

**ESCAPEES - CHAPTER 29  
CAROLINA ROVERS  
APRIL 2019  
NEWSLETTER**



President, Craig Rickenbach  
SKP#72083  
[REDACTED]

Vice-President, Michael Tasto  
SKP#127019  
[REDACTED]

Secretary, Don Smart  
SKP#107136  
[REDACTED]

Treasurer, Terri Wirtz  
SKP#93910  
[REDACTED]

Officer at Large, Steve Masterson  
SKP#95338  
[REDACTED]

Officer at Large / Rally  
Coordinator - Bruce Long  
SKP #60805  
[REDACTED]

Newsletter Editor, Dianne Wood  
SKP #113382  
[REDACTED]



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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

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As evidenced by the green pollen covering RV's, vehicles and everything else another Spring has Sprung and another camping season has begun. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable travel season. Chapter 29 just finished our Spring Rally in the Raleigh, NC area and lots of fun was had by all. Lots of good food and travel updates had by all. Sad to say some had to cancel due to rigs in for repair and some members in hospitals for repair.

Election of New Officers were held during Spring Rally. I want to welcome to the team, Mike Tasto our new Vice President. We did not receive any volunteers for Treasure but during the General Meeting Robin Hyatt volunteered if she could shadow Terri Wirtz, our current Treasurer, for a year till she is free to take over. This option was approved by unanimous vote. For now Terri Wirtz will continue as Treasure.

New Standing Rules were approved by unanimous vote. They will soon be posted on Chapter Website at <https://carolinarovers29.weebly.com/>.

Robin and Dave Hyatt have volunteered for Fall Rally hosts at Bear Creek. Don & Maxine Smart have volunteered as Advisors.

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### Index

President's Message	1-2
New Officer	3
Meeting Minutes	4-5
New Members	6
Spring Rally Pictures	7-12
Traveler's Corner	13-17
Cautionary Tales	18
RV Service Listings	19
Classifieds	20-21
Upcoming Events	22-23

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## (continued)

Bruce did an excellent job of presenting campground options he has investigated for the 2020 Spring Rally between Camp Hatteras and Cypress Camping Resort. Most were excited about Hatteras until they heard the nightly camping rate of \$58 to \$73. We took a vote after questions and answers. The vote was an overwhelming majority for Cypress Camping Resort. We all agreed Camp Hatteras would be a great place for a Convergence.

At the officers meeting, we discussed requirements for rally campgrounds and the expensive daily camping rates. We are going to try going back to our roots by also looking at campgrounds with just covered pavilions. We try to keep chapter fees down and should also try to keep camping fees down if possible.

Fall 2019 Rally - Our next get together will be the Fall Rally at Bear Creek RV Park & Campground on October 3-6. This campground is in the heart of fall color change and fills up fast. We have 30 sites set aside but they request that reservations be made by July 1, 2019 in order to be with rest of members. After that it will be first come first service but will still be at Rally rate. Mention that you are part of the "Carolina Rovers' Rally". When you make your reservations they will take CC info but not charge until arrival. After making your reservation please contact Robin Hyatt at [REDACTED] or any Officer. This helps Host to plan activates, meals, etc. Details are at end of Newsletter.

Spring 2020 Rally – Will be held at Cypress Camping Resort in Myrtle Beach, SC. It is located on the South Side of Myrtle Beach on the Inter-Coastal Water Way. More information is to come as Bruce Long finalizes plans and dates with campground. If anyone wants to volunteer to be Rally Host please inform any officer.

Craig Rickenbach  
SKP #72083

# ***Welcome to our New Vice President***

During our Spring Rally an election for V.P. was held and Michael Tasto was elected. We appreciate all of the work that our past V.P. - Steve Gerner did and wish him well wishes.

Let's all welcome Michael Tasto. We're sure he will be a good asset to our staff!



