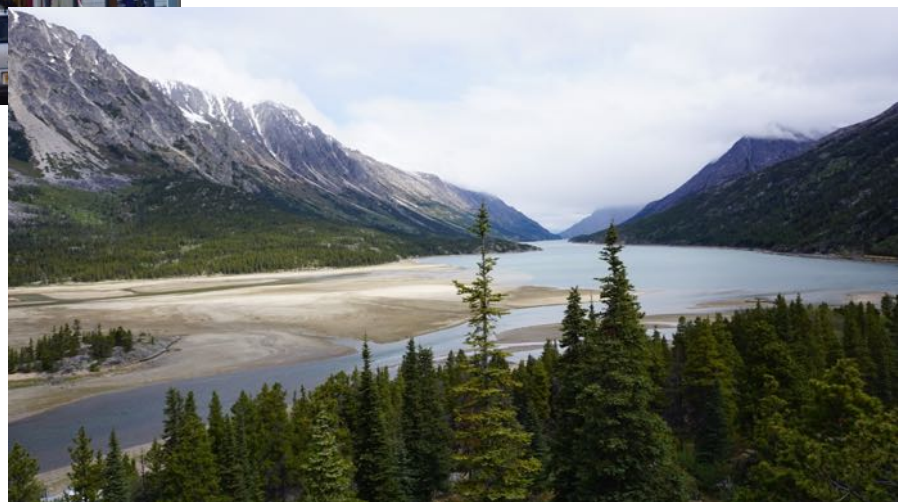


**Home Sweet Home**



**Skagway**

**River and Mountain view in Bennett accessible only by train and foot**





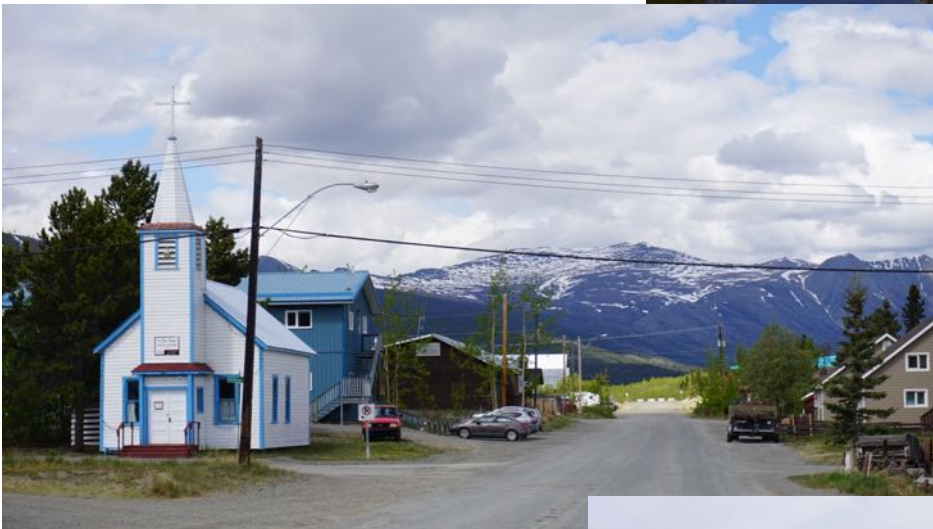
# **TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)**

**By Jimmie Crawford SKP#110674**



**White Pass & Yukon Route train to Carcross from Skagway**

**Bridge into Teslin, YK**



**Street view Carcross, YK**

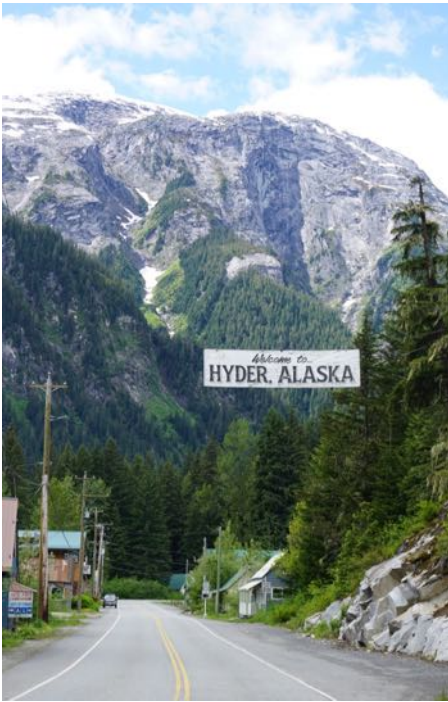
**River and Mountain view in Bennett accessible only by train and foot**





# TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)

By Jimmie Crawford SKP#110674



Boya Lake Prov. Park, BC

Jimmie Crawford  
SKP#110674



# Cautionary Tales

We have a new addition to our newsletter as was recommended by Jan Austin. It's called "Cautionary Tales" and will include reports on issues that we as RVers need to be aware of on the road or through RV internet sites. Jan submitted an article in April to start us off and we hope we will be receiving others in the future. As an RV family, it is our responsibility to pass on information to each other and help us all stay safe on the road.

Below is an article for this newsletter from Steve Wood.



## Air Dryers:

*During our recent trip we had a problem with our air dryer. Before making the trip down the mountain in Asheville, NC, we had Interstate RV come to the campground and bypass the air dryer so we could get home safely. We were unfamiliar with the purpose of the air dryer but obviously didn't like the blinking red light on the dash. However, with the help from Steve Masterson (which is always awesome) and the work from Interstate, we came home safely and with yet another piece of very important information related to the maintenance of our RV. The below article was an excerpt from the internet and hope it's helpful.*

".....On the larger Motorhomes air is used to apply the brakes instead of brake fluid. In order to do this, the motorhome needs a compressor to compress the air which is stored in the air tanks. This is at a pressure of around 120 PSI. The air is then used to apply the brake.

One important factor is that the air that comes from the compressor has to be dry. If the air contains any moisture, it can freeze the air system in the winter months, or corrode the brake components.

In order to achieve dry air, the compressor passes through an air dryer before it is stored in the tanks. When air is compressed it becomes hot, then as this hot air cools down moisture is created. The job of the air dryer is to remove this moisture by passing it through the base of the air dryer casting, which removes a high proportion of this. Following this, the semi-dry air enters a replaceable cartridge of the dryer, this cartridge contains desiccant which absorbs moisture. This moisture then stays in the cartridge.

## ***Cautionary Tales (continued)***

The cartridge has the same usable life on it as a large goods vehicle does, although would be very difficult to estimate how long one would last on an American Motorhome. On a large goods vehicle that has an air dryer fitted, the filter would need to be replaced on every large service around 90,000km (56,000 miles). If applied to an American Motorhome you may never need to change it, and you may say “so what”.

The desiccant in the replaceable cartridge is housed in a textile bag which has a habit of deteriorating; allowing the desiccant beads to enter the air system, or the desiccant can become water logged which then lets water into the air system.

As a guide, the cartridge should be changed every 3 to 4 years if outside metal casing could start to corrode badly. The cartridge case houses the full 120 PSI air pressure, so any weak point can and will cause a large air leak.....”



Steve Wood  
SKP#113382



# ***RV Service Listings***

During our Spring Rally, it was recommended that we provide chapter members with a list of RV service centers / businesses that we have used that we would recommend. Below is the list we collected. If anyone wishes to add to this list, please send to me and I'll repost in the October Newsletter.

*Note: This list was not sanctioned by Escapees, Inc. or Chapter 29, but merely provided for the assistance of our members while traveling.*

*Bob's RV Repair - Marion, NC*

*Shaw RV - Youngsville, NC*

*Maxie Price RV - Longanville, GA*

*GGT RV (Golden Gate Trailers) - Kannapolis, NC 704-743-5280*

*Bill Plemmons RV - Winston-Salem, NC 888-746-2351*

*Campers Inn - Mocksville, NC*

*Country Roads - 2609 Enterprise Rd, Lexington, NC 27295 336-775-2166*



## **Classifieds**

During our Spring Rally I was asked to include a section in future newsletters for classifieds. Members were asked not to list more than 5 items for publication in the classified and to please ADD PICTURES. I did not receive any information for inclusion in the Classifieds this quarter. I will forward a request reminder prior to needing information for the October Newsletter.

