



- ◆ *All events are sponsored by NWCC, unless ***
- ◆ *All dates are subject to change.*
- ◆ *Please consider hosting a fun weekend with your club.*

2017 Rally Schedule

March 9-12, 2017, Brookhollow RV Estates, Kelso WA, Suttell & Hensley, co-hosts

May 4-7, 2017, Silver Spur RV Park, Silverton OR, Vern & Glenda Serex, hosts

June 2017, Northwest FMCA Pre-Rally, Harmony RV Park/Lake Mayfield, Mossyrock WA. Need hosts

July 23-28, 2017, Blackwell Island RV Park, Coeur d'Alene ID, Fred Dent might host, need co-host

Sep 19-22, 2017, Steamboat Rock State Park, Grand Coulee Dam area in Washington, Lee & Carol Irwin, hosts



JANUARY



MARTIN

President's Corner



Dana and I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas season and have a Happy New Year. For Dana and I, it will be the first time that our son did not come home for Christmas. He decided to take a train trip to New Orleans with friends. Go figure. Anyway, we went to see other family in the area.

Dues are due for 2017. Dues are \$25 if paid before January 31; otherwise, they are \$30. You may use the web site or copy the form in the newsletter for the renewals. Here is the renewal link <http://nwccers.org/renewal-application/>

We do have the option to pay for multiple years' dues. If you are interested, please contact Dana Suttell (Treasurer) and she will send a PayPal invoice.

Dana and I are preparing for the "Winter Rally," which is March 9-12, 2017. The rally will be held at Brookhollow RV Estates in Kelso, WA. We are hosting it with the Hensleys. Online registration is now set up.

Frank Suttell, President
Northwest Country Coachers

Online Membership Directory

Our directory is a convenient way to put faces with names of our membership.

If you want a copy of the directory, request one via the web site. Your request will send an email to Frank Suttell, President, and he will forward a copy.

Another item regarding information sharing is a **FaceBook** page for **Northwest Country Coachers**. Some members already are friends on that social media. If you are interested, feel free to "Like" or "Join" the **NorthWest Country Coachers Motor Coach Club** Facebook page.

Lee Casebeer

Officer Contact List

Our Board of Directors is ready to help you at any time.

Frank Suttell, President
president@nwccers.org
fdsutt@wavecable.com, 360-876-1197

Warren "Scotty" Bliss, Vice President
vicepresident@nwccers.org
warrenbliss@gmail.com

Sibylle Beck, Secretary
secretary@nwccers.org, 503-399-0636

Dana Suttell, Treasurer
treasurer@nwccers.org, 360-876-1197

Don Schleuse, National FMCA Director
nationaldirector@nwccers.org
949-230-0390

Herb Harris, Alt. National FMCA Director
AltNationaldirector@nwccers.org
360-430-3697

***Terry Apple**, Newsletter Editor
je.modifier@gmail.com
503-982-0280; Cell 619-318-0138

***Lee Casebeer**, Membership Chair
***Kris Casebeer**, Assistant Membership Chair
membership@nwccers.org, 503-807-9936

*denotes non-voting board member

Northwest Country Coachers Chapter of FMCA

Chapter Address:
NorthWest Country Coachers
c/o Sibylle Beck
4485 River Road S., Salem, OR 97302

NorthWest Country Coachers web site:

www.nwccers.org

Webmaster:

Our Yahoo Group:

NW-CC-ers@yahoogroups.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NOTES

Preferences for newsletter submissions:

- ⇒ Submissions are needed before the end of each month. If you cannot meet that timeframe, inform me and I will wait for you if possible.
- ⇒ Please submit only .jpeg and .doc materials. PDF and Excel are not preferred...
- ⇒ Include sources for any previously published materials.
- ⇒ I will format submissions as appropriate for positioning in the newsletters. I will edit the submissions, so please do not send text in a format that cannot be corrected, e.g., do not submit text material in a picture/jpeg format.
- ⇒ Do send lots of rally pictures and identify them as to persons and places (if you know them), but do not identify pictures by inserting text into the pictures.