Michael & Lorraine Tasto  
SKP #127019

# Escapees Chapter 29 Minutes of the General Membership Meeting April 5, 2019

## Board members present:

Craig Rickenbach, President  
Steve Gerner, Vice President  
Don Smart, Secretary  
Terri Wirtz, Treasurer

## President - Craig Rickenbach

- Meeting opened at 9:43 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and introduction of Officers & Committee Chairpersons.
- Guests present: Donna Sullivan & Lowell Hilty of Ohio; Gary & Susan Dewitt of New York
- Thanks to Mike & Lorrie Tasto for a job well done hosting the rally.

## Secretary's Report – Don Smart

- Secretary read the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of October 06, 2018. Motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.

## Vice President's Report – Steve Gerner

- There are no nominations for Treasurer.
- Steve will not be continuing as Vice President. He and Mariann have decided to quit RVing.

## Treasurer's Report – Terri Wirtz

- Beginning account balance as of last rally October 6, 2018 was \$1,221.96. Ending balance as of April 6, 2019 is \$1,240.91.
- Fall rally deficit was \$6.05
- Terri explained the reason for dues payments being required to be made payable to "Terri Wirtz."
- T-shirts are available, but we are out of patches. We will survey members to see if Terri needs to reorder.
- Although there are no nominations for Treasurer, Robin Hyatt volunteered to nominate for the position in the future.
- Terri explained that membership dues are \$5.00 per rig annually. Dues paid in advance are set aside in the treasury to be used for expenses of the appropriate year. Year to date dues collected is \$205.00, which will be used for rally expenses if necessary.

# Escapes Chapter 29 Minutes of the General Membership Meeting April 5, 2019 (continued)

## Officer at Large Report – Bruce Long, Rally Coordinator

- Thanks to those who have suggested tentative rally sites.
- The two recommended sites for the Spring 2020 rally are Camp Hatteras Campground & Resort, and Cypress Camping Resort on the Intracoastal Waterway at South Myrtle Beach. Both have meeting rooms. Camp Hatteras has kitchen facilities. It was recommended by Steve Wood & Steve Masterson. They have agreed to be rally hosts if that site is chosen. Rates are \$58 - \$73 plus tax nightly. Cypress Camping Resort does not have kitchen facilities, but does have a café that also caters. This is a quiet campground about 5 miles from the beach.
- Craig Rickenbach pointed out that the chapter typically negotiates for a cluster of 30 sites to be set aside for the chapter members.
- Motion to vote for spring rally location: 1 in favor of Hatteras/all other members in favor of Cypress Camping Resort. Spring Rally will be at the Cypress Camping Resort in South Myrtle Beach. Rally hosts to be determined.
- Sites being considered for the fall 2020 rally are Crosswinds Family Campground (\$48.00/night), Linwood, North Carolina (Board recommendation); and The Great Outdoors RV Resort, Franklin, North Carolina (\$65.00/night). Great Outdoors would be receptive to negotiating a more favorable rate if the rally were held in late September rather than October. However, Bruce is pursuing Crosswinds Family Campground for Fall 2020.
- Goal of the Rally Coordinator is to plan one year ahead.

Newsletter Editor – Dianne Wood (absent) – no report

Sunshine Report – Helen Young (absent) – no report

## New Business

- Nomination for Vice President – Ron Johnson nominated Mike Tasto, seconded by Terri Wirtz.  
No other nominations. Unanimous vote for Mike Tasto for Vice President.
- Nomination for Treasurer – Terri Wirtz nominated by Linda Jackson.  
No other nominations. Unanimous vote for Terri Wirtz for Treasurer.
- Craig requested ratification of the Standing Rules as amended by the Board at the fall rally.  
Motion to accept by Linda Jackson, seconded by Bruce Long. Passed by unanimous vote.
- Craig stated requirements for future rally sites will be pared down to make more campgrounds available.
- David & Robin Hyatt will Host the 2019 fall rally in Asheville.

Meeting adjourned at 10:52 A.M

5 of 23

## ***Welcome to our New Members***

We are pleased to announce to you our new couple as members of Chapter 29. Although unable to attend the Spring Rally, they will be attending Boot Camp and SKP ACRE. If you are also attending, please join me in welcoming them to our group!



