



Volume 11 Number 1



TREK TRAVELS



January 2024

President's Message

This will be my final report as president of NWTFC. I am pleased to leave this leadership role in very capable hands. I am looking forward to the new energy that Rebecca Edens (president) and John Herold (webmaster) bring to the club. We are also benefiting greatly from the hard work and dedication of the Walczak's. Kathleen is doing a bang-up job as both our secretary and our rally coordinator. Wojo as vice president is a great ambassador for our club. Jo Ruby has stepped up as our new treasurer and I am sure she will do a great job. Al Zimmerman is hardly new to the leadership of this club. He has certainly played a vital role in keeping the club organized and on track with club business, as well as handling the newsletter. He has represented us well on the regional and national scene with FMCA. I greatly benefited from his help during my terms as president.

I want to thank all of you for your support in keeping the club active and viable as we passed through the COVID restrictions. It feels like the club is in great condition with a full season of rallies planned. The activities and friendships keep the club fun and the membership numbers up. I encourage you to attend the rallies and activities planned for 2024. They are all different and all look to be great gatherings.

Since the FMCA national convention is in Redmond this year – plan to attend and help us staff the store. We have fun and meet a lot of friendly people from all over the country.

Mike Ashbridge
Past President

RALLY SCHEDULE

(To be Wagon Master for a rally, contact Kathleen Walczak, rally coordinator, at mcnamka@gmail.com)

January 18 – 21 Quartzsite Rally, AZ

Location - off Cholla Road

April 29 – May 2 Hoodspout, WA
Wojo & Kathleen Walczak
Rebecca Edens & John Herold

June 25 – 28 20th Anniversary Rally
Old Stone Village, McMinnville, OR
Mike & Lynn Ashbridge
Wojo & Kathleen Walczak

August 9 – 12 High Desert Gathering
Central Oregon KOA, Culver, OR
Al & Elaine Zimmerman
Chris & Kristi Earhart

August 14 - 18 FMCA 109th Convention
Deschutes County Fair & Expo
Redmond, OR

September 16 - 19 Rally with the Animals
Dry Camping in Southern Oregon
Roy Miller
Mike & Lynn Ashbridge

Be a Wagon Master & share the fun!

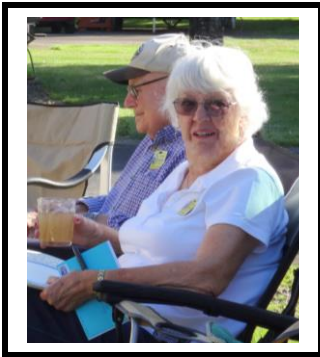


FLASH FMCA NEWS

FMCA membership voted on 4 proposals related to the constitution. Results released January 5, 2024.

- FMCA may choose to operate under an assumed business name.
Yes (86%) No (14%)
- Revised mission statement.
Yes (91%) No (9%)
- Revised purpose statement.
Yes (89%) No (11%)
- Emblem definition removed from constitution.
Yes (84%) No (16%)

These changes are positive for the future of the organization and are consistent with the strategic plan adopted in 2023.



Note from
Joann
Lindhorst

Jack and Joann were members of NW Trek Fun Club for many years and attended many rallies. Jack was the quiet one with sparkle in his eye, while Joann was more outgoing. Jack and Joann won the corn hole tournament at the Rally on the Cowlitz in 2021. Joann also served as vice president for the club.

In a note Joann shared these thoughts:

Jack and I have wonderful memories of the times we shared at various rallies. I am providing a contribution to further the club activities. I want to be informed of club activities.

Thank you Joann and you are more than welcome to attend any of the club rallies and activities.

FMCA 109th International Convention

August 14 - 18
Deschutes County Fair & Expo
Redmond, OR

FMCA's annual summer convention returns to Redmond, Oregon for the first time since 2014.

What to expect at the convention:

- A good time and an opportunity to meet new friends.
- An RV marketplace with gadgets and gizmos to make your RVing journey a better experience.
- Helpful seminars and presentations by knowledgeable speakers.

Typical convention schedule:

Monday – NWTFCL caravan so club parks together. NW area afternoon meeting to discuss issues and ideas.

