



# TREK TRAVELS

## Northwest Trek Fun Club

Volume 1, Number 3

July 2014

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*"Money is only a tool.  
It will take you wherever you wish,  
but it will not replace you as the driver."  
— Ayn Rand*

"Is motorhoming only for the rich?" Sometimes we hear comments from people who think we must have money to own an RV. I remember a person remarking, "Motorhomes are fuel-guzzling dinosaurs that are on the verge of extinction. Those of us who own motorhomes are a dying breed."

The one true fact about RVing while retired is that this lifestyle offers choices. Some people own a second home as a vacation home or a seasonal home. Others choose to have a motorhome instead of another property. If we don't like the weather in one place, we can go somewhere else.

There are three major expenses confronting RV'ers on the road: camping, food, and fuel. The choice is dependent on lifestyle and financial capacity.

**Camping** – At the end of the day the motorhome needs to be parked somewhere. For us, we prefer state parks or USFS or BLM sites (our Senior Pass gets us a spot at ½ price). We rarely spend more than \$35 for a campsite, and really hesitated at some of the prices on our California trips. Others prefer private camping resorts with all the amenities. We met a person at a RV park who really liked the resort that cost him \$129 for a night of camping.

**Food** – You have to eat something, and enjoying good food is one of the best things of life. Many of us eat the same food on the road as we do at home. There is nothing better than a steak or fillet of salmon over the campfire. The kitchen in our motorhome

*(continued on page 5)*

### 2014 RALLY SCHEDULE

*More  
information  
inside!*

**August 7–11**

#### **PRE-RALLY TO FMCA**

*Wagon Masters: Lee & Judy Keeler*

*Location of Rally: Keeler's Ranch, Salem*

**August 11–16**

#### **FMCA FAMILY REUNION**

*Location of Rally: Redmond, Oregon*

**August 18–20**

#### **NWTFC 10TH ANNIVERSARY**

*Wagon Masters: Colleen & Rodger Wright  
Ed & Jeanette Block*

*Location of Rally: Mt. Hood RV Village*

**October 8–10**

#### **TREK OR TREAT!**

*Wagon Masters: Robert & Barbara Henderson*

*Location of Rally: Valley of the Rogue State Park*

### CLUB MEMBERSHIP GROWS

NWTFC Secretary David Pierce recently reported that the organization's membership had risen to 65! This is the result of a combination of factors – the website, rallies, Trek Tracks, newsletter, the testimony of our members, or the enduring appeal of the Trek motorhome. Every current member is happy to welcome newcomers to the fold, because it gives us more personal opportunities to share our common interest "Fun Club".

We extend a NWTFC "Welcome" to these newest members:

Al and Trudy – Idleyld Park, Oregon

Diana – Emery, South Dakota

Gord & Linda – Coaldale, Alberta

Greg & Judy – Vancouver, Washington

John & Janice – Burlington, Washington

Leonard & Ellen – East Hampton, Connecticut

Wayne & Janice – Spokane, Washington





# BONES AND BEANS!

THE REDMOND PRE-RALLY

## DATES

Thursday, August 7 thru  
Sunday, August 10, 2014

At 9:30AM Sunday morning, the  
caravan will head out for Redmond

## LOCATION

THE KEELER RANCH  
1155 - 63rd Avenue NE  
Salem, Oregon

## YOUR HOSTS

Lee and July Keeler  
503-302-3282  
RSVP to KeelerLj@yahoo.com

## NWTFC GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday morning following breakfast

## MEALS

FRIDAY .....	Breakfast.....	Provided
.....	Dinner.....	POTLUCK
SATURDAY .....	Breakfast.....	Provided
.....	Dinner.....	Provided

**SOCIAL HOUR** ..... 4:00 to 6:00PM

## RALLY FEE

\$40.00 per coach

Make check out to NWTFC  
and mail to:

