



# ESCAPEES - CHAPTER 29 CAROLINA ROVERS JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER



**President, Craig Rickenbach**  
SKP#72083

**Vice-President, Don Jackson**  
SKP#114996

**Secretary, Steve Masterson**  
SKP#95338

**Treasurer, Steve Wood**  
SKP#113382

**Officer at Large / Rally  
Coordinator - Steve Wood**  
SKP#113382

**Officer at Large, Terri Wirtz**  
SKP#93910

**Sunshine Person, Beverly Jackson**  
SKP#114996



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Greetings and Happy New Years,

Yup, that time again. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and not too happy a New year (LOL). And that everyone stays healthy and well in the new year. We, the Rickenbach family, had a most unusual Christmas. Our grandson Elijah came down sick four days before Christmas. We decided to postpone till the follow Sunday, New Years, to hold Christmas so the rest of the grandchildren did catch it too. In the meantime, his father came down with pneumonia between Christmas and New Year's. We decided to not cancel again since we could isolate him to his room. By midafternoon, he was feeling well enough to join in with the festivities and Christmas dinner. Since then, no one has gotten sick, and we are all healthy again.

Please see the notices below of the upcoming 2023 Spring Rally at Cross Winds Family Campground in Linwood, NC. Please make your reservations soon and looking forward to seeing you there. Also, the 2023 Fall Rally is at Cool Breese Campground in Galax, Va.

Spring Rally is also the time of the year for New Elections. Since this is an odd year, elections will be for the Vice President and Treasurer. If anyone is interested, please let any current officer know before or at the Spring Rally.

Hugs and Safe Travels,

Craig

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## ***A Word From Your Newsletter Editor***

This is to notify you that this will be my last official Newsletter. I have been Newsletter Editor since 2014 and have thoroughly enjoyed being able to produce this for the chapter.

I have enjoyed the many articles and beautiful pictures provided by you and want to thank all of you for providing so much wonderful information.

It is my feeling that this should now be passed to someone else who can bring new life and a new perspective to the Newsletter. If anyone is interested in taking on this responsibility, please notify Craig Rickenbach at [carickenbach@gmail.com](mailto:carickenbach@gmail.com)

I will be happy to answer any questions you have at our upcoming Spring Rally.

In the meantime, travel safely and we'll see you in April.

Dianne Wood  
SKP #113382



# ***Travelers Corner***

## ***Vacation in Canada***

### ***by Linda Stevens SKP #114064***

My wish was to walk on a glacier before they melted. I checked it off my “Bucket List” with a trip to the Canadian Rockies from August 3-16, 2022.

The trip was too far for Pat and me to go by RV, because our cat/house sitter had only 3 weeks open in her schedule. I wanted an itinerary that would use three Air B&Bs as our “hubs” for sightseeing through Alberta and British Columbia, including Banff, Jasper and Yoho National Parks.

We used Fodor’s Canadian Rockies guidebook and found it to be extremely helpful and well-organized. With it, we created a 10-day itinerary up, down and around the Icefields Parkway as follows:

#### Canmore, AB Air B&B: Johnson Lake hike & Lake Minnetonka day cruise

(Our guide showed us a pair of bear prints comparing a small black bear print to a really big grizzly bear print.)

Vermillion Lake scenic drive, Banff Mountain Gondola

Johnston Canyon Hike

Nine-hour Guided tour from Banff to: Tunnel Mountain, Moraine Lake,

Johnston Canyon hike & waterfall, Emerald Lake & Lake Louise,

Natural Bridge in Yoho National Park

#### Jasper, BC Air B&B: Sunwapta Falls

Columbia Icefields Glacier

Mount Edith Cavell

Maligne Lake Cruise, Canyon Loop Trail Bridges 1 & 2

Peyto Lake

Columbia Icefields Discovery Centre, Columbia Icefields Adventure & Skywalk

#### Golden, BC Air B&B: Yoho NP

Athabasca Falls, Takakkaw Falls-833 ft. tall

Golden Gondola to Eagle’s Eye Restaurant (7,700 ft high with a 360 degree view of five mountain ranges - We had a wonderful lunch and walk around the top, including views of spectacular twisting bike trails around and down the summit of the mountain.)

# ***Travelers Corner***

## ***Vacation in Canada***

### ***by Linda Stevens SKP #114064***

Our trip began from Asheville around 4 pm on August 3. We arrived in Calgary at 9:30 pm - their time! Actually, the trip was about 9 hours, including layover time in Dallas. We took a cab to the Royal Hotel in Calgary for the night. It was reasonably priced and the rental car company was located in the hotel. Very convenient! After a wonderful free breakfast buffet, we left for Canmore, the first “hub” of our tour. Our Air B&B in Canmore was luxurious yet still less expensive than accommodations in tourist-heavy Banff. Banff NP days were filled with scenic drives, day cruises, hikes, waterfalls and of course, glaciers.