Thanks. s/Terry Apple,
je.modifier@gmail.com



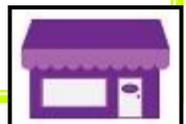
Hi, All—

I want to share that there is still a lot of Country Coach merchandise at the Winnebago facility in Junction City. Carl and I visited it when we were at Premier RV recently. The receptionist said that "they" were waiting to see if more CC merchandise would be made. If you want to order anything, you should call them at [541-234-2167](tel:541-234-2167). If you submit the order online, it goes through a very circuitous route before ending up in Junction City for processing, as I discovered. <http://apparel.countrycoach.com/country-coach-store/>

Carl and I attended the Thanksgiving Rally (our first but not our last!) and had a wonderful time meeting people. Barb and Don and Dana and Frank did a great job hosting..

Looking forward to meeting you—we enjoy the newsletter.

Regards, Ada Harsch



Winter Rally in Kelso, Washington

March 9-12, 2017



If you want to break up your winter blues, join us at Brookhollow Recreational Vehicle Park in Kelso, Washington, in March. The



park is located one mile east of I-5 (exit 39) in Kelso. You can relax with good friends. The 2017 Northwest Area FMCA Rally will be in this area.

Members Hensley and Suttell will be hosting the weekend and providing three breakfasts and two dinners. Come and enjoy good company, puzzles, conversation and, weather permitting, some area touring. The below rally form also is online.

The park is asking that we collect the first night in advance with the balance due upon arrival. The park fee is \$42.77 per night. The rally fee is \$30.00. The park will not refund your deposit if you cancel less than 30 days out. Our winter rallies have always been fun, laid-back events. We hope you will be able to join us.



NWCC Winter Rally
Brookhollow Recreational Vehicle Park
March 9-12, 2017
2506 Allen Street, Kelso, Washington 98626
360-577-6474 or 1-800-867-0453

Name (s) _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Coach Length _____ Pets _____

Park Deposit first night \$42.77. Additional nights will be collected when you check in.

Arrive _____ Depart _____

There will be a \$30.00 rally fee per coach covering most of your rally meals. You can use the web site or copy this form and send a check in the amount of \$72.77 to Dana Suttell, Treasurer, NWCC, 3965 Bethel RD SE, STE 1 PMB 32. We will make the reservation at the park for you.



Front Air Bag Installation on My 2000 Magna

Frank Suttell

All Country Coaches ride on an Air Bag Suspension. Our coach is 17 years old and was losing a little air after leveling, so I started to investigate the cause. Vern Serex offered his pit to help with the investigation. For me, this process was a great learning experience. We squirted a bubble solution on all air fittings (that we could reach) for the front suspension. Rod Robbins was also there to provide guidance. We were not able to find any significant leaks in the air lines, but noticed that the front air bags had some weather checking. So, we decided they should be replaced.



Finding the correct part number was straightforward--once Rod showed us what to do. Many of our coaches are built on a "CC" DynoMax frame, which is made up of sub-assemblies. My front suspension is a Ridewell assembly. Rod told us that there is a manufacture label plate on the assembly. Now, finding the label plate was a different story, but we eventually found it. Once we had that information, Rod sent it to Ridewell and they sent us the assembly diagram and parts list. We then ordered the correct air bags.



As a side note, the CC Manual rates the front-end axle at 14.4K pounds. The manufacture label plate states that the front axle is rated at 18K pounds. I found the label plate on the rear suspension and it is rated at 25K pounds. Again, it was higher than what is stated in the CC Manual (22.5K pounds). I feel good knowing there is a 6.1K margin (3.6 K front and 2.5K rear) in the suspension design over what CC rated the coach. This margin means that I have bigger brakes to help stop the bus. I know that many motorhomes are built on frames that are very close to, or at, the maximum axle weight rating. That is not the case with this motorhome.

So, now it was time to replace the front air bags. Again, Vern offered his pit and we changed them out just before the Thanksgiving rally. When we first started the job, I thought this was a huge job, which it is. But, once we got into it, other than everything being extra-large, it went really well with lots of learning. We blocked and jacked the coach so we could take off the wheels. Once a wheel was off, we disconnected the air lines on top of the air bag and unbolted them. Then, we unbolted the bottom lines and they came right out. Then, we reversed the process. We really did not have anything "frozen." The upper mounting had very little room and required using mirrors more than once.