Colleen Wright, NWTFC,  
10575 SW Citation Drive,  
Beaverton, OR 97008

**MORE INFO AND  
REGISTRATION  
FORM ON WEBSITE**



# NWTFC 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY RALLY

**THERE'S STILL  
TIME TO SIGN UP  
AND BE PART OF  
THE FUN!**

## Rally Cost

Rally fee for 2 people:

\$158.00 (U.S. dollars), plus campsite fee paid to Mt. Hood Village  
(lower price reflects no T-shirts because past printing deadline)

**Rally fee** covers Tuesday's & Wednesday's breakfasts;  
Timberline happy hour appetizers, dinners & desserts.

**Refund deadline** for Rally Fee is August 1 (if there are any  
people on a waiting list, a reimbursement may be possible  
closer to rally time).

Optional expenses: Free time activities; ski lift ride up the  
"Magic Mile" (runs 7:30AM-4:00PM) for \$15 per person;  
happy hour wine & beer at Timberline Lodge no-host bar;  
breakfast available Thursday at the resort's on-site Dragonfly

Go online now for complete registration information. Mail  
application and fee to: Colleen Wright, NWTFC, 10575 SW  
Citation Drive, Beaverton, OR 97008. Questions? please  
call 503-579-0823

**Monday, August 18 thru  
Wednesday, August 20**

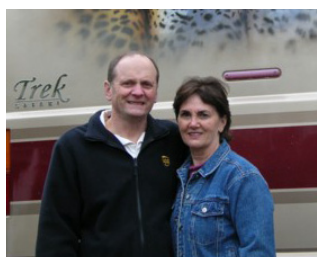
**at the  
Mount Hood Village RV Resort  
65000 East Highway 26  
Welches, OR 97067**

## Campsite Reservations

40 full-hookup 30/50 amp sites are being  
held for our rally, including the clubhouse's  
spacious Evergreen Room and facilities.

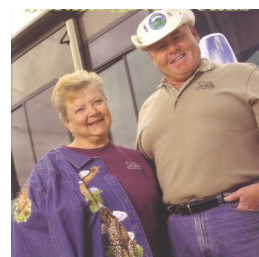
After Club Treasurer's confirmation of rally fee  
payment, attendees are advised to make their  
campsite reservations. Call the Resort office at  
(503) 622-4011 or (800) 255-3069

To receive rally discount (**3 nights: \$123.24**),  
be sure to mention NW Trek Fun Club and  
wagonmaster Rodger Wright.



Rodger & Colleen Wright  
twocats-trekn@hotmail.com

## Your Wagon Masters



Ed & Jeanette Block  
ed.jnet@earthlink.net



# NWTFC 10th ANNIVERSARY - RALLY ITINERARY

## DAY 1

Monday, August 18

- ❖ Check-in by 4:00PM
- ❖ Festive happy hour/potluck (hearty hors d'oeuvres)
- ❖ Our 10th Anniversary celebration:
  - presentation of our 10-year certificate by FMCA Area VP
  - a special cake, cupcakes, ice cream & punch (compliments of our club)
- ❖ Rare opportunity for reminiscing- enjoy looking through club photo albums covering 10 years of fun!

## DAY 2

Tuesday, August 19

- ❖ Breakfast (Dragonfly Café & Bakery) served at clubhouse – biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, and country potatoes, juices
- ❖ Brazel's Performance RV tech talk, with Q&A time
- ❖ Club business/activity update and door prize drawings
- ❖ All afternoon & evening on your own; there will be plenty of brochures & restaurant suggestions available



### What to do, what to do...

Fun and adventure can be found within minutes of Mt. Hood Village RV Resort.

A 27-hole golf course, more than 700 groomed hiking trails, rock climbing, bird watching, mountain biking, miniature golf, fishing, lakes and streams to explore, and the Alpine Slide are just a few of the summertime activities in Mt. Hood National Forest.

Historic Timberline Lodge is the only U.S. location that offers year-round skiing and snowboarding. Dine at the lodge's world class restaurant, run by a first class chef.