To see the gargantuan expanse and beauty of the Canadian Rockies, travelers by RV or car must take the iconic Icefields Parkway. It is 146 miles of spectacular mountain ranges. The parkway begins at Lake Louise and passes through Jasper National Park. From the parkway, you can head west to nearby Yoho National Park. It's very important to obtain a National Park Pass in advance, because it is required to drive the Icefields Parkway as well as admission to the parks. Otherwise, you'll have to join long lines of vehicles to purchase a pass before you can get going on your trip! We obtained our National Park Pass eight months in advance, and it is good for one year. We spent five days in Banff NP, three days in Jasper NP, and three days in Yoho NP. We also visited a park in Alberta province, but that involved a separate pass, as it was not in the national park system.

After three days in Jasper NP, it was time for the big event - a walk on the Athabasca Glacier! There were seven glaciers in all in the Columbia Icefields. Most have receded or are totally gone. Our guide said that in 80-100 years they will be all gone! Glad I got there now! To get to the glacier, visitors ride a large Ice Explorer vehicle with huge, muddy tires. They took us to the glacier first, and then to the Sky Walk, which was a huge glass platform overlooking the area. In August, the glacier was very slushy, and it was cold and windy. The crevices were deep blue. The glacier was very dirty from the tourist feet. It made me sad. We did witness an “small” avalanche on the side of the glacier as we were looking across from the visitor center. That was a surprise!

***Travelers Corner***  
***Vacation in Canada***  
***by Linda Stevens SKP #114064***

I must say that Canada was crisp, clean, very friendly and far ahead of us environmentally. Also, the Canadian dollar is worth less than ours, so the trip was pretty affordable in that respect. The roads were smooth, signage was clear, and there were bike and walking paths everywhere! The mountains were capped with snow, ragged and rugged, with sharp ridges and spectacular views from the tops. There was little or no road construction during our time there. No litter! There were rushing waterfalls and rivers, and even lakes that glowed turquoise blue or iridescent bright green in the water. The colors are created by minerals brought down from the melting glaciers.

Our 3 Air B&Bs were everything they promised. We enjoyed meeting two of the three property owners and having great chats about the area and our adventures. In late July, the region suffered through a record-setting 90-degree heat wave. However, throughout our trip, we had no rain, comfortable temperatures and plenty of sun. We were impressed by the many public efforts made by the government and citizens to honor the indigenous nations in western Canada, and to acknowledge the grave injustices done to them in the past. We heartily recommend the Canadian Rockies to you as “the trip of a lifetime.”

Linda Stevens  
SKP #114064



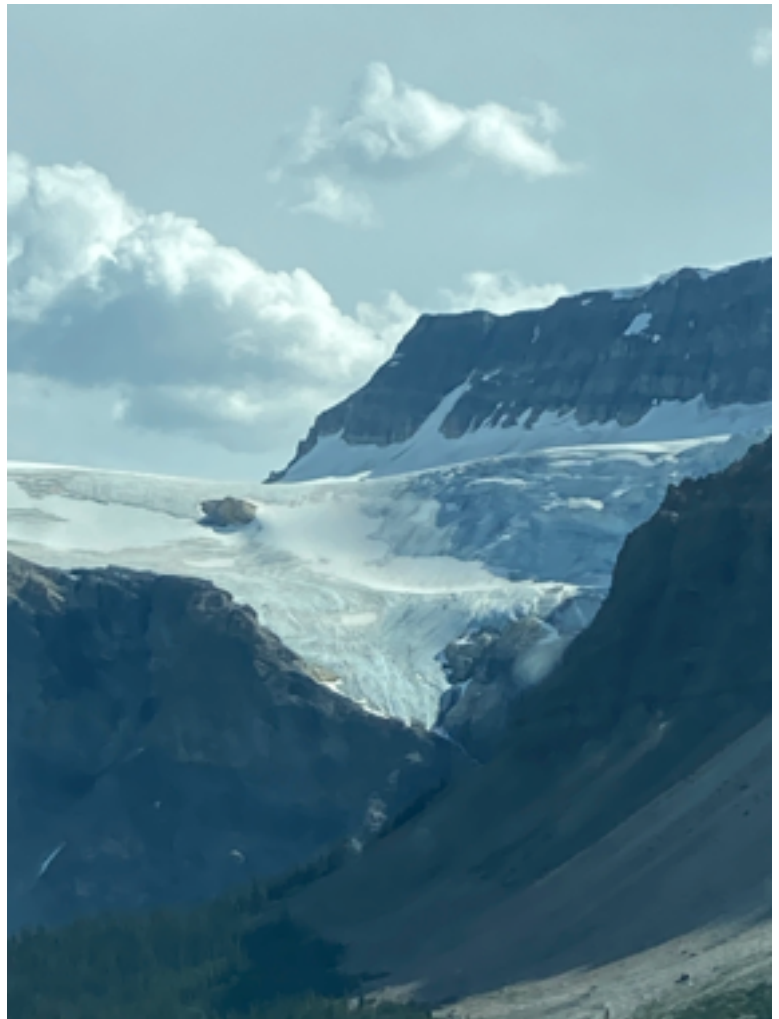
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# Carolina Rovers - Upcoming Events *(cont'd)*