Dianne Wood  
Newsletter Editor



# Carolina Rovers - Upcoming Events

## 2018 Convergence - Chapter 29

**When:** August 13 - 17, 2018

**Where:** Ebenezer Park (York County, SC)  
4490 Boatshore Road  
Rock Hill, SC 29732

**Phone:** 803-366-6620



Information can be located at the link below. A "convergence" is an unplanned gathering of Escapees where all are welcome but there is no agenda or planned events. You will need to call the campground individually for reservations. We don't know how many will be able to join but all are welcome and I'm sure a good time will be had by all who are able to attend.

<https://www.yorkcountygov.com/212/Ebenezer-Park>

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## 2018 Fall Rally - Chapter 29

**When:** October 4-7, 2018

**Where:** Palmetto Cove RV Park  
521 Table Rock Rd  
Cleveland, SC 29635



**Rally Hosts:** Steve & Priscilla Phillips



Linda Stevens



**Advisors:** Bruce & Connie Long



### Important Information:

**Rally Fees: \$5.00 per person - payable at registration**  
**NO Reservations required. Campground is now**  
**accepting credit cards.**

## ***Carolina Rovers - Upcoming Events (continued)*** **2019 Spring Rally - Chapter 29**

**When:** April 4-7, 2019

**Where:** Raleigh Oaks RV Resort  
527 Highway 701 South  
Raleigh, NC 27524

**Rally Hosts:** Mike & Lorraine Tasto  
████████████████████  
Craig & Marie Rickenbach  
████████████████████

**Rally Fee:** TBD

**Campground Fee:** \$42.50; early/late rate \$42.50 per night

**Name of Group When Making Reservation:** Escapees Chapter 29 - Carolina Rovers

**Phone:** 919-934-3181  
[www.raleighoaksvresort.com](http://www.raleighoaksvresort.com)



**Disclaimer - Although not expected, campground rates are subject to change.**

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## **2019 Fall Rally - Chapter 29**

**When:** October 3-6, 2019

**Where:** Bear Creek RV Park & Campground  
81 South Bear Creek Rd.  
Asheville, NC 28806

**Rally Hosts:** Notify any Chapter 29 Officer if you are interested in serving as a Rally Host.

**Rally Fee:** TBD

**Campground Fee:** \$45.00; early/late rate \$45.00 per night

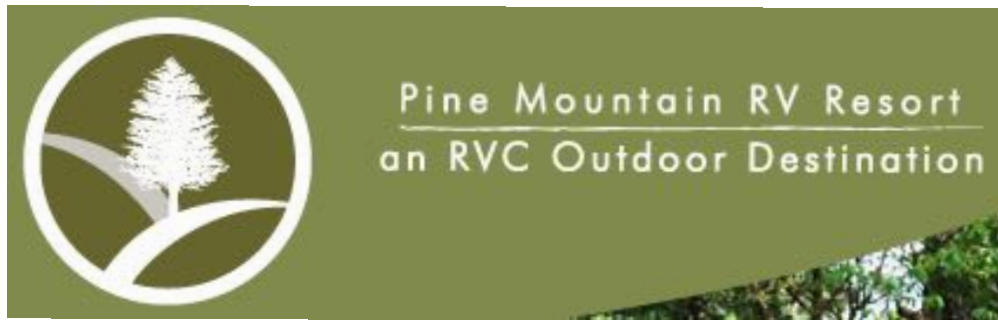
**Name of Group When Making Reservation:** Carolina Rovers

**Phone:** 828-253-0798  
[www.ashevillebearcreek.com](http://www.ashevillebearcreek.com)



**Disclaimer - Although not expected, campground rates are subject to change.**

# SKP ACRE 2019



<b>When:</b>	<b>Boot Camp: April 26-28, 2019</b> <b>Rally: April 29 - May 5, 2019</b>
<b>Where:</b>	<b>Pine Mountain RV Resort</b> <b>8804 Hamilton Road</b> <b>Pine Mountain, GA 31822</b>
<b>Rally Fee:</b>	<b>\$65.00 per person</b> <b>(includes seminars, catered meals &amp; entertainment)</b>
<b>Campground Fee:</b>	<b>\$44.00 per night</b>
<b>Name of Group</b> <b>When Making</b> <b>Reservation:</b>	<b>Escapees SKP ACRE</b>
<b>Website:</b>	<b><a href="http://skpacre.com">skpacre.com</a></b>
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>706-663-4329</b>

SKP ACRE is the Escapees RV Club All Chapters Rally East which was created to provide a regional rally for campers returning from the winter in the southern states and campers wanting to get their RVs out of winter storage and begin a camping season. ACRE is run by volunteers whose simple goal is to provide a low cost, enjoyable rally.