Tuesday – Natl. Director's briefing on GB matters.

Wednesday – Governing Board meeting, election of officers. Vendors open and workshops start.

Thursday – official opening. Workshops. Evening entertainment.

Friday & Saturday – Workshops. Evening entertainment.

NW Trek Fun Club will be staffing the FMCA store. **Volunteers are needed.** It is fun to meet people from across the country. Join the fun and volunteer to help staff the store.

Register for the FMCA Convention

(See FMCA magazine or register online when registration opens)

- Register for the High Desert Gathering Pre-Rally
- Caravan together to the fairgrounds on August 12.
- Camp together and enjoy times of fellowship.

NWTFCL will caravan to the fairgrounds on Monday, August 12. **Contact Al Zimmerman to volunteer and join the store team.**
zimmeralz@gmail.com.



NW Trek Fun Club now has seven 7 member units living in California. They are from such places as:

- Sana Barbara
- Northridge
- Fort Bragg
- Nipomo
- Walnut Creek
- Truckee

We invite to venture north for a rally. Since the 2024 FMCA Convention is in Redmond, it is a good time to attend a rally and the convention. The fall rally in the Medford area may also be enticing.

Consider being a wagon master and hosting . In 2025 it would even be a good idea to plan a rally in northern California. In 2018 the club had a rally in Klamath. Contact our rally coordinator – Kathleen Walczak – and we will help you plan the rally.



Sound Familiar?

I pass by this ancient mailbox every day on my way to work. The old rusting box is nailed to an old oak tree. After 3 years of passing it by, I decided to see if anything was inside. After all there is not even a house nearby.

I noticed an ancient letter inside. The postmark said 1925. Due to age and moisture the envelope was not readable, so I opened it up hoping to find something interesting.



Here is what the letter inside said, “We have been trying to reach you about your car’s extended warranty.”

New RV Sales Decline

Declining sales projections for new RV sales in 2022 signal a significant turnaround from record-setting recent years according to a quarterly forecast prepared for the RV Industry Association (RVIA). Indications suggest a 16.9% decline from the record 600,240 units shipped in 2021.

Looking to 2023, the forecast projects a further decline with likely year-end total of 419,000, a 16% decline from the projected 2022 total.

The softening economic backdrop, coupled with lower savings rates, elevated inflation, and higher interest rates, are putting pressure on consumer budgets, leading some to reduce or postpone spending on discretionary items such as RVs.