Most of our lessons came about when dealing with air lines. The first thing we learned was that the air lines did not want to come out of the fittings. The air lines use a ferrule and nut assembly--very similar to the way the ice maker water line is attached to the ice maker. However, the line fittings have a metal sleeve that is pressed into the fitting. Once the nut is tightened, it crimps the ferrule to the line and sleeve. The sleeve prevents the line from collapsing when the ferrule is crimped. We spent a long time trying to remove the first air line from the fitting to no avail. In the end, we cut the air line off the fitting, then removed the fitting. The fitting had to be removed to remove the mounting nuts. Once the fitting was removed, Vern carefully cut the ferrule off the air line, allowing the remnant of line to slip off the sleeve. We bought new nuts and ferrules.

Putting the air line back on was also a challenge until we figured it out--on the last line. We put the nut and ferrule on the air line and tried to get the nut to catch the threads on the fitting. We spent a lot of time getting everything lined up so we could tighten the nut. The last line just would not go together. We started looking for a better way. We found that we could assemble the nut, ferrule and fitting if we used a short piece of air line. We tightened the nut finger tight and then removed the short piece of line--the ferrule would stay aligned--and we could slip the line into the nut and ferrule assembly and then tighten the nut. This worked great on the last line after spending a couple of hours trying it the other way. The first air bag took all day to replace. The second air bag was out and back in about half that time.

Continued on next page

Front Air Bag Installation on My 2000 Magna

... Continued



Here are some pictures of the postmortem of the air bags. The picture on the left is the air bag completely extended. The picture on the right is the air bag collapsed.



The upper part of the bag is exposed all the time. The lower, darker part is not exposed. The cracking shown in the picture on the right is where the upper exposed meets the lower unexposed part of the air bag.

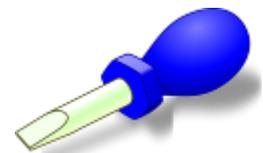


I cut the air bag in half to do more evaluation. Here is more of the weather checking.

I picked some of the weather-checked rubber and found that it did not extend through the reinforcing cording of the air bag.



Below is a picture of the inside of the air bag on the back side of the weather checked area. As the area is never exposed to the elements, it looks like it is in good shape.



A Rally at Grand Coulee in September 2017



Yes, we're still planning AHEAD for the September 2017 Rally in the Grand Coulee, Washington, area at Steamboat Rock State Park! And, reservations are the subject.

Steamboat Rock State Park has great camping facilities, but no GROUP facilities or sign-up protocol. To reserve sites together, we have come up with the following system:

To camp in the Washington State Parks, all reservations are made on a first-selected/paid, first-reserved basis. The earliest that a camper

may reserve a site is nine (9) months before arrival. Since our Rally arrival date will be September 19, 2017, the earliest we can start reserving is December 19, 2016, and **we plan to do that for you.**

On the registration form, is a schedule of camping fees and [cancellation penalties](#). [[Any previous notice was in error in this regard.](#)] It includes all information that is required to make a reservation in the Washington State Park system. Send your park fees and the registration form to Dana Suttell.

Using that information, your park reservation will be made for you. Your confirmation and receipt will be sent directly to you via e-mail by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. If you are traveling with a buddy, tell us who so we can site you together.

If you wish to make you own reservations, **PLEASE** tell us the site you have selected. We will be making all reservations in the DUNE CAMP Loop Sites starting with site 81 [for the Rally Host couple] through 89. We would then go to sites 91 through 95 then 76 through 80. All of these are in generally close proximity. Making reservations yourselves can be accomplished on line at www.parks.wa.gov or by phone at 888-226-7688. Brochures can be downloaded at the website.

In the spring, we will publish a program for the Rally and include NWCC's fee for its rally costs. Most of the attractions and all of the Grand Coulee Dam attractions are on a first-come/first-served basis, so this will be kind of an informal, let's-relax rally.

