

## WESTERN CANADA PLEASURE-WAY RV CLUB NEWSLETTER – SEPT 2010

Website: <a href="http://members.shaw.ca/wcpwrv/">http://members.shaw.ca/wcpwrv/</a> BLOG: <a href="http://wcpwclub.wordpress.com">http://wcpwclub.wordpress.com</a>

### **NEW MEMBERS**

Marshall, Winston & Gloria, have just recently purchased a 2005 Ford Excel. They live in Victoria.

**Hummel, Howard** We are retired teachers from Cottage Grove, Or. We sold our truck and 30 foot fifth wheel and purchased the Pleasure-Way about 4 weeks ago. It's a big size adjustment, but we are figuring it out and have enjoyed our short trips. There is more storage then we thought and the bed is comfortable. We have communicated with other PW owners and have had many questions answered.

**Bissel, Frank & Mary** Spend their winters in Salome, Az. They bought a 2010 Plateau 3500 in June and have already put on 4500 miles. They were off to New Orleans for another trip.

We welcome you all to our Club.

### **TRAVELS**

As we were not able to get away this summer, we did make a trip to Oliver to meet up with our Dutch friends before they returned to our place and then returning to Holland. After that we went to Red Deer to visit our family there. After returning from there it was time to make plans for the Rally being held at Salmon Point RV Resort in Campbell River.

The Allen's had travelled with their PW to Newfoundland and enjoyed the trip in their new PW. The Hammon's had travelled this summer to the Chilcotin area and despite the fires enjoyed the trip.

If you have made some interesting trips this summer, we welcome your story to put in the Newsletter.

### **RALLY**

The Club get together was held on Sept 17, 18 & 19<sup>th</sup> at Salmon Point RV Resort in Campbell River. We had an excellent turn out with 15 PW's and their owners in attendance. We would like to thank Jim Dickson & Maureen Campbell for researching campgrounds and arranging everything with Salmon Point, it was really appreciated.

Agnes & George (#2) Sillery from Wainwright arrived at our place in Chilliwack on Sept 13<sup>th</sup> and we proceeded on to spend the night at Lorne & Jean McLennan in Surrey. They have a great place very convenient to Hwy #99 on route to the ferry. We had a wonderful meal, sampling nearly every vegetable

from Jean's garden. We camped in their yard for the night and proceeded to the ferry in the morning. Being as the Sillery's had not been to Vancouver Island before we stayed at Living Forest in Nanaimo and planned to take the Oceanside route. While in Living Forest we seen Adrienne and Bruce Relkie on their way to Campbell River.

The next day we went to Coombs to see the Goats on the Roof and checked out all the wonderful stores in the area. We stopped for lunch at George #1's favourite spot, Fanny Bay Inn, before heading on to Comox. We spent two days camping at the military base campground and we were able to visit with friends in the area. While making supper we spotted another PW entering into our camping area and were pleasantly surprised that Jim and Maureen had arrived a day earlier than we expected. Here we were, three PW's camped in the best spot ever, right next to the washrooms and on grass for the dogs. We found out later why no one wanted those sites, as we were directly under the flight path for the planes flying out of Comox. Actually it wasn't too bad, we enjoyed having those big planes fly overhead, the first one at 0630 hrs the next morning, made George and I feel at home. Of course being the hardy type we didn't let the rain bother us, it was just preparing us for the downpours later. The next day the others went to Mt Washington while we visited our friends. We were able to have a fire the second night there. The next morning, after doing some shopping for the Meet & Greet, we all headed up to Campbell River with Jim leading the pack and showing us the sights along the way. After arriving in Salmon Point it wasn't long and PW's started arriving. Duane & Bobbie Pendergast from Lethbridge had already arrived the previous night.

#### **Meet & Greet**

Friday afternoon and evening was beautiful. A Meet and Greet was put on in the Clubhouse compliments of Pleasure-Way Industries, Saskatoon, with wine and other beverages, veggie, cheese and fruit platters, cake, and cookies. We also held a raffle with gifts for all PW's attending supplied by Pleasure-Way Industries. Everyone there was very appreciative of the generosity of the Company and send their thanks. Later in the evening several people played cribbage or cards. There was also a pool table in the clubhouse that was made use of.