***Keith and Virginia (Ginny) Linman***  
***SKP# 148875***

# Spring Rally Group Outing Cape Fear Botanical Gardens April 6, 2019

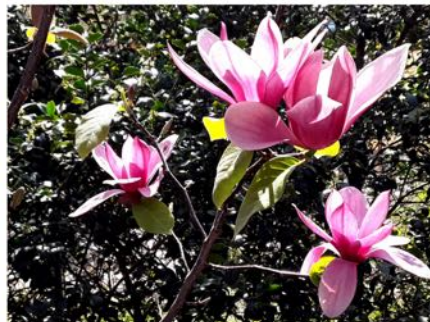
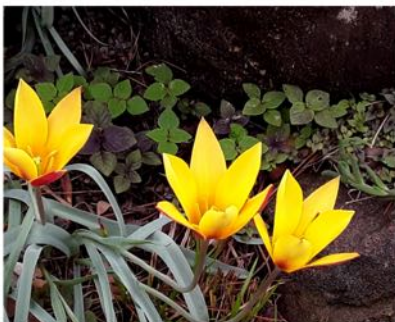
It was a wonderfully pleasant spring day at the gardens. There were flowers in profusion everywhere. As we walked the paths it was hard not to stop and take pictures. There was just so much color! And it was "Dog Day" at the Cape Fear Botanical Gardens. There were big dogs, little dogs, and everything in between. Across the way was a food court with musical entertainment. Sitting, chatting, and dog watching were the order of the day. It was pleasant, relaxing, and entertaining all at once. All in all, it was a perfect day.



Maxine Smart



Bobbi Jo & Arnold O'Neal



Don & Maxine  
Smart  
SKP #107136

# Spring Rally Pictures (Thanks to Steve Gerner for Pictures)

## Registration Thursday



## Friday Breakfast



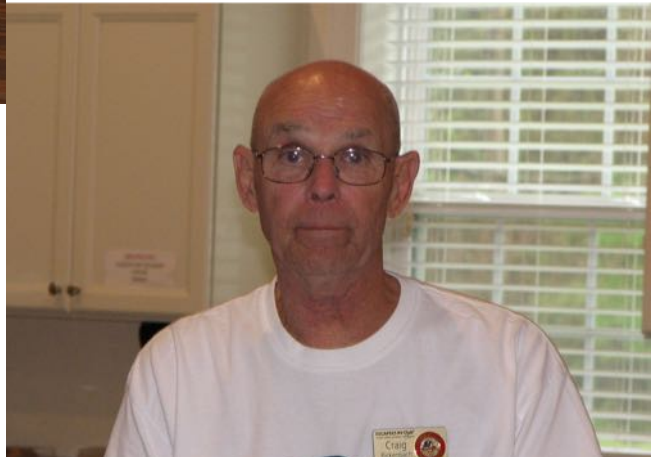


# Spring Rally Pictures (cont'd)

## Friday Breakfast (cont'd)



## Pot Luck Friday



## Spring Rally Pictures (cont'd)

Pot Luck Friday (con't)



# Spring Rally Pictures (cont'd)

## Saturday's Breakfast & Sky Med presentation



## Spring Rally Pictures (cont'd)

Dinner at "Stephenson's BBQ"



What a Good Looking Group!!!!



