

NORTHWESTERN BUS NUTS

October 2018

Looking back on 2018...

As our 2018 season comes to a close, I sit here in our home and gaze out the window to witness fall in the air, with leaves falling from the trees and the bright warm sunrays shining thru my windows, heating our house, letting our furnace rest in preparation of cool brisk air as the sun sets later in the day. It is a perfect time to look back at our rally schedule of this season.

Unfortunately, we were unable to attend the first rally of the season in Pendleton, Oregon due to a medical situation. All in attendance enjoyed the rally, thanks to Chris and Chris Perks and Robby & Anne Robinson. Good job!

In June we were able to attend the FMCA Northwest Regional Rally in Coos Bay, Oregon. This would prove to be the final regional rally that Kathy Balough and Andy Balough would organize. They both have served their allotted time in office. Thanks to the Baloughs for their many years of dedicated service. As usual the NWBN's made a good showing in support to NWBN's rally, and all enjoyed, even the weather was beautiful.

Thanks so Darrell & Karen Bowes, along with Bill Egner & Darla Vixie in making our July rally in Silverton, Oregon a great success. These four people have hosted many rallies together, so it was no surprise that another one went on with no issues. If I had to count the ones they volunteered for, I am sure I would have to take off my shoes and use my toes. As usual, many of us arrived early to enjoy the comradery with friends and explore the area. Once again Rose was on staff to prepare our meals, always a treat. The park has changed ownership and some rules have changed, and personnel had been cut. We helped out by serving, cleaning and rearranging eating areas. Good food, great weather and a nice place to congregate for a rally.

For the second time this year, the Oregon coast became the location for our August rally. Al * Eleanor Roeske secured the Elks RV park to hold our event. What a nice area. Satellite TV reception was marginal, depending on the space you were in, but most of us could position our rig to get a signal. Telephone, on the other hand, was all but impossible for a signal. Guess what... we all survived without it, although no one accepted responsibility for preparing a meal or to clean up. We had plenty of volunteers to carry on the tasks to perform all needed duties. Our newest member at

that time, Lisa and John Carnahan live less than a mile from the park, hosted a Bar-B-Q at their property on the lake. Lesa insisted on catering the whole event, as well as covering the costs of food. It made for a wonderful day, sun, water, good, drink and good friends. John was away from home fighting forest fires, so it became a solo event for Lesa. What a trooper.

Next stop, Spokane, but wait not quite yet. Barb and I left a week early so we could make a stop in Moses Lake to visit old and dear friends, Mike & Carol Muffett. We met them years ago when we were invited to come to our first NWBN rally they hosted in Zillah, WA. We had enjoyed the club so much; we knew we had to join up. Shortly thereafter Barb was voted in as Sheriff and I ended up as Vice President. The vote was held at another Muffett hosted rally. The following year, I was voted in as club President as well as Barb retaining her Sheriff position.

OK, enough trivia, but true facts. Onward to Spokane to spend a week with longtime friends, Pat & Ann Horn at their home where our final rally of 2018 was held. Can and Judi Altamore already had their motorhome parked at the Horn's. Dan had brought his tractor, so he and Pat could spread gravel in the area where members were going to park. As you can see, a lot of expense and work went on just preparing the locations. Thanks guys, it was well appreciated. What a great facility to host a rally. Breakfast was service - ham - eggs - hash browns - toast and pancakes. Pat takes pride in preparing things fresh, even boiled his potatoes and shredded them by hand directly onto the grill. He told me in confidence that he laid the eggs fresh every morning. If you know Pat, he sometimes embellishes a story, but just a little. (Honest) the 'H' is silent. Horns have two commercial grills to cook on, and even have an Otis Spunkmeyer oven, so he could serve hot chocolate chip cookies with ice cream for dessert. We were treated to homemade chili and chicken noodle soup created by Chef Dan. Of course, we had to have Pt's Horny Burgers and Ralph Harvey's fall off the bone pork ribs. Yeah, you are right, we never run low on food.

The ladies had a class on painting on oyster shells. They made their own souvenirs. IT was something the girls won't soon forget.

I believe we might have set a record this year. We signed up a new member at every rally we had. In order: Pendleton, Oregon/Joe & Shelly Moore from the Dalles, Or., Coos Bay, Oregon/John & Lesa Carnahan from Florence, Or., Silverton, Or./Joanne Galliard from Green Valley, Az., Florence, Or./David & Erna Luchini from Sheraton, Or., Spokane, Wa./Steve & Sandra Gilbody from Montana and David & Marcia Hess from Spokane, Wa. Welcome to the NWBN's! Looking forward to seeing you at upcoming rallies.

Our next location to meet as a group will be in Indio, California at the Riverside County Fairgrounds on January 9-13, 2019. If you plan on attending, please contact Dick Wright at (541)953-4655. Dick will be in contact with the parking leader. It helps to have a count on the number of spaces they will reserve for us.