#### Attendees were:

Keith & Linda Allen from Naniamo

George & Rosemarie Bull from Chilliwack

Fred & Dorothy Baxter from Lethbridge

George #3 & Myrna Billsten from Victoria

Fred & Annette Davis from Campbell River

Jim Dickson & Maureen Campbell from Victoria

Kathryn & Neil Goldsmith from Protection Island, Nanaimo

David & Marie Hammons from Nanaimo

Nick Houser & Maggie Davis from Powell River

Jean & Lorne McLennan from Surrey

Duane & Bobbie Pendergast from Lethbridge

Bruce & Adrienne Relkie from Sechelt

Greg & Lynn Rutherford from Kelowna

George #2 & Agnes Sillery from Wainwright

Peter & Chris Kendell from Courtenay arrived Saturday afternoon as Chris was volunteering with the Senior Games being held in Campbell River and Courtenay

Darrell & Patricia Tomlinson from Campbell River dropped in for a visit, as they were not able to spend the weekend there, but did get to meet other PW members.



There was one other PW camped at Salmon Point, a couple from Duncan, who we invited to the Meet and Greet on Friday night. They were interested in joining the club but I was amiss in not writing down their name, they do have the website address so hopefully they contact me. As well there was a couple from Switzerland who were travelling in a rented Pleasure-Way that we invited to the Meet & Greet. They had enjoyed travelling the PW way and had travelled all over the Island and northern BC and visited with a cousin in 100 Mile House who also rented a PW and travelled in the north showing them around BC.

Saturday it rained so there wasn't a lot of desire to pack up and tour the area. Some people walked the trail to the pub at the end. Others went to Campbell River to look over the area and have lunch. Some just stayed put and enjoyed playing games and enjoying each other's company in the Clubhouse. In the evening we had a potluck buffet with a variety of delicious food. There were also barbecue's available for use. There was lots of food and no one went to bed hungry I am sure. Being as Keith Allen celebrated his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, Linda had made a big birthday cake for everyone to enjoy. Afterwards, it was another night of learning new games. We locked up the clubhouse for a second night.



Saturday night potluck.

Sunday morning it cleared and we enjoyed some dry weather for the arrival of 4 Pleasure-Ways from Sunwest RV in Comox. Kevin and his staff brought out a 2010 Plateau, 2 Ford Excel's and a Ford Traverse for everyone to see. They also brought out some Tim Horton coffee, muffins and bagels for the group. Some people had questions as to the operations of different things and they answered many questions. Everyone enjoyed their visit. Thanks to Sunwest for their time, it was much appreciated. Two of our members had previously bought PW's from their dealership and the word will spread of their hospitality. After they left it rained off and on, we walked the trail in the rain but it later cleared again and was a nice afternoon. Some people had to leave early but for others it was a time to get to know new people and enjoy their company. Others were trying to eat up the leftovers from the night before. We played a little ladder golf that the Resort has there. There is also shuffle board games but the weather was just not conducive for outdoor games.

Monday the rest of us packed up and headed out. The Sillery's, Dickson's and ourselves met up with Jack and Vi Klassen from Red Deer, who had attended their daughter's nursing graduation in Nanaimo and were unable to make it to Campbell River. We then headed on to Victoria to spend the night at Jim and Maureen's where we had another great meal and slept by the sound of the ocean. It was an early morning on Tuesday to get to the ferry as the Sillery's wanted to travel as far as possible on their three day trip back to Wainwright.

With 15 PW's in attendance, everyone expressed that they had a good time in spite of the rain and were glad that they had attended and look forward to the next gathering.

# Rhubarb Cake Bake @ 350F for 40-45 minutes - Thanks to Myrna Billsten

Add ingredients in order given #1 to #5 into a 9" x 13" greased pan

- 1. 6 cups finely cut up rhubarb (12 16 stalks) and/or add strawberries to make up difference.
- 2. Strawberry jello (170 gm-large box), sprinkle over top of rhubarb.
- 3. Yellow or white cake mix (510 gm), sprinkle over jello evenly.
- 4. 1 and 1/2 cups water, pour carefully over all.
- 5. 1/3 cup melted butter, dribble over all.

Don't serve warm as it will be runny, refrigerate once cooled. Serve with ice cream. Freezes nicely

#### **Artichoke Dip** Thanks to Chris Kendell

1 can artichoke hearts chopped 1 cup mayonnaise 1 cup parmesan cheese Top with sprinkle of breadcrumbs and dash of paprika for colour if micro-waving. Heat in microwave until bubbly and serve with crackers or fresh veggies.

#### SPRING/SUMMER GATHERING - 2011

We are looking for suggestions for the Spring Get Together. We would like to have it held closer to the Alberta border or in Alberta so more members from Alberta and east of there would attend. If anyone has recently been to Fairmont Hot Springs (<a href="www.fairmonthotsprings.com">www.fairmonthotsprings.com</a>) or Canyon RV Resort (<a href="www.canyonrv.com">www.canyonrv.com</a>) could they let us know what they think of the facilities there. The Great Canadian

Barn Dance campground near Waterton is also a consideration. (<a href="www.gcbd.ca">www.gcbd.ca</a>) It is really imperative that we have a place with a clubhouse, hopefully at no cost, in case of inclement weather. A time frame of the end of May and early June is preferable, as when summer arrives most people have travel plans. Weather is always an issue early in the season, which makes it hard to decide on a suitable location and that is one reason why we usually try to pick an area in BC. We are definitely open to suggestions. So please send in your suggestions and list the good points of the area. Remember this is your club and if anyone is willing to make arrangements in your area, it would be great.