# **TRAVELER'S CORNER**

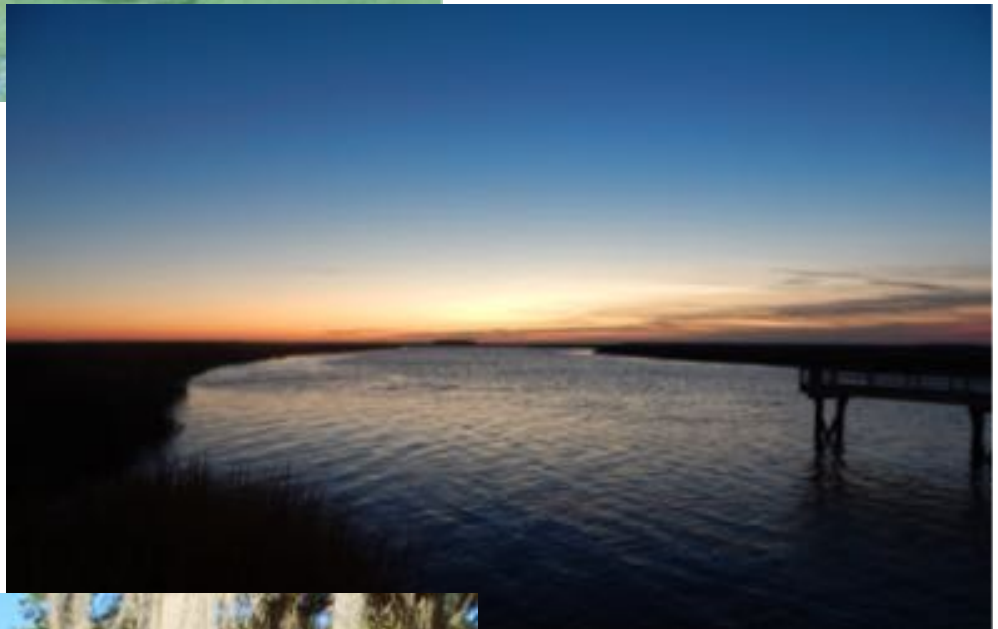
**Winter 2018-2019**

**By Ron Johnson #104509**



**Blue Spring State Park –  
Orange City, Florida  
West Indian Manatees**

**Fort McAllister State Park  
– Richmond Hill, Georgia  
Sunrise over the  
Intracoastal Water Way**



**Spanish moss**

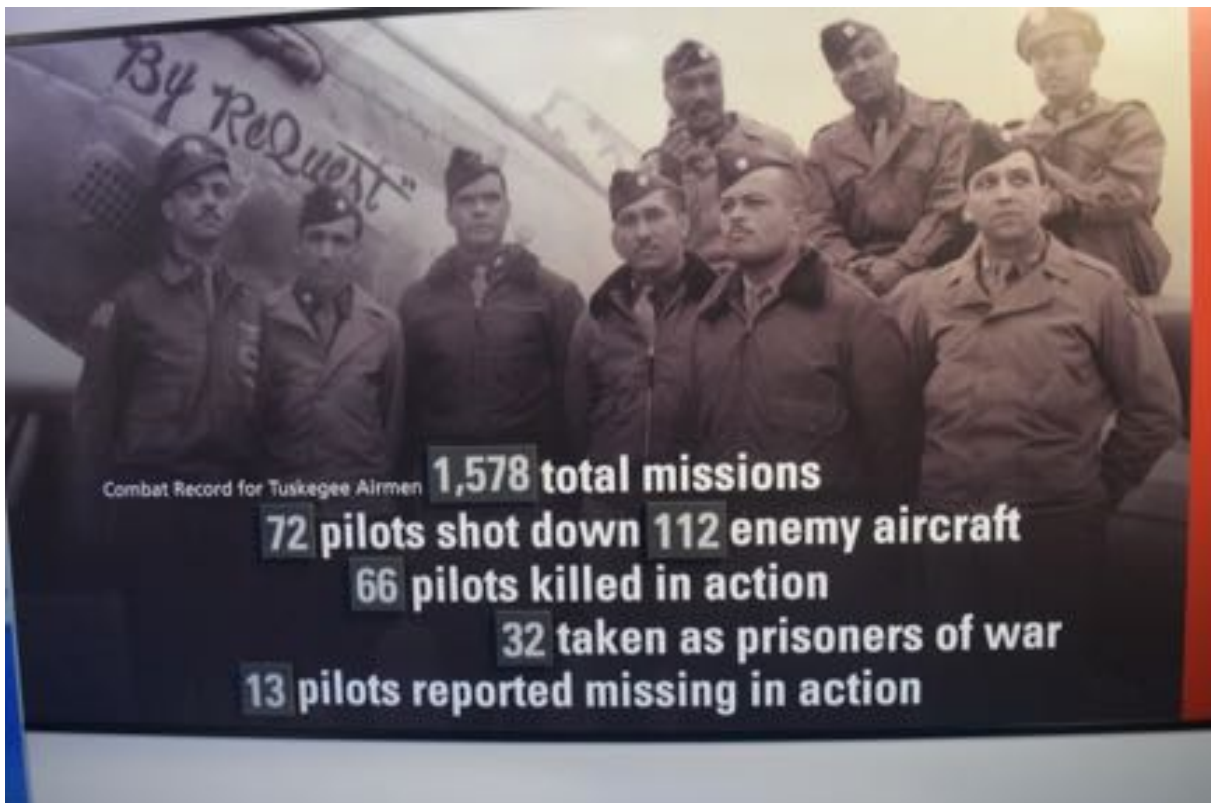
# **TRAVELER'S CORNER (continued)**

**By Ron Johnson #104509**

**Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site - Tuskegee, Alabama  
Original 1940s Hanger 1 and Hanger 2**



## **Red Tails Combat Record**



# TRAVELER'S CORNER

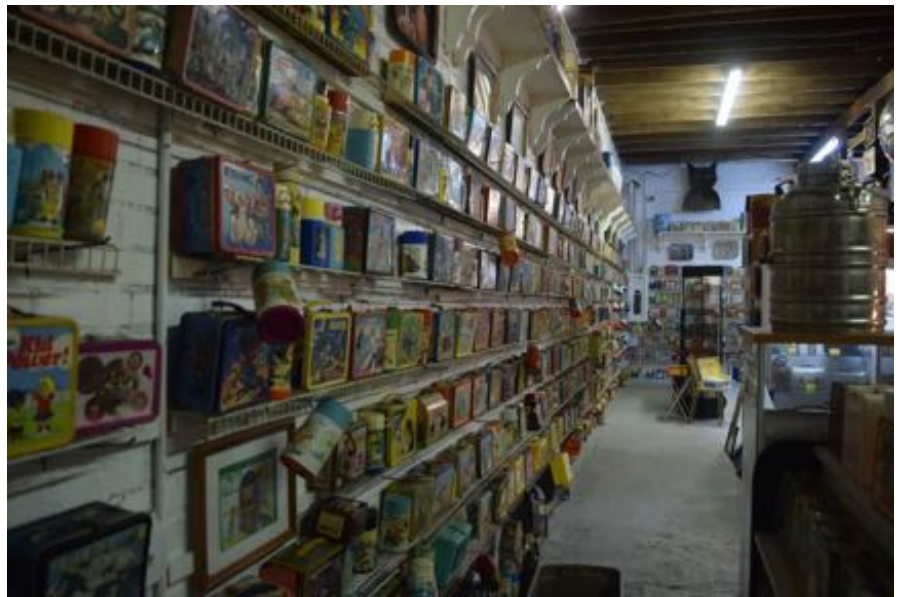
By Ron Johnson #104509



**Hillbilly Mall US-80 East  
of Tuskegee, AL**

## **Lunch Box Museum – Columbus, Georgia**

A collector by the name of Allan Woodall operates the Lunch Box Museum began collecting lunch boxes in the 1990s after he inherited a small collection from a deceased friend. The museum today contains more than 3,500 lunch boxes and matching thermoses. The metal lunch boxes were banned as lethal weapons in the 1970s after a group of disgruntled, outraged Floridian mothers lobbied against the metal boxes claiming the little tykes were swinging the boxes and bashing other children in the head.



**The oldest lunch box I saw in  
the museum is this 1930  
electric lunch box.**

# **TRAVELER'S CORNER (cont'd)**

**By Ron Johnson #104509**

## **Kolomoki Mounds State Park-Blakely, Georgia**

Descending Georgia's oldest great temple mound, standing 57-feet high.