Please call Pine Mountain RV Resort today for reservations and specify that it is for "SKP ACRE". More details will be posted on our website and online registration will begin in January, 2019.



## New Course Released for RVOU

As promised, we are adding new content to the RVers Online University. We have recently added "Transitioning to Full-Time RVing," led by Camille Attell, full-time RVer and former corporate trainer. In this course, Camille shares her knowledge on how to hit the road, while also providing resources and transition plans to help students succeed.

We are also proud to offer access to "Domicile," led by K. Susie Adams of Loring and Associates. Susie is well-versed in domicile law and answers many commonly asked questions in this elective course. It covers how to choose the location of your domicile, the importance of establishing a domicile and how to do it correctly and legally.

The other courses you will have access to for a full 90 days are:

- 
- RV Basic Systems
- RV Systems Part 1
- RV Systems Part 2
- Hitch Up
- Weight Management
- Tire Safety
- Personal Safety
- RV Driving
- Fire/Life Safety
- Propane Safety
- Towable RVs
- Motorhome Towing
- Water, Water Everywhere
- 12-volt Side of Life
- Easy on the Asphalt
- Choosing Your Perfect RV

An incredibly useful feature of RVOU is having direct access to our instructors. This means you can even contact instructors, like Susie Adams, with follow-up questions after you've completed your course!

In addition to "Domicile," you will see other electives which focus on RV safety and maintenance, including "Gas vs. Diesel," "Towing behind Motorhomes" and "Tires, Rims and Bearings."

We are offering this abundance of knowledge and information at an incredible rate of \$79!

### Bring a Friend!

Are you the kind who likes to pass notes in class? You can send this email to fellow RVers and encourage them to register. That way, you can swap notes, discuss lessons and share the RVOU experience. Learning is always more fun with friends!

### Still Not Convinced?

Check out these reviews to see what other RVers think about RVOU:

"The new program brings the Escapees' acclaimed RVers' Boot Camp online with lessons on topics ranging from driving safety to RV maintenance, with new lessons and topics added regularly. I'm impressed with everything I've seen so far, and I think you will be, too." Gypsy Journal [Read more](#)

"This is such a great deal. New RVers have it a lot easier than we did thanks to RVOU!" -Rene, Live.Work.Dream. [Read More](#)

"So far I've only completed one section, but I LOVE the material. It's presented well and I especially like the downloadable PDFs that go with it. I look forward to completing it all." -Chris, RVOU student

## New Course Released for RVOU (continued)

### Oh, and One More Thing

Did we mention that successfully completing RVOU can save you money? If your RV is insured through Bancorp South, you are eligible for savings on your RV policy! Upon completion of the O/M/S learning path, you'll receive a certificate verifying you have completed your RV education. Take this certificate to [Bancorp South](#) for a discount on your RV insurance!



### New!

We are excited to announce that RV Advantage Insurance has teamed up with Escapees RV Club to offer a discount to graduates from RVer's Boot Camp or RVer's Online University's Operation/Safety/Maintenance learning path. Have your graduation certificate handy and visit [www.rvadvantage.com/escapees/](http://www.rvadvantage.com/escapees/) or call 800-331-1520.



\*Disclaimer: Discount may only be applied if account has not already reached maximum discounts allowed.

[Start Learning!](#)

Colorado Outdoor Adventure HOP  
September 2 - 8, 2018

Cuba - Key West Cruise HOP  
February 12 - 17, 2019

Mardi Gras HOP  
March 1 - 6, 2019

For additional information on any of the above HOPs, please visit the Escapees website at [escapees.com](http://escapees.com)