



WESTERN CANADA PLEASURE-WAY RV CLUB

NEWSLETTER

October 2014

Website: <http://wcpwrv.weebly.com>

President and Newsletter Editor: Rosemarie Bull

NEW MEMBERS

Sparks, Rodger & Frances, join us from Comox BC

Velocci, Rick & Kathy join us from Vernon BC

Condon, Kelly & Angie join us from Kamloops BC

We have just purchased a 2010 PW Excel and are newbies to rving! Looking for advice and friendship from like minded people! We have installed a Stowaway box on the hitch, which will allow us much more storage. My husband wanted to be able to bring his guitar. We have a large Goldendoodle dog who will be with us on short trips and he likes to flake out on the bed while we travel (I know, spoiled dog:)

Gagnon, David & Trudy join us from Sherwood Park AB

We are empty nesters living in Sherwood Park, AB and love camping off the pavement. We enjoy group camping, potluck meals and get-togethers. We often take our quad with us to go for a trail ride in the foothills or around the many lakes in Northern Alberta. It would be great to meet up with other Pleasure-Way owners to share our experiences. Our 2007 Excel TS had only 11,000 km on it when we bought it two years ago so it is still like new.

Lamonthe, Art & Susan join us from Brentwood Bay BC

Vienneau, Jim & Lucinda join us from Petawawa, Ont

My husband Jim and I are owners of a 2004 Pleasure-Way and would like some info on your group. We live on the Petawawa River and I was checking an online sale website looking for a used dock, spotted the Van and the rest is history. We met a couple on our last trip and they belong to a group in the US. Do you have a facebook page? We try to get out in our RV as much as possible and love to meet new people.

Chin, Don & Linda join us from Calgary AB

Don is semi-retired and still works 4 days a week. Maybe fully retired by the end of the year. Linda works two days a week.

Even though Don contacted me just a week before the rally in Enchant, they were able to join us there for the Saturday and part of Sunday. Don also contributed some photos of the event.

Mueller, Mike & Grace join us from Drayton Valley AB

Pickard, Geoff & Judith join us from Lindell Beach BC

We would like to find out more about the group as we plan on taking fun trips.

Gores, Jan & Dawn join us from Calgary AB

Buye, Andy & Esther join us from Calgary AB

Jack & Vi Klassen invited them to the rally when they met them at the A&W in Strathmore. They had just bought their PW and it was their first trip in it. Welcome to the club and glad you could join us for your first rally. Hope to see you at more.

Felder, Bill & Rose join us from Valrico FL

We have been PW owners for 20 years since our first 1995 PW 3500 Dodge SRL purchased new in 1995. We recently traded our 2012 Excel for the new 2015 PW Plateau XL Widebody at LazyDays in Tampa and just drove it on a 30 day, 3200 mile trip from Tampa FL to the Hershey PW Rally and RV show with side trips and back to Tampa.

We live in Valrico, near Tampa FL, however I am originally from Los Angeles, CA and Rose from near Yellowstone NP in WY and travel out west on occasion so we belong to both East & West PW Clubs and figured joining your club might be helpful also. You have a very nice club website.

We are on both the Yahoo PW Owners site and the FP PW Owners group.

Delk, Harold & Jackie join us from Cloverdale, Virginia

On our trip west we hope to stop in Saskatoon and visit with Dean and the PW folks and tour the factory. We'll see them in Tampa, FL in November and tell them we're semi-official Canadians now. BTW: Jackie and I are in one of the PW videos on their site. Rather hard to hide on the internet.

Jackie and I are hosting a Class B rally in North Carolina in May, 2015 and cordially invite any of your members to join us. See www.b-rally.org for details. We have a few slots available.

Class B Rally – North Carolina

Here is some more info on the B Rally, which is in its 12th year now. This year's rally is being held at Four Paws Kingdom in Rutherfordton, NC (I noted on your website the mention of many of your members traveling with dogs) ... Four Paws is the ultimate dog-friendly RV park in the US; in fact it is dog-centric. You may want to peek at their website so you will know more about it should your members ever inquire about where they can safely take their pups when traveling. Another good site and blog relating to dog-friendly travel is www.gopetfriendly.com which is run by our friends Amy and Rod and is a wealth of pet-friendly tips and travel planning.