## DAY 3

Wednesday, August 20

- ❖ Another fine breakfast at the clubhouse – French toast stuffed with cream cheese & blue berries; bacon or sausage, juices.
- ❖ Trip to Mt. Hood's historic Timberline Lodge
  - Carpool as needed
  - Guided 45-minute group tours of the lodge scheduled at 11:00, 1:00 & 2:00PM
  - 'Miracle Mile' ski lift is an option
- ❖ Happy hour and dining at Timberline Lodge
  - Happy hour at 5:00PM – everyone will be expected to gather in the lodge's private Raven Room (no-host beer and wine available for happy hour)
  - Appetizers include smoked salmon on cucumber; Oregon bay shrimp mousse on crostini, sun-dried tomato mouse, grilled flat bread roulade
  - Dinner (pre-ordered) includes organic green salad and the chefs' selections of three additional salads, rice or potato, seasonal vegetable, artisan rolls, and pastry dessert, with gourmet coffee and teas. ENTREE CHOICE OF: Hazelnut-smoked Prime Rib – slow-roasted natural beef, rosemary-scented au jus, served with Hood River apple horseradish cream; OR NW Cedar Plank Salmon, served with Huckleberry Beurre Blanc.

(All food costs include 19.5% gratuity)

### FYI... Just how special is dining at the Timberline Lodge?

Taken from the Timberline Website:  
"Perhaps the ultimate compliment to Executive Chef Jason Stoller Smith's talents came in the summer of 2010 when he was invited to the White House. He was asked to represent the cuisine of the Pacific Northwest for a Congressional Picnic personally hosted by President and Mrs. Barack Obama for 2,000 guests and members of the United States Congress."

## DAY 4

Thursday, August 21

- ❖ Break camp by 11:00AM
- ❖ Bid your farewells and get 'outa there', BEFORE the Hood-to-Coast Race – featuring over 12,500 runners and 3,600 volunteers – descend on the Mt. Hood area late Thursday/early Friday!





It's not too early to start thinking about a wonderful autumn trip to Southern Oregon – join us for a



# TREK OR TREAT RALLY



*Southern Oregon is full of history, treats, and surprises. It is a land of bounty, providing fruit, wine, cheese, timber, gold, and so much more over the years. Come along with us and discover the riches of the Rogue Valley.*

## DATES:

**October 8, 9 & 10**

### Location:

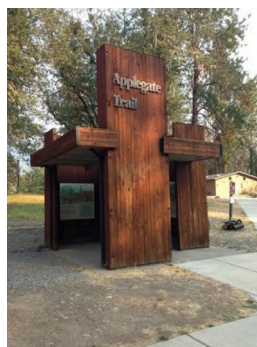
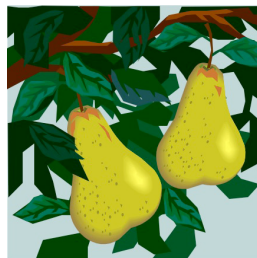
Reserved spots at the Valley of the Rogue State Park, between Grants Pass and Medford off of I-5 Exit #45B

### Your WagonMasters:

Robert and Barbara Henderson

**In your free time, there's much to see & much to do in Southern Oregon!**

- Bicycle path along Rogue River
- Hike the Rogue River
- Visit the upper Rogue where the river goes underground
- Oregon Caves
- Butte Creek Grist Mill
- Wildlife Images Education & Rehabilitation Center
- Interesting and historic downtown Grants Pass
- Applegate Trail Museum
- Kerbyville Museum
- Southern Oregon Museum in Medford
- Oregon Vortex



**RALLY FEE: \$177.00 per coach**  
*(includes camping, three breakfasts, two dinners, and entertainment)*

## PLANNED RALLY HIGHLIGHTS

### Wednesday, October 8

- ❖ Arrival and potluck dinner (assignment by last name: A-L bring main dishes; M-Z bring appetizers, side dishes, desserts); BYOB (bring your own beverages)