Also, would there be sufficient interest in having an annual Vancouver Island gathering – to which everyone would be invited - but would be of interest to islanders who are reluctant to leave the Island.

## **PICTURES**

Usually we put several pictures in the newsletter, which often makes it difficult for some people to open it. Right now the previous Newsletters, that have pictures in them, are posted on our website, which can be viewed by anyone searching the web. It has been suggested that we post the pictures on the Yahoo website with Flickr. We could also arrange to have other members' photos of the rally or other events added to the Flickr site as well. This site would be open to anyone if we do not secure it by making it members only. Then it would have to be accessed like Facebook. I am now wondering if anyone has any objection to their pictures being posted on Flickr with their first names only or just their pictures. If you object to pictures being put on a Flickr account would you please let us know.

### **FOR SALE**

Chuck & Louise Finlayson have their 2006 Ford Excel TS for sale. Chuck has not been well lately and finds it difficult to drive, so Louise has been doing the driving. Louise had their unit at the RV Show in Abbotsford, but had to leave the show early. If you know of anyone who is interested in purchasing a unit with very low mileage please contact Louise at 604-541-6158 or <a href="mailto:chuck\_louise@shaw.ca">chuck\_louise@shaw.ca</a>.

#### **TIPS**

Buffie Olack suggests taking off the small, black factory installed faucet aerator and replace it with a white plastic swivel aerator, available at most hardware stores for under \$10. This adds about an inch and a half to the faucet and makes it easier to get your hands under the faucet. Since you can swivel the faucet it also seems to reduce the amount of water splashing out of the sink and onto the counter.

## **TECH TIPS**

During the rally the question came up and people were asking, is Ford Canada going to make a 6.2 engine with a 6 speed transmission for the Pleasure Ways. I spoke with John from Pleasure Way at the RV Show in Abbotsford. In the foreseeable future, Pleasure Way will not have a 6.2 engine and a six speed transmission. Ford is making that combination but for the F series vehicles not our E series.

# **Campground Wipeout**

Joe and Connie Abrook sent in the following and suggest that if you're in the area maybe you could stop at the Willowbend Campground.

These people are not asking for, but need assistance.

On August  $23^{rd}$  we headed for a few days of R & R at Waterton National Park in Alberta and points beyond. We headed south from Saskatoon to Swift Current and then traveling west we encountered a ferocious headwind. Fighting the wind we finally reached Maple Creek, Sask and decided to stop at the Willowbend Campground where we had stopped last year.

The owner met us outside the office and told us to pick a spot and he would come around and see us later. We picked a well manicured site and when I was connecting to power I noticed a new 30 amp plug-in. When I went to the washroom, I could see that renovations were in progress and painting had to be completed. We also saw some park models being loaded and trucked away.

Later when Connie and I were out for a walk, we stopped at the office to pay our bill and were surprised that we could see to the outside wall timbers in all directions. Wallboard was stripped to a height of about six feet. The owner / wife came and explained to us what happened.

June 18<sup>th</sup> a summer storm dropped 350 mm (fourteen inches) of rain in one hour, which overtaxed a dam up the valley causing it to breach. The rushing water washed out a section of the Canadian Pacific rail line and Trans Canada highway west of Maple Creek. The campground personal were told of the approaching torrent and evacuated the park campers and renters to higher ground before the water arrived. They saved as much as they could and were astounded when the waters arrived and it took eight minutes to have five feet of dirty, muddy water in the entire house and even deeper on the park area.

Insurance does not cover flooding. The provincial government will give them relief, which will cover maybe their furnace and water heater. They lost all of their interior furnishings in the camp buildings and rental cabins. There were privately owned park models renting on the site, which were a write-off. The owners of five years considered whether to pack it in or bite the bullet and start over. They are basically starting over. They are living out of their garage and hoping to get a furnace for their house before it gets cold. Furnaces are in short supply because of the extensive flooding in the province of Saskatchewan.

Should you be traveling in the Maple Creek area, I'm sure they would appreciate a visit (and your business). The phone is (306) 662-3006 or <a href="mailto:Jdchmilar@sasktel.net">Jdchmilar@sasktel.net</a>