## 2023 Spring Rally - Chapter 29

**When:** April 27 - 30, 2023

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

**Rally Hosts:** TBD

**Rally Fee:** TBD

**Campground Fee:** 30AMP - \$44 @ night; Weekly (7 nights) \$282.  
50AMP - \$47 @ night; Weekly (7 nights) \$300.  
(Weekly Rate is based on 6 night stay, 7th is free)  
**Cancellation Policy:**  
See Cancellation Policy on next page.

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

**Phone / Web:** (336) 853-4567  
<https://www.crosswindsfamilycampground.com>



**TO ENSURE YOU ARE GIVEN THE GROUP RATES AND ARE LOCATED WITHIN THE GROUP SITES, YOU MUST CALL THEM. DO NOT MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS ON-LINE. REMEMBER TO IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS A MEMBER OF CAROLINA ROVERS CHAPTER #29.**

**NOTIFY DIANNE WOOD WHEN YOUR RESERVATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE AN ACCURATE COUNT OF ATTENDEES FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.**

**Convergence - Cross Winds Family Campground  
(Prior to Spring Rally)  
April 24 - 26, 2023**

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

# **Carolina Rovers - Upcoming Events** (cont'd)

## **2023 Spring Rally - Chapter 29**

### **Cancellation and Refund Policy**

In need to cancel or make any changes to your reservation.... Please call the office directly in order to process the cancellation or make the changes appropriately.

#### **Cancellation Policy:**

If your reservation date needs to be changed, you may change the reservation to another date. Should you need to cancel your reservation, without penalty, you may receive a camp credit to be used at a later date. Please call (336) 853-4567 during office hours to make any changes to your reservation.

If you did reserve online, the Online Booking Fee of \$2.00 will not be added to Camp Credit.

No refund or camp credit given for early departure or late arrivals!

#### **Refund Policy:**

If you prefer to receive a refund: Cancellations requested more than 7 days prior to the reserved stay will receive a refund less a \$25 service fee. Cancellations requested less than 7 days will receive a refund less a one (1) night's charge.

If you chose a refund, it will post within 5 to 10 business days.

If you have chosen to receive Camp Credit, please call the office at (336) 853-4567 when you are ready to make your next reservation. Your Camp Credit will not expire. Please inform the representative that you have Camp Credit.

If you did reserve online, the Online Booking Fee of \$2.00 will not be refunded back to you.

Since camping is an outdoor experience, no refunds will be given due to inclement weather.

# **Carolina Rovers - Upcoming Events** *(cont'd)*

## **2023 Fall Rally - Chapter 29**

**When:** September 28 - October 1, 2023

**Where:** Cool Breeze Campground  
2330 Edmonds Rd.  
Galax, VA 24333



**Rally Hosts:** TBD

**Rally Fee:** TBD

**Campground Fee:** \$43.50 a night (includes discount & taxes)  
Discount good for entire stay  
Reservation cutoff August 28, 2023  
Reservations can be made by phone or on-line.

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

**Phone / Web:** (276) 236-0300  
<https://www.coolbreezecampground.com>

**NOTIFY CRAIG RICKENBACH WHEN YOUR RESERVATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE AN ACCURATE COUNT OF ATTENDEES. [carickenbach@gmail.com](mailto:carickenbach@gmail.com)**

**Convergence - Cool Breeze Campground  
(Prior to Fall Rally)  
September 25 - 27**

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



***ANNOUNCING!***

***SKP ACRE RALLY 2023***

***APRIL 15 - 20, 2023***

***Coastal Georgia RV Resort***

***912-264-3869***

***<https://www.coastalgarvresort.com>***

***April 21 - 23, 2023***

***Boot Camp***

***(Immediately following the Rally)***

***Visit the SKP ACRE website often  
for updates.***

***<https://skpacre.weebly.com>***

Steve Masterson #95338, SKP ACRE President  
Dianne Wood #113382, Director of Communications