We look forward to receiving your forms so that we can start reserving on December 19, 2016.



2017 Rally at Grand Coulee WA

Rally reservation instructions:

<u>Campsite No.:</u>	To be assigned by NWCCers
<u>Reservation Type:</u>	Campsite
<u>Arrival Date:</u>	This will be Sep. 18, 2017 unless you wish to arrive earlier or later
<u>No. of Nights</u>	This will be 4 unless you wish to arrive earlier and/or leave later
<u>Park:</u>	Steamboat Rock State Park
<u>Site Requirements::</u>	
<u>XL Trailer, +32'</u>	X
<u>50A, water & sewer</u>	X
<u>Party Size:</u>	2 \
<u>First Name:</u>	Joe \
<u>Last Name:</u>	Doaks \
<u>MI:</u>	Z. \
<u>Home Phone:</u>	509-346-2116 \ [Information for your reservation]
<u>Address:</u>	4985 Rd. 11 SW /
<u>City:</u>	Royal City /
<u>State:</u>	WA /
<u>Zip</u>	99357 /
<u>Permit Holder:</u>	[This is name of person to whom your reservation will be sent. Be sure to include!]
<u>E-mail Address:</u>	[This is e-address to which your reservation will be sent]

Rally registration information continues on the next page.....



ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION FORM, Grand Coulee Rally, September 2017

Arrival Date: _____ This will be 9/18/17 unless you will arrive earlier or later.

Number of Nights: _____ This will be 4 unless you will arrive earlier or leave later.

Please print all information clearly.

Party Size: _____

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Middle Initial: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Name to be on Registration: _____

Email Address: _____

NOTES:

1. Send directly to DANA SUTTELL, NWCC Treasurer, 3965 Bethel RD SE, STE 1 PMB 32.
2. Your reservation confirmation will be e-mailed directly to you at the e-address you list above.
3. In the event that you must make a change to, or cancellation of, your reservation, you will do it yourself through the Washington State Parks Reservation System, just as you would any reservation as you travel.

September 2017 Rally Fees

NWCC Club Registration Fee: To be determined.

Park Fee:

Registration	\$ 8.00
Camping Fee per Day	\$40.00
Non-WA Resident Fee	\$ 5.00 [Non-refundable]

So, the total camping fees for this rally at Steamboat Rock State Park, night 9/19/2017 thru night 9/22/2017, is:
\$168.00 for Washington residents
\$173.00 for out-of-state residents

Send your park registration fee, along with the form, to Dana Suttell. Reservations made for you by NWCC will be paid for with the club credit card. **THERE WILL BE CANCELATION CHARGES:**

Per the Reservation Website: Canceling Individual Site Reservations: When canceling reservations for individual campsites, cabins, yurts, platform tents, Adirondack shelters or vacation houses, please be aware of the following information:

If you cancel or reduce nights on a reservation seven or more days prior to your scheduled arrival date, the cancel charge fee is \$8.00 online or \$10.00 by calling the Reservation Center, plus a fee that is a percentage of the cost of all canceled nights as follows:

- 50% for reservations held more than six months
- 40% for reservations held five to six months
- 30% for reservations held four to five months
- 20% for reservations held three to four months
- 15% for reservations held two to three months
- 10% for reservations held one to two months
- 5% for reservations held less than one month



Northwest Country Coachers

Annual Renewal 2017

It's that time again and our 2017 dues are due. Our club continues to offer a variety of events through the year to share our love of our coaches and the people that share them.

Payment of your dues before February earns you a discount to \$25.00 for the year.

Payment after this will be the full amount of \$30.00.

We also offer you the chance to pay in advance. Each additional year will be at the \$25.00 discounted rate. Please complete this form and send it with your check to:

Dana Suttell
Treasurer Northwest Country Coachers
3965 Bethel RD SE
STE 1 PMB 32
Port Orchard, WA 98366

You can also use our club website to complete your renewal through PayPal. If you would like to take advantage of the multiple-year option, e-mail treasurer@nwccers.org and let me know how many years you would like and I will send you a special invoice.

Name: _____

Please list any changes in your information and we will update your records.