RALLY – Enchant, AB – Sept 6,7 & 8

Enchant Alberta, a small prairie town in the middle of nowhere between Lethbridge and Calgary and was the site of the WCPWRV club's first event outside of British Columbia.

We would like to thank Fred and Dorothy Baxter of Lethbridge AB for securing the Group Site at Enchant, as it had to be paid for well in advance. We would also like to thank them for bringing out the games and lots of other things for the event. We really appreciate it.

We had 29 members with 15 units attend the rally. First time attendees were Claude & Jeannette Chartier from Prince Albert, Sask, Don and Linda Chin from Calgary and Andy and Esther Buye from Calgary.

We arrived just after noon on the 6th and immediately emptied our PW fridge and started preparing for the Meet and Greet later that afternoon. With the help of some of the other ladies we had things ready in no time. It was great that we had an oven to cook the chicken wings and the microwave to get the food ready. That evening members were catching up on what everyone did this summer and had some games going in the clubhouse.

The first two days were really hot and sunny, even too hot to play bocce ball and ladder golf (plus the mosquitoes were in full force). The next night we had a potluck with all kinds of choices for food. Peter was afraid there was going to be too many salads and that his sweet tooth for dessert wasn't going to be satisfied but he was wrong and there were lots of good desserts. Even though we never indicate what to bring there is always a good variety and even some left overs for the next day for lunch.

That evening several of us got together in Jeff and Hilary's bug tent as the mosquitoes put the word out that there was great food in Enchant and they came to the party too. Just as we were leaving to go to bed a wind came up and everyone was racing to put their awnings in and get the bug tent put away before it flew away. It only lasted for awhile, but it was a good reminder not to go to bed with your awnings out.

The next day it was wet and cold and some people braved it and spent time in the clubhouse. Later we had a couple of heaters in there and put the oven on so that we could play some games. Fred is a games guy and he brought several different games but the Pegs and Jokers topped the list and we had great fun playing that. I went on the internet later to see about getting the game. There are a couple of people who make them and sell on line but being as it is well liked and a lot of work to make, they were selling at around \$170.00. Not sure if I will be able to get George to try and make one or not.

Monday weather was misty and cool and we heard that Calgary had snow and that more was coming that night, so some of the people headed out to visit relatives who lived in the area. Tuesday morning we woke up to snow on the windshields so it was a good thing the rally was over that day.

All-in-all we had a good time and a good turnout. A couple of the members who had said they were coming didn't show up but Jack and Vi Klassen of Red Deer AB met Andy and Esther Buye of Calgary who had a PW when they stopped at the A&W in Strathmore. They told them about the rally and invited them along. They were able to join us two days before continuing their planned trip.

Jim Dickson is gathering photos and will be making them available on Flickr which is accessed from the Clubs website. Please send any photos of the rally you want to share to Jim at mcjd@shaw.ca.

SUMMER KICK-OFF EVENT – May 29-31, 2015 – Campbell River BC

Jim Dickson is organizing a Summer Kick-off Event for the start of next year's camping season. (See last page of this newsletter). It will be an opportunity for Vancouver Island members to meet up without travelling long distances or paying ferry fares. All Club members from all parts of North America are encouraged to attend and plan their travels with Vancouver Island in mind. Jim has made up an event notice which is attached to this newsletter. (Please note that the date of this event is a day earlier than what was discussed at the Enchant Rally).

The planning of these events is exactly what we encourage others to do in their area. If someone wishes to plan an event in their area, just let me know and I will forward the information to the rest of the members. We particularly would like someone in Washington or Oregon to plan an event in their State.

We are considering an event in mid August in the BC Okanagan area for those coming from further east or south. More information to follow.