Our rally schedule as we have it at this time is:

May - Chehalis, Wa - limited parking - host needed

June - FMCA/Linn County Fairgrounds, Albany, Or. - June 6-9, 2019

August - Rickreal, Or

September - Boardman, Or. - host needed

We need hosts and ideas. Got any time to donate for your club? We can offer help and expertise. Please call your area Vice-President, Al Roeske (541) 607-2992, John Shierman (360) 253-1526 or me, Gary Chatterton (503) 816-5782 (Please leave a message if no answer. I usually won't answer if I don't know the number calling, but I **do** return calls if you leave a message).

Is your information correct in our membership directory? If not, call Pat Alonso (360) 635-3724. And while you're at it let's give her a big thank you for a job well done.

Chris Hansen is another behind the scene volunteer that is in charge of creating our newsletter. Thanks to Chris for a great publication.

Drive safe.

Until next time,

Your president, Gary



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In July's newsletter, I mistakenly omitted some info from Gary's newsletter. - The following are those stories.

It was reported that we lost our only lifetime members; Betty Muessig, then just a short nine weeks later, she was followed by her husband, Wayne. Betty died of a "G.I. bleed" and Wayne's death was due to heart failure. They were a great couple and will be missed greatly.

In a recent phone conversation with friend and fellow, But Nut, Mel Wick, he informed me of his update of his esophagus cancer treatment schedule. He has undergone radiation in preparation of surgery in late July. He is hopefully, to be back on the road in November.

It's not over yet, Wilbur Bradbury is dealing with severe back problems. He is looking forward to relieving pain after his upcoming surgery. They have moved from Washington to start their new life in Yuma, Az., where they built their new home, (but wait), they haven't been able to enjoy due to the, let's call it the "golden years". I think we go back to just aging gracefully.

Good luck to those that are dealing with health issues. That is something we don't have a lot of control over.

**Wayne & Betty Muessig**  
**Northwestern BusNuts1984 – 2018**

Wayne & Betty Muessig Northwestern BusNuts1984 – 2018 You've heard the names, I know you have. Most of you knew them if you ever travelled with the Northwestern BusNuts. The BusNut Directory lists them as Charter Members back in '84. They have always insisted they were not...missed it by a couple of months! They WERE, however, the only Lifetime Members of BusNuts. Wayne and Betty served as BusNut President and Sec./Treasurer from 1984-86 and Betty continued to serve as Sec./Treasurer until 1987 while Wayne stepped down as President and took over the spot of Alt. National Director to FMCA. He served as National Director to FMCA 1988-1991 and then back to Alt. National Dir. in 1992-1994. And then he and Betty stepped up and served us as the Northwest Area Vice President in 1994-1996. (yes, Wayne had the title but they did most things together). From 1996 to 2003 he was back as Alt. National Director. According to the Directory he did absolutely nothing for the Northwestern BusNuts in later years ...except serve from 2002 – 2016 on the Exec. Board! After 1987 Betty 'disappeared' from 'titled' service and just 'helped out where she could', when she could' and always with a smile and a quip about how she wasn't doing much at all. They drove a 1961 GM 4106 and called it the "Music Box". In case you never saw it...it looks kind of like the one coming through the nut in the logo! It hauled the BusNut trailer behind it for over 20 years instead of a car. It came early and left late from most rallies. They gave up the car so they could facilitate the fun and ease and convenience of all the BusNut gear for the rest of us. In case you were wondering... most of the above has a bit of 'tongue-in-cheek' attitude about it because if you'd ever met them you understood immediately that what they did for and with the BusNuts was because they LOVED IT!!! Are you still eating 'Eggs McMuessig'? Do you remember the first time the scrambled eggs in the plastic bags in hot water were attempted? Are you a sausage gravy addict yet? Are you comfortable under the big blue tent? Do you have all the equipment you need from the traveling trailer and was it clean and ready to go and well-stocked when it arrived? Yup? Well, that's what they did for us for so many years I can't even count. They both 'worked' every single rally. Did you ever travel with them? Tom and I did one winter on the way to FMCA in

Baton Rouge, LA from the Western Area Rally in Indio, CA. We averaged 43.7 miles per day, saw things I never thought I would, enjoyed an entirely free from strife trip to a place I'd dreamed about seeing all my life in the company of two of the best folks I'll ever know. We faced gale force winds so strong we couldn't open the door to let the dog out to pee. We traversed floating bridges at low tide and didn't break the hitch connection. We ate out, shared dinners, ate alone, ate together; we faced 'Cujo' and his mate attempt to shred and swallow Wayne's hitch cover whole along with a lawn chair at a farm in Texas and survived. We ventured into Mexico at El Paso and came back. Tom became addicted to sausage & gravy. Betty spotted the signs in Galveston and we didn't disembark from our rigs (beware snakes). We fought and survived red-ant attacks in Texas and we learned how to really cook gumbo in LA. We crossed the Hughie Long bridge into New Orleans taking both lanes without incident (lanes unbelievably narrow). Oh, and we laughed together through the whole month + trip. All this and much, much more remain in my memories along with the fact it was all accomplished and enjoyed without a single cross word, resented situation or argument... just plain fun added to the joy of the fact we could do it. All four agreed it was a 'perfect' trip. Bob and Mary Lou Dickey are still enjoying the aftermath and memories of 11 shared cruises with Wayne and Betty. Wow! I guess after the first one to the Amazon the 28-day cruise to Hawaii and other tropical ports was just icing on the cake. The four of them have almost literally travelled the world together since. Have you ever joined the crew putting up or taking down the tent? It is ever my belief that the tent is still intact and in good shape because Wayne was so very particular it be done in a specific and certain way. He never apologized for his instructions; we learned he was correct in his particulars. He 'took us to school' for a reason and it is my hope his instructions are still honored... for the sake of that tent. It was so expensive when it was purchased and we have been so happy to have it on so very many occasions. I'm sure a few of us wish we had nickel for every towel we used to wipe down the whole 'roof' of that tent on a cold, wet, icy Sunday morning so we could all head home. ♦ ha ha I'll bet they wished they had a nickel every time they had to haul it back out of the trailer, spread it out and dry it