QUARTZSITE 2024

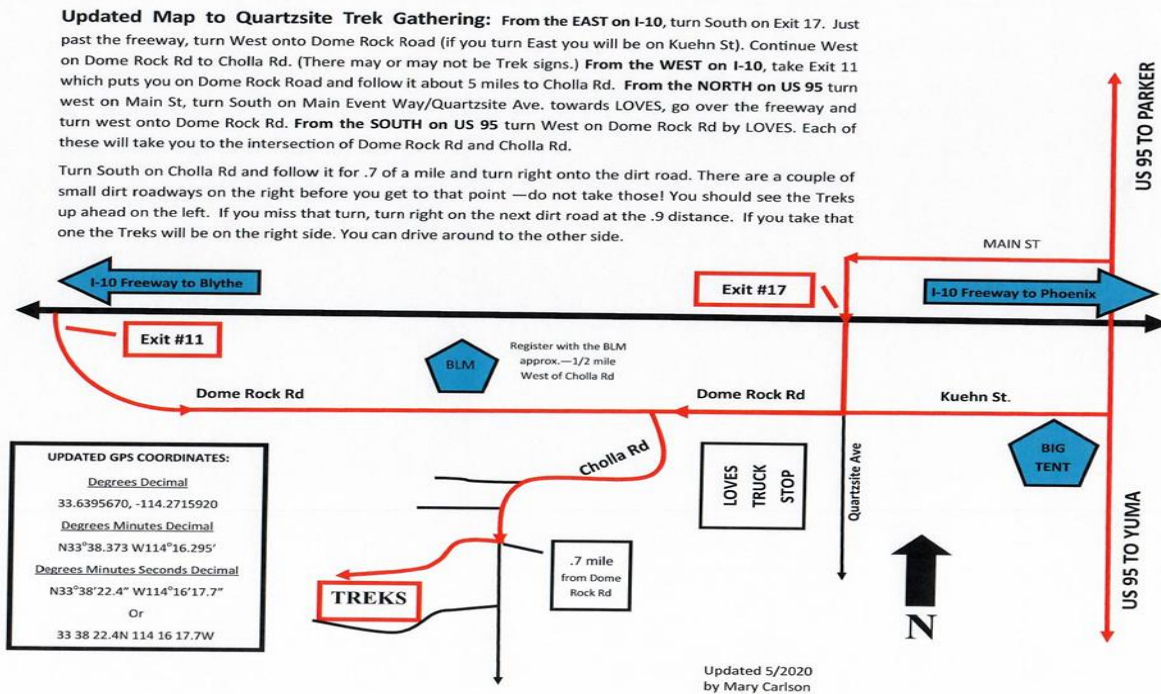
January 18 – 21

Cholla Road Location

Join the Trek Circle. Enjoy fun and fellowship under the stars. It is an annual informal gathering of Treks that just seems to blossom in the desert.

- Informal potlucks
- Information shared among Trek owners
- Boondocking tips
- Bring some firewood for the evening fire

check TrekTrax for directions & info



Quartzsite RV Show 2024

Don't Miss The Ultimate Event For RVers



Early Bird 'No Frills' Rain or Shine Hoodsport Rally

Monday April 29-Thursday May 2

Things to Do

- 12 Waterfront & 10 Parkside camping
- Walking trails along beach
- Dig for Clams & Oysters on Park Beach
- Your Kayaks or canoes etc. ok
- Clubhouse: Pool Table, games, & meals
- Lucky Dog Casino – 15 mins.
- Rock Brook Falls – 35 mins.

Wagon Masters

Wojo & Kathleen Walczak
Rebecca Edens & John Harold

CAMPING

Rest-a-While RV Park
<https://restawhile.com/>
27001 US Hwy 101 N
Hoodsport, WA 98548
360-877-9474

Register directly with Park.
\$50 (water) or \$45 (park) x 3 nights.
Mention NW Trek Fun Club!

Mile Post 329 on Highway 101
2.5 miles North of Hoodsport

Schedule

- Mon 4/29: Group Hors d'oeuvres Potluck
- Tues 4/30: Cooked Breakfast & Group Potluck dinner
- Weds 5/1: Continental Breakfast & Grilled Salmon w/ group potluck side dishes dinner.
- Thurs 5/2: Checkout (no breakfast)

HOODSPORT RALLY REGISTRATION

24 sites reserved

Rally fee: (includes 2 breakfasts & Entrée with dessert on Wednesday night).

Total Rally Fee (camp fee separate): **\$30 (Couple)** **\$15 (Single)**

Make checks payable to NWTFC & mail completed registration with check to Kathleen:

Kathleen Walczak, 2608 142nd Ave SW, Lakebay, WA 98349

Registration and funds must be received by March 15, 2024

Pilot _____ Co-Pilot _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ FMCA# _____

Email _____ Home phone _____ Cell _____

Emergency contact (name & phone #) _____

Do you have any special need we should be aware of? Y or N (i.e., food allergies, etc.)

Trek Model _____ Year _____ License# _____ State _____

Are you towing a car? Y or N

NWTFC'S 20th Anniversary Rally

June 25 – 28, 2024

Old Stone Village RV Park
McMinnville, Oregon



Wagon Masters

Wojo & Kathleen Walczak
Mike & Lynn Ashbridge

◆ Great Celebration Meal ◆

6/25 Tuesday – check-in

6/28 Friday – departure

**More details & registration
form to follow in March
newsletter**

Old Stone Village RV Park

This is a five-star RV resort with unparalleled amenities, in the heart of Oregon Wine Country.

Location

4155 NE Three Mile Lane
McMinnville, OR 97128
(503) 472-4315

Right on north side of OR 18 just before McMinnville. 11.2 miles SW of Newberg.