### Thursday, October 9

- ❖ Breakfast of pancakes and sausage prepared by Al Zimmerman
- ❖ Medford: Leave by 12:45, meet at the Harry and David Country Village Store, depart for their tour at 1:45. Participants will receive a \$5.00 certificate to spend at the store upon return. *(Cost of tour will be included in the registration price)*
- ❖ Central Point: Next stop, visit the Rogue Creamery (specialty cheesemakers) and Lillie Belle Farms Artisan Chocolates.
- ❖ Dinner at Valley of the Rogue State Park, catered by Silver Ridge Outfitters. Menu: BBQ tri-tip or chicken, rosemary garlic potatoes, cowboy beans, salad, and fruit cobbler.
- ❖ After-dinner entertainment by Wrangling Richard, who will bring stories and song.

### Friday, October 10

- ❖ Light breakfast
- ❖ NWTFC business meeting
- ❖ Technical seminar by Henderson's Line-Up
- ❖ Free time on your own
- ❖ Dinner by Casa Amiga, Henderson's Line-Up hosting

### Saturday, October 11

- ❖ Light breakfast
- ❖ Farewells and journey home

**Watch the Rallies web page for the "Trek or Treat" announcement & registration form!**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*(continued from page 1)*

is well-used. Others we know rarely cook a meal in their motorhome. Their RV gets them to the next restaurant.

**Fuel** – everyone watches the price of fuel now days. We can still remember gas for 25 cents a gallon. But now we buy gas at Costco or use our grocery reward program to fill the Trek. We still use our gas card, but we look at the pump price more carefully. Others have decided to stay closer to home for their trips.

Each of us has chosen to enjoy the lifestyle in our own way with our very unique Trek. For some of us, getting the Trek on the road is a costly expense. For others, motorhoming is a hobby that enables them to see the country with all the amenities, to travel in luxury with all the gadgets and toys. The NW Trek Fun Club is composed of a variety of people from all walks of life. We find joy and fellowship in sharing our experiences as we travel the road together.

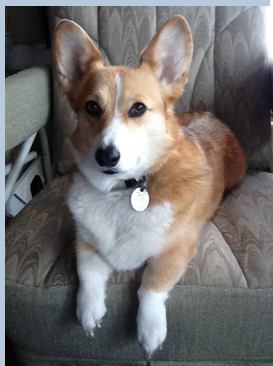
Happy travels – see you at the next rally!

*Al Zimmerman  
President, NWTFC*

## TREK PETS

This is Ginger and her brother Corky. They are Pembroke Welsh Corgis. They are the most beautiful, smart, talented, thrifty, clean and obedient animals that have ever graced a Safari Trek motorhome.

Disagree? Have a differing viewpoint? You are now most cordially invited to submit photos and a little information about your own wonderful pet(s). In this sneaky manner, I should get enough material to create a newsletter Pet Page where folks can share pics of their furry (feathered? finned?) copilots. Email to: [sjnorris@yahoo.com](mailto:sjnorris@yahoo.com)



*by Stacia, totally  
unbiased dog mommy*

## NWTFC GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING at the Bones & Beans Pre-rally at Keeler's Ranch on Saturday, August 9 following breakfast

NWTFC membership business meetings are scheduled for each NWTFC rally. The Executive Board has been meeting by email during the months that rallies have not been scheduled. The actions taken during these months will be reviewed and ratified prior to being presented to the membership. The general business meeting agenda will likely include the following items:

- Report of actions taken by Executive Board.
- Treasurer's report
- Membership report – several new members
- Nomination Committee report
- Goal for NWTFC to have an annual rally calendar
- Bylaw change affecting Executive Board membership
- Response to items from FMCA NW Area meetings

A report on the meeting will also be published in the Trek Travels NWTFC newsletter.

## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE THE CLUB

The nominating committee for the NWTFC is searching for officers for the following positions: Vice President, Treasurer, and Alternate FMCA National Director.

The responsibilities for each of these positions can be found on our website – [NWTFC.com](http://NWTFC.com) – in the "Members Only" section; click the "Job Descriptions" button. If you want to learn more about the duties of an officer position, you can also contact the person who held the position before to get more information:

- Helen Anderson was Vice President,
- Colleen Wright was Treasurer (for 6 years!), and
- Peggy Beers was Alternate FMCA National Director.

A slate of officers will be presented at the Bones & Beans Rally in Salem, OR in August. Please consider offering your time and talents for one of these positions so that the NWTFC can continue its successful run! Interested? Please contact one of the members of the nominating committee:

Helen Anderson	<a href="mailto:Helen.Anderson@comcast.net">Helen.Anderson@comcast.net</a> 253-848-4468
Dean Bjornson	<a href="mailto:dsbjornson@gmail.com">dsbjornson@gmail.com</a>
Bob/Sandy Pinney	<a href="mailto:rahapi@hotmail.com">rahapi@hotmail.com</a>

## Notes from the FMCA NW Area Business Meeting

**Dates:** June 3-5, 2014    **Location:** Toppenish, WA

### NWTFC representatives:

Steve Webber-Plank (National Director)  
Al Zimmerman (President)

Andy Balogh has been FMCA NW Area National VP.  
Kathie Balogh has been nominated to succeed him.

### FMCA NW Area officer nominations:

Vice Pres.....Dennis Martin, Bobbie Radford, Ken Pratt  
(2 positions) (incumbent), Don Schleuse (incumbent)

Treasurer.....Barb Schleuse, Kathie McBride

Secretary:.....Karen Pratt

Other names are being solicited.

The audit of the FMCA NW Area books found no discrepancies.

FMCA national membership is 76,397. National membership is losing about 500 members per month.

### Rally Information

High Desert Sunrise – FMCA's 90th Family Reunion in Redmond has about 1,000 coaches registered. The target for this year is 1,800.



FMCA NW Area Rally for 2015 will be in Coos Bay at the Mill Casino. There is great difficulty in finding suitable sites for the area rally at a reasonable cost. Linn County Expo Center in Albany is the only other site that seems to meet the criteria for hosting area rallies. Other sites are being studied. A motion was adopted to alternate between the two sites through 2018.

2015 .....Coos Bay – Mill Casino

2016 .....Albany – Linn County Expo Center

2017 .....Coos Bay – Mill Casino

2018 .....Albany – Linn County Expo Center

### Other FMCA Business

More information will be shared at the pre-rally regarding two actions being considered:

- Adoption of a medical assistance insurance program.
- Removal of the Immediate Past President from the FMCA executive board.

### NWTFC recognition

Kudos to Judy Keeler as volunteer captain for the FMCA store for the High Desert Sunrise Redmond rally. She has filled her staff of volunteers for the store. NWTFC has 23 volunteers going to Redmond.



## What's it to YOU?

When I first discovered a Trek, it was originally the quantity and quality of its cabinetry that stole my heart, and it still intrigues me today.

Safari offered a wide variety of Trek floorplans – and evolving variations of those plans – but one recurring element I noticed in several plans was a two-cabinet grouping labeled “pantry”.



I have to confess that my first reaction to seeing the cabinets in the flesh was, “Wow, look at the great bar... thanks, Safari!” Storing food there never crossed my mind.

Of course, it could be that a nicely set-up corner like that inspires owners to utilize it for unique, special functions. Or you can keep canned goods in it.

Does your Trek have this? What function does it serve for you?

Please email answers to my dumb question at [sjnorris@yahoo.com](mailto:sjnorris@yahoo.com). Or show me with pictures (worth a thousand words, you know).

– Stacia







# MASTERPIECE MURALS

(with animal magnetism!)