MEMBER TRAVELS

It is always nice to hear from the members as to some of the places they travel. We met Marilyn Tiaven and Rafe Gusman from Oakland CA in Dawson Creek BC as they were heading to Alaska and we were on our way home. That was in 2008, and we still like to keep in touch occasionally. Marilyn sent me an update of their recent travels:

I was thinking about you and George recently too. I do follow the Club newsletter, so have some idea of your travels. I hope all is well with you and your family.

We took a long (6 week) trip through the south (New Orleans, Mississippi, etc.) and home through the mid-west (Chicago) in 2010, but most of our trips since then have been 1-3 weeks, including a 3 week trip thru Yellowstone and the Dakota Badlands, and another to Glacier and Waterton. We also went to Florida in Jan. and Feb. of this year and got snowed on. Woke up one morning in a very nice Florida State Park and it was 23 degrees F in the camper.

We took the Marine Link 5 day trip out of Campbell River BC in July. If you haven't heard about it, here is the link www.marinelinktours.com

We really enjoyed the trip - only 12 passengers, beautiful scenery, wonderful food, and really interesting to watch the loading/unloading of all kinds of cargo and to see the operation of the logging camps.

Donna and Hayward Vaters of Lloydminster AB took a trip across Canada this summer. From Nova Scotia they flew to Newfoundland to see family and friends. Donna said that was much less expensive than taking the PW across. Donna kept track of all the campground washrooms on their trip and said the best one was in Winnipeg. After their trip they were able to join us in Enchant, AB for the rally.

Peter and Shirley Reid of Victoria BC went to Alaska this summer and on their way back they joined us in Enchant, AB also. Shirley said it was a long trip and I think she was looking forward to getting home. Being as the weather turned wet and cold the last day they left early to take the next two days to get back to Victoria.

The Bulls and Dicksons - Heading to Enchant

On Sept 4th Jim & Maureen arrived at our place (Chilliwack BC) nice and early after staying at friends in Vancouver the night before. We were all ready and waiting and Geo went to start the PW and it was dead. He had started it the day before with no problem, but they ended up having to get a new battery and Jim, with better eyes than Geo, ended up installing it for us and we were on our way. After a short stop in Merritt we proceeded onwards hoping to make good time as we were now about two hours behind our scheduled leaving time. North of Kamloops a PW passed us and the occupants were waving away and we thought what friendly people PW owners are. Being as Maureen and I were operating walkie-talkies we were able to communicate. Maureen was sure it was the Tait's, one of our members who live in Vernon. Once we passed the Vernon exit and they didn't go off, I said it must be someone else. In Sorrento they did turn off, I guess hoping we would follow, but Geo had the peddle to the metal hoping to make up for lost time. We did later find out it was Bob and Barb Tait from Vernon BC. When they saw our 2 PW's they knew we were heading to the rally and wished they could have joined us. They have been to all the other events, but couldn't make this one. It is a confirmation that the folks we meet at these rallies and gatherings become life long friends and often travelling partners and you can bump into them in the strangest places.

We ended up staying the first night at the Lamplighter RV Park in Revelstoke. The next day we seemed to hit all the construction areas and had to wait in line-ups several times, but we made it to Mt Kidd RV Park in Kananaskis Park in Alberta. We didn't reserve ahead of time because we didn't know how far we would get. It was a Friday night and apparently everyone in Alberta decided to go camping that weekend. We were lucky to get a tent site each, which was still a big site, just no services. Our neighbours decided to spend the night visiting and we could hear them talking all night long. Hope we didn't wake them when we left. Kananaskis Park was where we lost our first rear hubcap. We went over a Texas Gate (cattle guard) a bit too fast and next thing we know Jim was on the 2-way radio yelling "hub cap! hub cap!" Fortunately Jim & Maureen were able to pin down the spot where it went sailing into the bushes and we were able to find it. It was damaged beyond repair. We stopped in High River AB to do some shopping for the rally and then on to Enchant along country roads.

