

Wash-I-Bagos



August 2008 Newsletter
Fran Murkowski, President
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FROM THE PREZ:

I am writing this as we are westward bound from GNR. What a great celebration saluting the 50th Year on the road for Winnebago. It is amazing to witness this whole event come together with 1400 plus coaches and some 3000 plus people. Then in reverse when they all begin to leave without a traffic jam --- just magic!

WA State was well represented with 29 coaches: Apple Rovers, Columbia River Rollers, Evergreen Winnies, Inland Empire Explorers, Peninsula Wits, San Juanderers, Sun Catchers & Valley Vagabonds.

A WA State Dinner (Dutch Treat) was scheduled at Thompson, IA with 49 attendees. Dodging the downpour and thunder the dinner was enjoyed especially when the Ribeye Steaks looked like a roast in size.

NOWHEAR YE HEAR YE:

WA STATE WON THE 2008 WIT NATIONAL BBB CHAMPIONSHIP!!! Once again we were pitted against CA in the final round. Score 30 to 17 ending the game in the 7th inning. This is the second Championship under Captain Tom Murkowski. Team members in batting order: Dianne Mumaw SJs, Bob Knapp CRRs, Al Walker, Co Capt., PWs, Tom Stevenson VVs, Jane Ward SJs, Dale Schneider CRRs, Sandy Ziegler SJs, Tom Murkowski SCs, Ron Fund SJs. Scorekeepers Cheryl Stewart SJs and Susan Dakis SJs ;& Umpire Dave Salmon SCs. Way to go team!!!!

Congratulations to all Chapters for your Chapter of Excellence Awards.

Congratulations to Ken Foster, Rainier Ramblers, for placing 3rd in the National Netwit Website competition for his websites for WIBs and RRs.

Head of Row Party on Tuesday was a success with some 400 plus cups of Clam Chowder being served to some attending the party. Our own potluck followed in celebration of the days events.

I thank everyone that helped setup, prepare chowder, serving and cleanup. Thank you to Bob Knapp for saving the day with a popup cover over the chowder serving area. Our extra space was appreciated and most needed. Believe this should be built into the

budget annually. Space is such a premium with some 1480 coaches as you well can imagine. Thank you!

GNR is a busy time with so many things going on at once. I have to share the report on the Weather Committee however, they arranged for cooler weather this year plus added interesting wind, downpours, thunder and lightening. This caused the registration gate to be closed at 2PM one afternoon due to lightening and heavy rain. Now the 120 coaches that showed up during this closure time, being 3 deep in lanes all the way out to the road and overflowing into airport parking were not all smiling. But miracles happened and in an orderly way coaches were maneuvered off the roadway into service area and the paint shop parking lot for the night. The next day the grounds could not be opened until noon, with wet spots remaining in some areas. They would release 8 or 10 coaches at a time from the paint parking and they were quickly processed thru registration and parked on the grounds. We are so lucky to be self sufficient in these coaches during times like this. We heard there were some pretty good parties going on in the parking lots!

Attendance was over last years total and with fuel prices being high I am glad for those that put their heart and soul into making 2008 Grand National an event to be remembered. Hats off for a job well done!

Thanks to all you "Washingtonians" that came representing the State of Washington and helping us out.

Our focus returns now to our State Wash-I-Bagos Rally coming up in September at Lynden. I have received many inquiries. The WIT magazine publication schedule that was changed to a bi-monthly has had its effect on us. We need to get people into using the **www.wash-i-bagos.org** website more. The information was posted on the website the same day WIT received the write-up article May 28, but with the new print schedule it was not published until the July/August issue. I think this panicked people. Because of this I am asking Evie to mail this newsletter to all current members. All information about the State Rally is on the website if you have not received your July/August issue yet. **Please get your registrations & checks made out to Wash-I-Bagos to Treas. Andy Karlsnes @ 2023 East Sims Way, #365, Port Townsend, WA 98368** so he can start sleeping at night.

There will be a Special Coffee/Donut Klatch on Thursday morning for everyone. Please come and help us meet and welcome all First Timers and Out of State guests.

See you soon!

Fran

CHAPTER ASSIGNMENTS FOR RALLY:

Setup	Rainier Ramblers
Decorations	Apple Rovers
Hospitality	San Juanderers
Rally Parking	Inland Empire Explorers
State Raffle	Columbia River Rollers
Ice Cream Social	Evergreen Winnies
Indoor Games	Sun Catchers
Crafts	Valley Vagabonds
Outdoor Games (BBB)	
Parade of Games	Bob & Cathy Egger
Volunteer Assignments:	
Bingo	Leon Malfait & George Braun
Thursday Dinner	Peninsula Wits - Charity Project
Friday Breakfast	
Saturday Breakfast	Chapter Presidents, 1 officer from each chapter (Need 1 president to take lead & order supplies)
Sunday Breakfast	Suggest Continental - Hospitality San Juanderers

ALL CHAPTERS: Just a reminder each Chapter is putting together a \$25.00 Gift Basket towards the State Rally Raffle. Remind members to bring a dozen cookies for the Hospitality Table.

Golf Tournament: The tournament sponsored by Roy Robinson RV will be on Thursday and it is limited to 40 golfers. The cost is \$10 per person. Get your entry form on the website @ www.wash-i-bagos.org.

Extra Nights: The rate for extra nights parking is \$13/night. It can be paid for upon registration at the rally.

Parking reminder: Remember, to park together you must arrive together!

Enjoy the rest of the summer and we look forward to seeing you at the WA State Rally in Lynden, **September 11th - 14th!** Safe Travels!!!!

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