## A Tale o' Nine Cats

(Not to be confused with a Cat o' Nine Tails)

We bought our wonderful but "naked" Trek in November 1999...brand new, built to order. At the time, we just didn't consider the expense for a mural to be "worth it", but we soon regretted our decision after seeing other Trek murals. It became a "someday" dream. Then, no more Safari, no more murals. But a 2013 Google search revealed that Dennis Dame IS still in Harrisburg!! We excitedly contacted him and he agreed that, yes, he would be very happy to convert our naked Trek to one with a mural!!

We are just goofy about our cats and always hoped that maybe they could be hidden in the mural! Over the last 20 years, we have had 9 very spoiled kitty cats. Happy to paint something a bit unique, Dennis asked us to email pictures of the cats and pictures that we thought are pretty scenes. We live on the Sol Duc River in Forks, WA – moving here on purpose because we think there is no more beautiful place anywhere – and thus we sent river photos. Dennis also searched the internet for other scenes of the rivers in our area, and he asked for a picture of our coach. Finally last summer we trekked down to Harrisburg.

Dennis isn't just a "mural painter"; he is a top-notch fine artist. (Examples of his beautiful work can be seen at [DennisDame.com/works](http://DennisDame.com/works).) We discussed several ideas which all sounded beautiful. Dennis likes to river fish; he imagined the perfect fishing hole

to paint on our Trek. And he had wanted that picture of our Trek to ensure the colors in the mural were appropriate for the colors of our coach!

Dennis works out of the old Country Coach factory in Harrisburg where there is still the paint booth and, of course, lots of room. After arriving on Friday night, he prepped and masked the back of our Trek. Not an easy task... this took several hours alone!

Early Saturday morning, Dennis started the painting process, working at least 12 hours that day, then coming back Sunday for another long, long, LONG day. He also let us – plus our 4 current kitties – stay in the motorhome there at the factory. When it came time to start hiding kitty pictures in the mural, he asked how prominently we wanted them to appear, but we appreciated how he hid animals in his murals, and requested the cats be disguised. So, when you see our mural, come search for the nine cats there!

Dennis is really enjoyable and gracious for letting us stay to watch (and kibitz) during the whole process. The time, detail, patience and TALENT required for this art project is just amazing. You will learn lots about fine art painting, paints, and RVs from Dennis, and about his interesting life. We can't over-exaggerate just what a fun adventure and a real honor it was to have a mural painted by the master artist and wonderful gentleman, Dennis Dame!



– Submitted by  
Judy and Ken  
Schindler



# NWTFC: About our club

The **Northwest Trek Fun Club** (NWTFC) was formed with the idea that Trek owners are people who are unique because the Trek design is quite unique. They are people who like to get out and visit the very beautiful sites and history of North America. However, they do not want to do it in a huge motor home. The Trek design gives us the comforts of home but still is small enough to get into those off-the-beaten-track sites.