\$64.35 /night – Good Sam rate

Book your reservation directly **NOW** with Old Stone Village & **send email to Kathleen Walczak** (mcnamka@gmail.com)

Pre-order 20th Anniversary T-shirts



Kathleen Walczak will send out an order form once the details are known.



20th Anniversary stickers will also be available.

HIGH DESERT GATHERING

August 9 – 12, 2024

Rally Schedule

Friday, August 9

Arrive and get settled

6:00 pm Potluck dinner

Introductions – Road Tales

Saturday, August 10

9:00 am Breakfast – hash browns
scrambled eggs,
sausage/bacon

Tour Crescent Moon Alpaca
Farm & Petersen's Rock
Garden Lunch in Redmond

6:00 pm Dinner Taco salad, beans,
& rice

Special presentation

Sunday, August 11

9:00 am Continental Breakfast

Free time

6:00 pm Dinner – Pulled pork,
Baked beans, corn, potato
salad, dessert

Business meeting

Monday, August 12

9:00 am Continental breakfast

10:45 am Caravan to Expo for
FMCA Convention

Petersen's Rock Garden Redmond, Oregon

Petersen Rock Gardens were started in 1935 by Rasmus Petersen. Mr. Petersen was born in Denmark in 1893, and came to Central Oregon in 1906. He built a home, began farming, eventually cultivating nearly 300 acres. By 1935, he finally had time to devote to his yard where he started with a small rock feature near his house. He eventually covered four acres with ponds, bridges, and castles built of rocks he acquired within an 85 mile radius of his home. The rocks include agate, jasper, thundereggs, petrified wood, lava, and obsidian. Petersen died in 1952, but the Gardens are owned by family members. They have recently been refurbished and reopened to the public. There is also a museum and gift shop.





HIGH DESERT GATHERING August 9 - 12

Pre-rally to FMCA Convention
Redmond ♦ August 14 - 18

Wagon Masters: Al & Elaine Zimmerman
Chris & Kristi Earhart

Location

Central Oregon KOA Culver, Oregon

Located 32 miles north of Bend (16 miles north of Redmond) or 7 miles south of Madras on US 97.

Directions: At MP 105, turn east on Jericho Lane. CG is ½ mile on Jericho. approximately 2.4 miles south of Coburg.



- Crescent Moon Alpaca Farm
- Taco salad dinner
- Possible Les Schwab Company Store

- Petersen's Rock Garden
- Catered pulled pork dinner
- Caravan together to FMCA Convention

HIGH DESERT GATHERING ♦ PRE-RALLY REGISTRATION

Rally fee: (includes 1st night camping, 3 breakfasts, Taco salad dinner plus 1 catered dinner). **Pay for addl. 2 nights camping on arrival.**

15 sites
reserved

Total Rally Fee

\$ 148 (Couple)

\$112 (Single)

Make checks payable to NWTFC. Mail completed registration and check to:
Al Zimmerman, 875 Seabreeze Terrace, Coos Bay, OR 97420

Registration and funds must be received by July 1 , 2024.

Pilot _____ Co-pilot _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ FMCA# _____

Email _____ Home phone _____ Cell _____

Emergency contact (name & phone #) _____

Do you have any special need we should be aware of? Y or N (i.e. food allergies, etc.)

Trek Model _____ Year _____ License# _____ State _____

Are you towing a car? Y or N If yes, are you able to help transport others? Y or N

Volunteering to help staff FMCA store at Redmond Convention ____ Yes ____ No ____ # Volunteers



2023 Rallies

Quartzsite – January 19 – 23

37 Treks, 2 Safari Saharas, and 4 SOBs met together in the desert. There were two new Trek owners present!

Redlands RV visited the campsite to talk about shocks, tires, and air valve extenders. Friday at noon our own experts presented info on topics like solar and hydro boosts (brake parts). The evening brought a surprise visit from Dennis & Martie Martin, NWA FMCA president.

On Saturday saw some go to Parker for the desert bar lunch, while many went to Big Tent RV Show.

It is amazing how the Quartzsite gathering keeps happening.