Kolomoki Mounds State Park is the oldest and largest Woodland Indian site in the southeastern United States, occupied by Indians from 350 to 750 A.D. ([gastateparks.org](http://gastateparks.org))



Ron Johnson  
SKP #104509



# TRAVELER'S CORNER

By Priscilla and Steve Phillips SKP #126484

We couldn't make it to the rally, and we are broken hearted to have missed joining everyone once again. We bought a new (almost!) motorhome at Camping World in Richmond, IN, and we were so excited to be making our inaugural trip during the rally. We have been waiting to make this major purchase for just the right timing and for the exact model to become available, and lucky for us, those two factors coincided when we found a 2018 Thor Vegas with only 6,000 miles of use. Now, however, our motorhome is sitting at Camping World in Spartanburg awaiting parts that have to be sent from Thor so that the windshield wipers can be repaired. The problem was discovered when it began to rain just as we were ready to head home from Indiana; since they were unable to make the repairs in a timely manner, they arranged for the work to be done in Spartanburg. It has turned out to be a more major repair than we initially thought, and it is obviously taking much longer than anyone expected, hard to believe in a motorhome that otherwise is in like-new condition.

We hope you all had a fantastic weekend full of fun and fellowship while we stay at home stranded instead of being able to show off our new RV. We'll plan on joining everyone in the fall.

Hugs,  
Priscilla & Steve



## ***Cautionary Tales***

Cautionary Tales includes reports on issues that we as RVers need to be aware of on the road or through RV internet sites. As an RV family, it is our responsibility to pass on information to each other and help us all stay safe on the road. As we publish these in the newsletter, they will also be posted on our web site for future reference.

If you have a submission for Cautionary Tales for our July Newsletter, please send them directly to me. 

Thank You  
Dianne Wood  
#113382



## ***New Chapter Addition***

Thanks to Don Smart for his creative talents, we have a new chapter addition!!! If you have anything to add to our newsletters or recommendations on how to make them better, please send me an email. All suggestions are welcome!



# RV Service Listings

We are providing chapter members with a list of RV service centers / businesses that we have used that we would recommend. Below is the list we collected so far. If anyone wishes to add to this list, please send to me and I'll repost in the January Newsletter. Please include the vendor's name, address, phone number, and email and website if available. Member contributor's names are in { } in case you need more information. This list will also be posted to our web site.

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

- AZ     *Unlimited Collision & RV, 8112 North 75th Ave., Peoria, AZ 85345*     {Raymond Nuzzolo}  
623-979-7565     [www.unlimitedcollisionaz.com](http://www.unlimitedcollisionaz.com)     Attn: Matt Gorges
- FL     *Randy's Mobile RV Service, Inc., Howey in The Hills, FL 34737*     {Raymond Nuzzolo}  
352-324-0288     407-497-7266 (Cell)     Attn: Randy
- GA     *Maxie Price RV - 4601 Atlanta Hwy, Loganville, GA 30052*     {Don Jackson}  
770-554-2000     [maxiepricerv.com](http://maxiepricerv.com)
- NC     *Bob's RV Repair , 5929 Old Greenlee Rd., Marion, NC*     {Jan Austan}  
828-724-4522 or 828-460-7352  
[bobsrvbodyshop.com](http://bobsrvbodyshop.com)
- NC     *Shaw RV , 1650 US HWY 1, Youngsville, NC 27596*  
919-556-6553     [shawrvnc.com](http://shawrvnc.com)
- NC     *GGT RV (Golden Gait Trailers), 5051 Davidson Hwy, Concord, NC*     {Steve Wood}  
28027     704-743-5280     [goldengait.com](http://goldengait.com)
- NC     *Country Roads RV Center- 2609 Enterprise Rd, Lexington, NC 27295*     {Steve Wood}  
336-775-2100     [CountryRoadsRVCenter.com](http://CountryRoadsRVCenter.com)  
(Does not service motorhomes (engines) - 5th wheels, travel trailers, and house portion of motorhomes only)
- NC     *RV & Camper Refrigeration, Inc., 5808 Stockbridge Drive*  
*Monroe, NC 28110 704-821-9119*  
[www.rvcrcarolina.com](http://www.rvcrcarolina.com)     [www.coolyourcmper.com](http://www.coolyourcmper.com)  
Attn: Sam Obermiller
- NC     *Truck Fleet Painting (for body work), 5301 Stowe Lane,*     {Steve Wood}  
*Charlotte, NC 28262 704-455-5315*     [truckfleetpainting.com](http://truckfleetpainting.com)
- NC     *Snider Fleet Solutions (tire service), 300 E. Meadowview Rd.,*     {Steve Wood}  
*Greensboro, NC 27406 336-275-7188*  
(Note: this is a national company and more locations can be found by visiting [sniderfleet.com](http://sniderfleet.com))
- NC     *Country Camping Corner, 101 Oak Grove Rd., Kings Mountain, NC*     {Craig Rickenbach}  
*28086 704-734-0595*     [www.countrycorner.com](http://www.countrycorner.com)