The Bulls and Dicksons - Leaving Enchant

After the Rally Jim and Maureen of Victoria BC and George and myself had planned on heading South to Yellowstone NP but the snow and cold we encountered in Alberta was moving that direction so we decided to go back into BC and head south through Idaho and Utah to Bryce Canyon. Seemed like it might be warmer after that one cold day in Alberta, our BC blood just couldn't take it. Jeff and Hilary Shardelow of West Kelowna BC were also heading west to go home so we said we might meet them in Cranbrook. We did some shopping in Pincher Creek and had lunch there and then stopped in Sparwood and who do we see walking across the lawn, but Jeff..... they had arrived there just before us. Being as we left when they were still packing up, we had a chuckle over that.

We departed Sparwood leaving them to look around the town. We pulled into a campground in Cranbrook and when we got out to register Jeff and Hilary drove in behind us. The Shardelow's and the Bull's got a nice spot in the tent area, but the Dickson's couldn't camp there as dogs were not allowed, so they had to camp up on the hill. We stayed one night in Cranbrook and then crossed the border to the USA. We went through the border with no problem, but Jim and Maureen had their PW thoroughly checked over as the border guards were concerned about what ingredients were in the dog food. They had to discard all the seeds from a tomato that I had given them from my garden, plus that little bit of

lemon that was hiding in the fridge. Do you know you can get a fine of \$300 for not having declared having such a thing at the border.

The first night in the USA we stayed at the Clearwater River Casino in Lewiston Idaho. Had a nice meal there and stayed in the parking lot. We found out in the morning there was a campground on the other side of the Casino. It looked lovely, lots of grass and even had a pool. Even though the guys went in and asked if we could camp in the parking lot, no one mentioned their RV Park on the other side. Oh well it was a free night. The next night was one of the best and cheapest of the trip at Hi Valley RV Park in Boise, ID. The sites were big and level and well gravelled with a concrete area beside the site with a grassed area also. If you are travelling with a dog, this is the place for you. They have a nice fenced in area for your pet to get his exercise. Nice washrooms and showers and a clean laundry room, all for \$23.76. (AAA discount). Check them out at: www.grapevine7.com

We visited Bryce Canyon National Park and toured around that area for the day. Bryce Canyon was beautiful. We parked our PW and we went in for one fare with Jim driving. At the National Park campground there were only spots in the sand remaining so we continued on to Hatch to spend the night at a forgettable RV park.

After Bryce we headed West through scenic canyons and mountain passes. Some of the scenic roads we took were twisting and turning, up and down, some cliffs that were pretty high with no guardrails. It was a real exercise of the arms for the drivers. We drove the Loneliest Highway #50 through Nevada. It was straight and flat and later on some real interesting scenery. We saw one lonely man walking with his shopping buggy heading west. He didn't appear to want a ride and have no idea where he would have found food or a place to stay along that road. This where the 2nd rear hub cap flew off. George, again driving in the lead, drove onto the rumble strip that divides the lanes and it was rough enough to send his other rear hub cap off into the desert. Again, sharp eyed Dicksons behind us stopped and we were able to recover it. It also was damaged beyond repair. ***Warning!! be sure your hub caps are secure!!***

We went west as far as the Pacific Ocean and, again, thinking others had given up camping for the year, arrived at Harris State Park in Brookings, Oregon to a full campground. We were able to get two nice flat tent sites with no services. On we went to check out the Myrtle Wood Factory in Coos Bay. In Lincoln City we were going to treat ourselves to the Prestige RV Park but it was full. The park owner was nice enough to call other RV parks and on the fourth try we got a spot at the KOA. That was all that was available in Lincoln City. We missed the Outlet Mall in Lincoln City but went on to buy cheese at the cheese factory in Tillamook. We had lunch at Seaside and then Jim & Maureen headed over to I-5 so Maureen could do some shopping at the Seattle Premium Outlet Stores north of Seattle. We wanted to avoid I-5 so continued north through Astoria and took the ferry at Port Townsend and on to Oak Harbour to camp for the night. The next morning we headed home. We put on 5990 km's while Jim & Maureen put on 6477 km's or 4025 miles and got 16 mpg on the trip.

Request for Information about Class B Alberta Insurance

If any of you Alberta folk can help Craig out please email him:

We haven't been travelling much in our Excel recently but hope to get a tour of N Washington in before the snow flies.