NorthWest Country Coachers

An FMCA Chapter Chartered September 29, 2007, as a Local Northwest Area Country Coach Owners' Club

Membership Application

Date: _____ Referred By: _____

Driver Name _____ Co-Pilot Name _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD): _____ Date of Birth (MM/DD): _____ Anniversary (MM/DD) _____

Mailing Address:

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phones: Home (____) _____ Driver Cell (____) _____ Co-Pilot Cell: (____) _____

Residence Address if different than Mailing Address:

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

More Information:

*FMCA # _____ E-mail Address: _____

Your Country Coach Information:

Year: _____ Length: _____ Model: _____ Coach # _____

Emergency Contact:

Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Address: _____

Any Special Medical Information: _____

Your Special Interests: _____

Names and Types of Pets in Coach: _____

Your Favorite Activities: _____

NWCC Facts: Our Club holds several rallies each year in the Northwest to promote friendship and camaraderie among Coach Owners. We are a chapter of FMCA; therefore, our members must also be current FMCA members. The Club's annual membership dues are \$25 with an additional one-time \$25 application fee. Application dues/fees received after October 31 will cover the remainder of the calendar year and the following year.

Please send your \$50 check payable to
NORTHWEST COUNTRY COACHERS

to our Treasurer, Dana Suttell, 3965 Bethel Rd. SE, Ste 1, PMB 32 Port Orchard WA 98366-1976
treasurer@nwccers.org

Please join our Yahoo group for continued communication and e-letters at NW-CCers@yahoo.com

Our Chapter Website is nwccers.org

Applicant Signatures

Driver _____ Co-Pilot _____

NWCCMemApp-6-2016-Rev

NWCC Directory for CC Service and Parts

The following companies have been submitted to this directory by our club members. They have been found to be knowledgeable and helpful about Country Coaches. Most of these companies offer services locally (unless noted otherwise) but in many cases have provided technical assistance over the phone. If you need service or technical assistance call one of these companies to get started. **** Offers NWCC Discount**

Company	Contact	Service
Amazing Creations	Scott Adams 93150 B Prairie Rd Junction City, OR 541-556-0501	Custom cabinets, flooring and general remodeling/upgrades Amazingcreations1@yahoo.com
Bend RV Repair	Jeff Spear 62980 Boyd Acres Rd. Unit A-2 Bend, Oregon 97701, 541-388-5448	Complete RV Repair www.bendrvrepair.com Referred: Lee Casebeer & Tom Lowery
Brazel's Performance	Alan Sanders 3912 Harrison Avenue, Centralia, WA 98531 877-786-1576 Referred by Russell Warren	Alignment, suspension, maintenance, dynamometer, electrical & mechanical repairs shop—50-amp sites and dump www.brazelsrv.com
Coach Masters of Bend	Blake 29525 Brandis Ct., Bend, OR 97701 541-330-6863	Parts, Service, Repair Coachmasters@bendcable.com
Coach Solutions	3451 Kendra St, Eugene, OR 97404 541-514-9000 Brian Van de Walker	House and Chassis Electrical; Audio/Video, including RTI Remotes. Local service & Fly-in Anywhere USA
Country Coach Corporation (2011)**	135 East First Street Junction City, Oregon 97448 541-234-2167 Doug Beaudry, Service Manager Ask about service discounts for NWCC	Service Center www.countrycoach.com/coach-service-center/ CC Apparel: http://countrycoachwearables.promoshop.com
Dave Root RV Glass Repair	Dave Root, Bend, OR 541-280-3612	Reseals, Thermo-Pane windows, all RV side windows www.daverootrvglassrepair.com/
Davis Cabinets	150 E 10 th Ave., Junction City, OR 97448 541-998-8778, Shaun Davis	Interior upgrades, cabinetry, window shades www.daviscabinets.com
Guaranty RV Center **	So Hwy 99, Junction City, OR 877-463-0067 NWCC exclusive sales dealer NWCC \$25 discount on retail service	Service, Parts, Body Shop and RV Sales www.guarantyrv.com
Kaiser Brake and Alignment	265 Taylor St., Eugene, OR 97402 541-344-5887	Alignment, brakes, tires
K&M Mobile R.V. Repair LLC	Kevin Waite (Former Country Coach Service Tech. & Owner) 95430 Noraton Rd., Junction City, OR 97448 541-953-6162 (Cell)	Mobile Repairs, Technical Support Country Coach Parts kvn.wt.7629@gmail.com
Kustom Coach Works	Bobby Vodden PO Box 395, Halsey, OR 97348 541-501-3371	Custom audio/video installations KustomCoachWorks@yahoo.com