Armitage Park Pre-rally – June 3 – 6

Wagon masters – Al & Elaine Zimmerman
Wojo & Kathleen Walczak

Rally site was Armitage Park, just north of Eugene. As a county park, it was especially important for a camp kitchen and canopies for shade to be set up.

13 RVs rolled in on Saturday, including several new people that were added to the NW Trek family. We were surprised to discover that Chuck and Barbara Hasman, former NWTF members, just happened to be camped at Armitage.

The rally began on Saturday with a progressive dinner. Each RV hosted a dinner course, and then came together for dessert.

Sunday started with pancakes, then it was off to the Cascade Raptor Center. During the presentation by a docent, the group met Valentino, a great horned owl. The birds on exhibit included owls, hawks, eagles, osprey, kestrels, and more.

Sunday evening started with spaghetti and salad. Following dinner was a scavenger hunt. Lee Buckley was the winner.

Monday's dinner was pizza from the Coburg Pizza Company. Straight Line RV and Boat Repair provided an informative presentation on exterior maintenance and repairs.

On Tuesday 6 motorhomes assembled for a caravan to the FMCA NW Area Rally in Albany.

Hoquiam Rally – July 10 – 12

Wagon Masters – Wojo & Kathleen Walczak
Mike & Lynn Ashbridge

20 RV's (including several off-brands) were present for the rally. There was a great representation of old and new members. The usual discussions on repairs and upgrades was heard over and over.

Each morning featured homemade cinnamon rolls, muffins from Kathleen's oven. Wednesday's dinner featured pork ribs by Mike Ashbridge. Dessert featured cheesecake plus fresh banana cream pies, and frosted brownies. Kathleen does spoil us.

One of the highlights of this rally was a tour of the Polson Museum in Hoquiam. It is a home built in 1924 for the Polson Logging Company heir. All agreed the tour was well worth the modest admission fee.

Safari International 35th Anniversary Rally September 5 – 9

Wagon Master – Lee Buckley
Safari International President

NWTFC represented by 13 of the 34 coaches present. Other Safari clubs had members present as well, so it was a nice mix of friends and first-timers that met at the Silver Spur RV Resort in Silverton.

Valeta Weaver and Glen Schweitzer arrived a few days early, as they planned a discrete marriage with close Safari friends to witness their nuptials.

Lee had arranged for many door prizes to be given away during the rally: hats, place mats, lap blanket, key fobs, and more. Especially prized were \$\$ Visa cards for gas and Henderson's Line-up certificates.

The final event was to a murder mystery dinner aboard the Willamette Queen stern-wheeler. However, the event could not go as scheduled because a previous event exposed the staff to Covid. Instead the caterer delivered dinner to the rally site. A few NWTFC member became costumed suspects in the mystery play. Evidence eventually led the detective and table teams to decide on the guiltiest suspect. It was a double murder of revenge – a shooting and a poisoning. Turned out the murderer was a woman – one of our own Trekkies!

New Officers Elected

President	Rebecca Edens (2-year term)
Secretary	Kathleen Walczak (2-year term)
Natl. Dir.	Al Zimmerman (2-year term)

Elections were held and the vote was unanimous in favor of the slated names. Thanks for stepping up to support our organization!

Secretary – Kathleen Walczak

As of 12/31/2023 NWTFC is currently reporting membership at 39 rigs with 8 still to respond. This includes 5 new members in 2023 and 4 new members for 2024.

The chapter also has 9 honorary members. During the year we had 7 withdrawals and 6 new additions.

Interim Treasurer – Al Zimmerman

Beginning Balance 1 Jan 2023	\$3,949
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Pre-paid rally expense in 2022	\$1,805
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Income

Member dues	\$680
Rally registration inc	\$4,100
Fundraising & gifts	\$218
Misc. income	\$41
Other inc/adjustments	\$0

Total Income	\$5,039	\$5,039
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Expenses

Membership expenses	\$20
Rally payments	\$3,859
Wagon Master sites	\$489
Website expenses	\$80
FMCA program ad	\$95
Misc – bank chg, Paypal	\$37
Other – Historian, etc.	\$0

Total Expenses	\$4,580	\$4,580
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Ending Balance 31 Dec 2023	<u>\$6,212</u>
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"The greatest thing about the RV lifestyle is the people you meet and the camaraderie enjoyed."