Thanks for sending the updated members list recently but somehow I deleted from my computer and would really appreciate if you could resend. I hope to contact a few of my fellow Alberta members and enquire about insurance carriers they may be using. Our rates are skyrocketing despite having pristine driving records and the highest deductible.

We have been told the story by 3 separate agents that no company will insure the Class B unless you have house and at least one car insured with the carrier. I thought I might email a few of our members and see if there is a consensus. I can report my results to you and it may be worthy of a mention in the next newsletter.

Hope you both are well and enjoying you PW.

Cheers from Calgary,

Craig Pearn and Freda Veale

capearn@shaw.ca

DECALS

When we first started the club we designed the decal that is on the top of this newsletter. At that time we had to pay for the initial setup of the decal and we then sold the decals at \$3.00 each. Several members have these decals on their PW and the idea was that if you are camping some place and see the decal then you know they are members of our Club. We no longer have any decals and some of the newer members have asked about them. We have recently approached Pleasure-Way to see if they would help us out with the purchasing of more decals. Being as the initial setup has been paid for, the second order will not be as expensive as the first one. But we don't know if it is worth ordering more and wonder how many members would be interested in purchasing a decal. The last time we had members mail us a self-addressed stamped envelope, so we could mail the decal to you. I'm not sure even how much stamps cost any more but I think with tax it is over a dollar. Trouble is we don't have paper money any more and it likely isn't safe to send change through the mail. Depending how many we order, we might be able to get the decals for a dollar each.

So I would like to know how many are interested in buying a decal? Please let me know soonest (via email), as we will be going away for a month in mid-November.

PW For Sale

2005 Ford F350 PW Excel TD. Factory installed Generator and Awning. Michelin tires and front brakes less than 1000km . Two new batteries. Leather front seats. All the usual PW amenities. Very clean,excellent condition. Asking \$44900 OBO.
Ron Fitzpatrick, Parksville BC

email: fitzerr@shaw.ca



wcpwrv.weebly.com

The Western Canada Pleasure-Way RV Club

Summer Kick-off Event

May 29-31 2015

Salmon Point Resort

Campbell River, Vancouver Island

2176 Salmon Point Road, Campbell River B.C. V9H 1E5

Start your summer RVing with your Pleasure-Way colleagues at this event.

NOT A MEMBER of the WCPWRV Club??

Not a problem. It is easy to join. Visit our website wcpwrv.weebly.com where you can find more information about the Club and submit a membership form. There is **no** membership fee.



Click on www.salmonpoint.com to view the resort web site and to get directions.

You will see that this park is a superb location offering lots of amenities to enjoy. The Campbell River area offers a plethora of things to do including fishing (fresh and salt water), camping, hiking, golfing, swimming, shopping.

May 29 - Friday Evening: Meet & Greet Happy Hour.

May 30 - Saturday morning and day: spend some time in the pool, hot tub, fishing, hiking, or relaxing. There will be some games organized. More details later.

May 30 - Saturday Evening: Pot Luck in the clubhouse. Bring something for the BBQ and an item to share. BBQ's are available.

May 31 - Sunday: spend some more time touring, in the pool, hot tub, fishing, hiking, or relaxing. Group events to be scheduled. Sunday Night Happy Hour in the clubhouse.

June 1 - Monday: check-out or stay longer if you wish.

REGISTRATION NOTE:

A group of sites have been set aside but PW owners are responsible for making their own reservations by **March 30, 2015** to ensure you get a spot. Please identify yourself as being with the Pleasure-Way group. **Toll-Free: 1-866-246-6605**

There is a minimum 3 night reservation which is held with a \$25 non-refundable deposit and must be made 60 days prior to the event. Fee will be approx. \$36 per night (2014 rates) subject to a 10% discount if we get 10 or more bookings. If you can only stay for 2 nights you cannot reserve but hopefully sites will be available.

Email: Jim Dickson at mcjd@shaw.ca if you have any questions or comments and to let me know if you are planning on attending.