# Classifieds



*This is a new section provided for chapter member's use. If you would like to list something for sale, please provide detailed information, member name and contact, and pictures. Members are asked not to list more than 5 items.*

## Water Softner



"On The Go" double standard model manual portable water softener. This unit is 9" diameter and 22" tall. It is rated at 16000 grains. It is recharged using plain table salt through a large opening for easy maintenance and minimal storage of regeneration material. \$175.00.

If interested, please contact Steve Wood 336-250-2222 or email at [REDACTED] and I can email you detailed specs. I will be attending our Chapter 29 Spring Rally April 4-7 at Raleigh Oaks RV Resort, Raleigh, NC and SKP ACRE at Pine Mountain, GA, April 25 - May 5 and would be glad to bring this to you at one of those events.

Steve Wood  
SKP# 113382



# ***Classifieds (continued)***

## **FOR SALE**

Thousand Trails/NACO Platinum Nationwide Membership.

Price: \$250 plus \$750 transfer fee

Location: Nationwide including Canada (63 parks)

This Thousand Trails, NACO Membership is one of the best you can find. Stay 21 consecutive nights at any preserve, then immediately go to another preserve (no days out of parks). No limit on number of camping days per year. No nightly fees. Make reservations 90 days in advance. The selling price does not include a mandatory \$750.00 transfer fee to Thousand Trails paid by buyer. The transfer of this membership will be handled between current member, buyer, and Thousand Trails. This is a great deal for full timers. My current annual membership fee is \$612.00 and pays for itself with about 15 nights of camping each year. My annual cost has increased only about \$5.00 in four years. I can't guarantee the buyer will have the same yearly rate but it probably won't drastically change. Also, the annual fee for the first year will be prorated based on date of membership transfer.




**Ron Johnson #104509**

# Carolina Rovers - Upcoming Events

## 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: David & Robin Hyatt  


Rally Fee: TBD

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

Name of Group When Making Reservation: Carolina Rovers Rally

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



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

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## 2020 Spring Rally - Chapter 29

When: April 16 - 19, 2020

Where: Cypress Camping Resort  
101 Cypress RV Way  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

GPS Address: 2200 River Road  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588  
(Turn by Socastee High School where buses park.)

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

Rally Fee: TBD

Campground Fee: \$48.00 less 10%; plus tax.

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

Phone: 843-293-0300  
[www.cypresscampingresort.com](http://www.cypresscampingresort.com)



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

# ***Carolina Rovers - Upcoming Events***

## **2020 Fall Rally - Chapter 29**

**When:** October 1 - 4, 2020

**Where:** Cross Winds Family Campground  
160 Campground Ln.  
Linwood, NC 27299

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

**Rally Fee:** TBD

**Campground Fee:** \$40.00 for 30 amp; \$45 for 50 amp.; early/late rate, per night

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

**Phone:** 336-853-4567  
[www.crosswindsfamilycampground.com](http://www.crosswindsfamilycampground.com)



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