- Orange Coast Magazine

National Director
Al Zimmerman

The spring planning meeting for the FMCA NW Area was held in April at the Linn County Expo Center in Albany.

The key focus of this meeting was planning for the FMCA NW Area Rally at Albany in June. NW Trek Fun Club (along with volunteers from other chapters) staffed the FMCA store as the club has done for several years.

Al Zimmerman represented the NWTFC at the national convention in Gillette, WY. There were 788 RVs at the convention.

The Governing Board (GB) met on Wednesday and was one of the longest meetings in recent years. During the meeting the strategic plan (Planning for FMCA's Future) was adopted. This is the first strategic plan to be implemented since 2003.

Several constitution and bylaw changes (some related to the strategic plan) were adopted: Constitution changes will need to be brought before the entire membership.

- FMCA may choose to operate under an assumed business name and a process was identified for approving a dba.
- A new mission and purpose statement were adopted.
- A new "Pathfinder" category of membership was created - someone who has not purchased an RV, but is in a research phase prior to buying.

As always there were several policies and procedures that were brought before the body.

- The emblem (goose egg) will remain.
- A process for adopting a logo for marketing purposes was identified. Approval of a new logo rests with the Executive Board.

Election results:

- President – Gary Milner
- Vice President – Paul Mitchell
- Secretary – Pamela Richard
- Treasurer – Barbara Smith (re-elected)

The FMCA NW Area will be the host for the Redmond International Convention. There will not be a NW Area Rally in 2024 because all NW chapters will be supporting the Redmond convention.

NWTFC along with OR/WA Coaches for Christ will be staffing the FMCA merchandise store in Redmond.

Dennis Martin has announced that he will not be running for a 2nd term as FMCA NW Area president. An election for new officers occurs during the September planning meeting.

**FMCA 109th
International Convention**
August 14 - 18
Deschutes County Fair & Expo
Redmond, OR

Webmaster – John Herold

The NWTFC website has a lot to offer and is a rich resource for both current and prospective club members, as well as for anyone interested in purchasing or maintaining a Trek. It is also a terrific way for members to stay up to date on upcoming events, pay dues, download brochures, leave comments and connect with one another.

Chapter newsletters, rally reports with pictures, and other helpful information is included on the website. **Check out our website at www.nwtfc.com.**

Our website continues to partner with **Trek Tracks (www.trektraxs.com)**, which is hands down the best place to visit if you have a question about your Trek and want to tap into the wisdom of generous experts.

Feel free to email me at NWTFCwebmaster@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

NWTFC OFFICERS & Committee Chairs

President – Rebecca Edens
trekbecky@gmail.com

Vice President – Wojo Walczak
wwjo52@gmail.com

Secretary – Kathleen Walczak
mcnamka@gmail.com

Treasurer – Jo Ruby
yakimavalk@yahoo.com

Natl. Dir – Al Zimmerman
zimmeralz@gmail.com

Past President – Mike Ashbridge
mikeashbridge@comcast.net

Rally Coordinator – Kathleen
Walczak
mcnamka@gmail.com

Webmaster – John Herold
NWTFCwebmaster@gmail.com

Historian – Jeannette Block
ed.jnet@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor
Al Zimmerman
zimmeralz@gmail.com

Member Care – Nancy Harris
nmharris47@gmail.com

Feel free to contact
NWTFC officers or
committee chairs with
questions or suggestions.

NWTFC Website
www.nwtfc.com



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 about 45 coach members, including Treks spanning the 1991 Isuzu to the 2008 28RB2 and the 2016 Trek. 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, newsletter, and through the club website. NWTFC territory covers WA, ID, OR, AK, MT, BC, Alberta, 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 \$15 per calendar year. See the website for a membership application.

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

NWTFC is a chapter of FMCA and very closely associated with SAFARI International.

Trek Travels is the official newsletter of the NW Trek Fun Club. If you would no longer like to receive this newsletter or email messages from NWTFC, please send an email to Al Zimmerman (newsletter editor) at zimmeralz@gmail.com stating your preference.