out themselves! But then, that's what the Northwestern BusNuts is all about, isn't it? Friends, becoming family, working together, laughing together, enjoying a lifestyle together and gathering memories to treasure when those who helped make them are no longer with us. Betty Muessig passed away during the 1st week in April 2018. True to their whole lives together, they chose to remain close to each other. Wayne followed her just 9 weeks later.

Thanks for the memories.

With love, Su McDonall



### Moses Lake News:

It's been discovered that there is a big black whale cruising the waters of Moses Lake. Yes, it's true, and it was built by my very own husband, Mick Hansen. It has garnered a lot of attention in these parts, even by Spokane news station, KHQ on their Facebook page. As of this date, the video that they posted has had over 70,500 Views!! Our local online news station, iFiber One, came out and interviewed Mick and did a ride-along with him.



#### Whale facts:

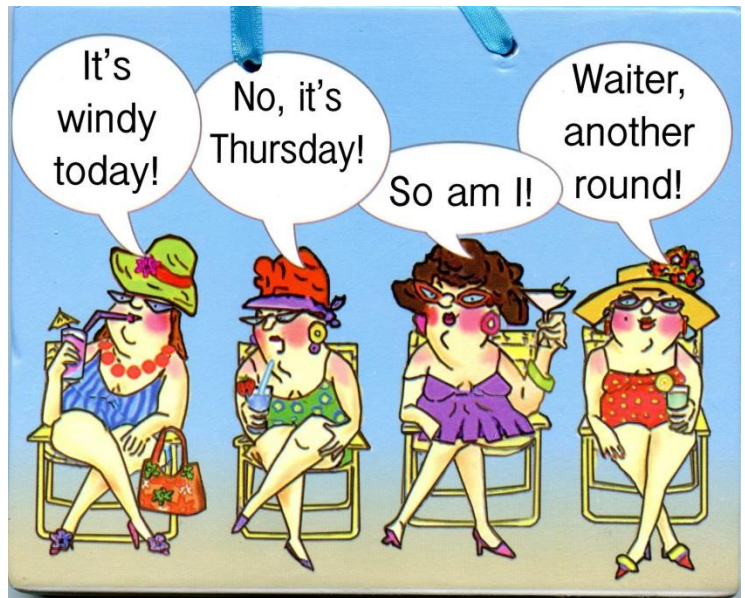
Its tail moves up and down

It squirts water out of its blowhole

It makes whale sounds

It's top speed is 8 mph

It feeds on beer and small children after dark



Access our web site at [www.nwbusnuts.com](http://www.nwbusnuts.com) to see what is happening and watch for current updates.

### Bus Nuts –

Have you paid this year's dues yet? Please check, and if not:

Send to: Eleanor Roeske, 2641 Crowther Drive, Eugene, OR 97404

THANK YOU!

President - Gary Chatterton 503-816-5782  
VP North - John Shierman 360-253-1526 [sharens46@gmail.com](mailto:sharens46@gmail.com)  
VP South - Al Roeske 541-607-2992 [candle100@comcast.net](mailto:candle100@comcast.net)  
Treasurer - Eleanor Roeske 541-607-2992 - [eroeske@comcast.net](mailto:eroeske@comcast.net)  
National Director - Mel Wicks 253-530-6815 - [mwick10299@aol.com](mailto:mwick10299@aol.com)  
Secretary - Sharen Shierman 360-921-9191 [sharens46@gmail.com](mailto:sharens46@gmail.com)  
Executive Board - Dick Wright, Mike Alonzo, Don Dennis, MaryLou Dickey  
Newsletter Editor - Chris Hansen 509-765-1903 [cmhansen555@yahoo.com](mailto:cmhansen555@yahoo.com)  
Nominating Committee - Dick Wright, Patty Harper, MaryLou Dickey  
Membership Book - Pat Alonzo 360-635-8724 [palonzo\\_us@yahoo.com](mailto:palonzo_us@yahoo.com)  
Historian - Bob Cotherman  
Sunshine Lady - Nancy Arionus  
Sheriff - Barb Chatterton

**Northwestern Bus Nuts  
c/o Chris Hansen  
2107 Westshore Dr NE  
Moses Lake, WA 98837**