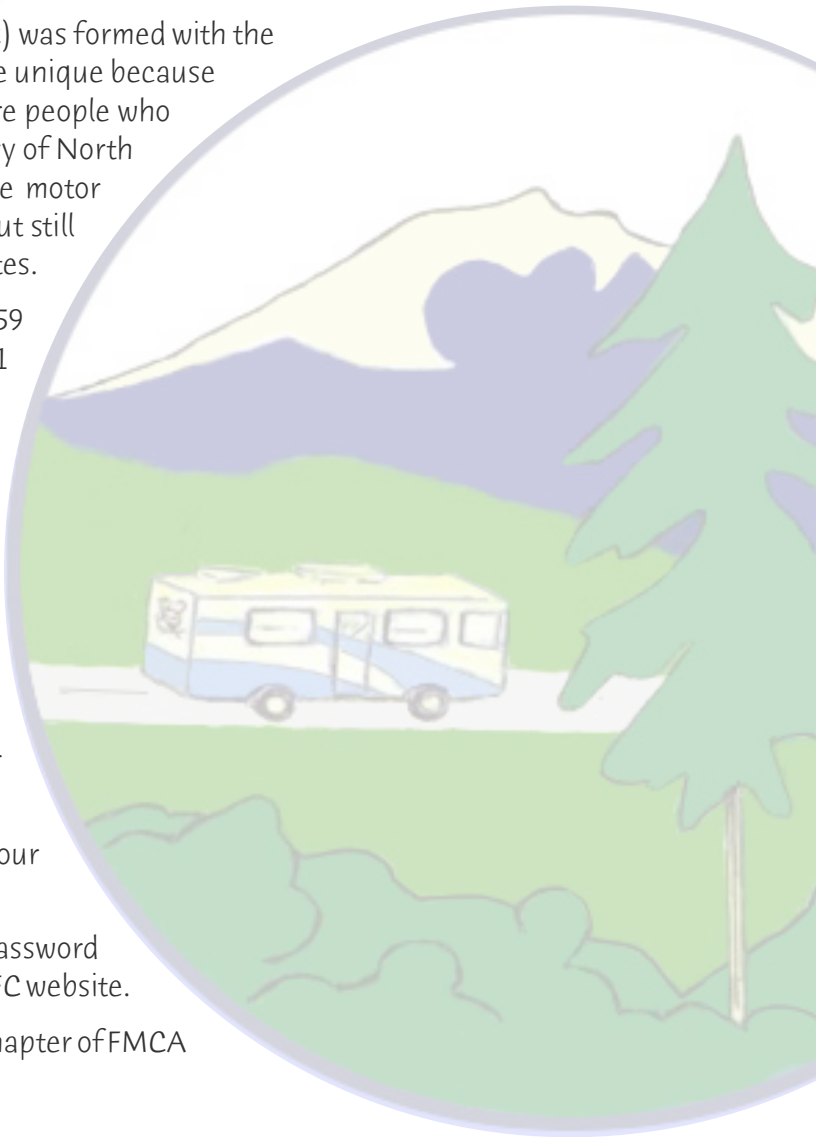
NWTFC was established in 2004 and currently has 59 coach members, including Treks spanning the 1991 Isuzu to the 2008 28RB2 model. We pride ourselves in fostering new friendships and knowledge of the Trek. We stress that our club's middle name is F-U-N.

We plan several rallies each year in several states, and communicate with our members by email and newsletter, and through the club website. NWTFC territory covers Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Alaska, Montana, British Columbia, Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and the Yukon. All Trek owners, regardless of their home state, are welcome to join or to attend our rallies as guests.

Membership dues are \$10 per calendar year. Please visit our website for a membership application.

When your membership is processed, you will be given password access to the secure "Members Only" section of the NWTFC website.

NWTFC is a part of the National Trek Fun Club. We are a Chapter of FMCA and very closely associated with SAFARI International.



## ELECTED OFFICERS

## 2014 NORTHWEST TREK FUN CLUB

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### President

Al Zimmerman  
zimmeralz@gmail.com

### NW FMCA Director

Steve Webber-Plank  
donwebberplank@mac.com

### Rally Coordinator

Rodger Wright  
TwoCats-Trekn@hotmail.com

### Vice-President

Helen Anderson  
Helen-Anderson@comcast.net

### Alt FMCA Director

Peggy Beers  
beers.peggy57@gmail.com

### Webmaster

Mary Carlson  
Webmaster@nwtfc.com

### Secretary

David & Sue Pierce  
SueDavidPierce@gmail.com

### Past President

John Turner  
Jfturner3@juno.com

### Newsletter Editor

Stacia Norris  
sjnorris@yahoo.com

### Treasurer

Colleen Wright  
colrogw@gmail.com

*Please feel free to contact NWTFC officers or committee chairs with your questions or suggestions.*

**Find the latest information on the club's website: [www.NWTFC.com](http://www.NWTFC.com)**