Company	Contact	Service
Mike's Mobile, RV Service RVIA certified	Mike Woodard, Owner/Operator Gig Harbor and Kitsap County, WA, area Cell: 360-621-8496	mikesmobilervservice@yahoo.com Referred by: Russ Warren
Oregon Motorcoach Center **	29417 Airport Rd, Eugene, OR 97402 541-762-1505 Effective 01/03/2012: Current NWCC Badge gets 10% discount on Parts.* Bob Lee, Founder of OMC and NWCC Honorary Lifetime Member	*Present your NWCC badge for discount. You will need verification that your club dues are current. Interior restoration, modifications, remodel, service and parts Fax: 541-762-1509 www.oregonmotorcoachcenter.com
Premier RV Services	Gary - 541-554-3997 Office: 541-998-2640 325 E First Ave, Junction City, OR 97448	Sales - Service - Storage premierrvstorage@gmail.com Referred by: Brian & Kay Case, Bend
RCV Custom Coach Service	Mobile RV Service and Upgrades 93076 Unit E, Hwy 99 So., Junction City, OR Or POB 41779, Eugene, OR 97404 Bob Vinson, Owner, Phone 541-870-6233 Text: 541-543-5625	Quality Solutions Brought to You Fax 541-359-1962 www.rcvcustomcoach.com bob@rcvcustomcoach.com Referred By Herb Harris and Cathy Lamb
RV Glass Solutions	Eugene, OR 888-777-6778 Doug Rutherford – former CC Service Manager www.RVGlassExperts.com	Windshield replacement, glass and windows. Many CC windshields in stock. Call for a referral in your area.
RV Service Pro In the Puget Sound area	Mobile RV Service from Seattle to Olympia. Certified RV service and repair professionals for all your RV service and repairs 253-229-6209 www.rvservicepro.com	They do good work at fair prices. They overhauled my Aquahot for me. Recommended by Fred Dent
Salem Brake and Wheel Inc.	1235 12th Street SE, Salem, OR 97302 Kevin Smith, 503-581-3214	Alignment, Wheel Balance, Chassis Repair, Complete Brake Svc, Complete Service, Gas/ Diesel Repair and More
Silverleaf Electronics	2472 SW Ferry St., Albany, OR 97322. 888-741-0259, 541-220-5494	Total Coach Monitoring System, Vehicle Monitoring System www.silverleafelectronics.com
Specialty Crate, Inc Logistics Division	41 North Danebo Ave. Eugene, OR 97402 Randy Stout 541-689-8840	Country Coach parts – chassis, body and house.
Splendide (Westland Sales)	15650 SE 102 nd Ave., Clackamas, OR 97015	Washing machine repairs
Specialty Marine and RV	20781 Olmstead Road NE Aurora, OR 97002 503-678-6595 503-678-6501	Diesel-powered coaches only Custom Accessories, Installations, Repairs and Services
Washington Auto Carriage	Terry Fout, General Manager 5301 E. Broadway, Spokane Valley, WA 99211 (509) 535-0363; (800) 456-0363	24 Hour Emergency Mobile Service: (509) 534-9358 wac@waauto carriage.com Recommended by Fred Dent
Watson Diesel Repair LLC	PO Box 2478 Shelton, WA 98584 (360) 426-5255 watsondieselrepair.com	Services and repairs all diesel engines - primarily big rig trucks but also works on coaches.



Do you have experience with anyone else who offers CC expertise and assistance that has helped you in a pinch?

Send us their information and we'll add them to our list. newsletter@nwccers.org

Rev. 06/30/2016