

Handicapped Travel Club

Issue 44 Volume 3 July 2017



Hello all HTC members,

I hope everyone is well and you had a great spring. I really don't have much to say in this news letter. Our 2017 rally is fast approaching and I hope everyone is planning to attend. The rally will be October 23rd-27th at the beautiful Buckhorn Lake Resort in Kerrville, Texas. Wagon masters Rick Robison and Doris Bell with Co wagon masters Steven and Bonnie Slattery and Mike Drew are working hard to make this a great rally. If you did not send in your rally fee and make your reservations at the resort please do so as soon as possible. It's always such a great time to see old friends and make new ones. Also the food, games and just the fun we have make these rallies worth attending. If you need more information give Rick a call. Texas is a big state with a lot to see and do while you are there.

That's all for now and hope all have a wonderful summer. See you all in Texas

Safe travels,

Mark



Newsletter Editor Wanted

I have done this job for 5 years and need a break. I use Microsoft Publisher. It is easy to get on the web site. It publishes 4 times per year. Contact Mark or Roland. Thank you.
Teresa

New Members

1906	Fiordlisi	Bob & Sue	22 Garvey Rd	Wayne	NJ
1907	Wallgren	Jim & Janet	PO Box 97	Driftwood	TX

Newsletter Submissions:

Submit material for inclusion in the newsletter at least five days prior to each quarterly issue: January 1st, April 1st, July 1st and October 1st.

Advertising:

\$100 for full page; \$50 for 1/2 page; 1/4 page \$35; 1/8 page \$20. Members can place free ads in the newsletter (see Buy/Sell section).

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2017 HANDICAPPED TRAVEL CLUB RALLY OCTOBER 23-27

2017 BUCKHORN LAKE RESORT WWW.BUCKHORNLAKE.COM

Wagonmasters: Rick Robinson, Doris Bell, Bonnie & Stephen Slattery, and Mike Drew

2885 Goat Creek Road Kerrville, TX 78028-9410 Exit 501 from Interstate 10



RATES AND RESERVATIONS RV sites- \$37.50 per night, if we book 15+ sites. (So, please encourage every member you know to come!) Please call RV resort directly at

1-800-568-6458/830-895-0007 or online at

<http://www.buckhornlake.com/reservations/html>

Questions or concerns? Contact Wagonmaster Rick @ 1-970-261-6268

ALTERNATIVE LODGING & SHOPPING If you are not camping, there are lodging facilities at the exit 508 interchange of I-10 in Kerrville. See [http://business.kerrvilletx.com/list/ql/lodging - travel - 15](http://business.kerrvilletx.com/list/ql/lodging-travel-15) for a listing, or call the Kerrville Chamber of Commerce at 830-896-1155 for recommendations. The resort has three on site cabins, but they are not completely accessible. Walmart is 5 miles from the resort by way of Goat Creek Road and HEB Supermarket is 6.8 miles from the resort in Kerrville.

RESORT AMENITIES Rally building with 8,000 sq ft event center, outside fireplace with covered patio, guest cottages, paved roads, concrete pads, dog park, adult fitness center, tennis courts, two pools and spas, private fishing lakes, rally building, café patio, some adults only facilities, free wireless internet, free cable, convenience store and gift shop, 9-hole putting green.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO NEARBY LBJ Ranch, Stonehenge II, Lost Maples State Park, Hill Country Vineyards, Enchanted Rock, Old Tunnel Natural Area, Y.O. Ranch Tour, golf courses, Admiral Nimitz museum, Mooney Aircraft Plant, San Antonio Riverwalk, Fredericksburg galleries, shops and restaurants.

TENTATIVE RALLY SCHEDULE Monday. The tentative schedule begins with your arrival on Monday. Circle your wagons and spend some time getting acquainted and reacquainted with your fellow club members. Swap travel stories since we last met, and bring your own dinner and beverage to a no-host gathering around 6 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday mornings enjoy a continental breakfast with your fellow travelers. Tuesday afternoon attend the welcome ceremony, and for the evening meal, enjoy a mouth-watering brisket dinner, prepared by our own Chef Stephen.

Wednesday is a free day. Explore the surrounding area. Brochures are available at the resort office. Bring back stories of your adventures of the day to share with the group. Show off the treasures you have purchased on your Wednesday outing.

Thursday is game day!... Horse races, wheel-chair races, and more! Group photos are scheduled for Thursday afternoon, so plan to wear your HTC shirt or hat. A pizza dinner and Karaoke are planned for the evening's entertainment. BYOB... but stay sober enough to sing!

Friday is all business. The Executive Board meets in the morning and the annual club Business Meeting will be held in the afternoon. Come prepared to volunteer to host the 2018 or 2019 rally.

Saturday we break camp, head 'em up and move 'em out. Farewell until next year ... unless you're planning a mini-rally somewhere in between. Safe travels y'all and happy trails ...until we meet again.

Reminders:

*Please bring quality items to donate for Silent Auction.

* Please refrain from cell phone usage during meetings.

*Please, service animals only in meeting rooms.

RALLY REGISTRATION FORM

* Make your reservations directly with the resort and return this completed form with your check no later than September 15, 2017.

Yes, I plan to attend the 2017 Handicapped Travel Club Rally, October 23 – 27, 2017, at Buckhorn Lake Resort, 2885 Goat Creek Road, Kerrville TX 78028-9410.

Name(s) _____

Rally fee: \$15.00 per person X _____ persons = \$_____

My check for \$_____ is enclosed

Make checks payable to Rick Robinson and mail to:

Rick Robinson PO Box 66 Paonia CO 81428-0066

If your plans change after you register and you cannot attend the rally, registration fee will be refunded.

Special information or requests:

This Pitt-developed wheelchair can roll in the water

AARON AUPPERLEE | Monday, May 1, 2017, 11:00 p.m.

<http://triblive.com/news/healthnow/12240400-74/this-pitt-developed-wheelchair-can-roll-in-the-water>

A new wheelchair developed by researchers at the University of Pittsburgh takes people where other powered wheelchairs fear to tread: the water.

Rory Cooper and his team at Pitt's Human Engineering Research Laboratories have developed an air-powered wheelchair and scooter.

"There's no electronics at all," Cooper said. "It's completely submersible."

That means veterans could wade into the water to go fishing or kids could roll right into the shallow end at the Dormont pool, Cooper said.

And at Morgan's Wonderland, a theme park in San Antonio, Texas, designed specially for people with disabilities, guests can escape the 100-plus-degree summer heat in its new waterpark opening in June.

"There's water coming at you from every which angle," said Ron Rander, general manager of Morgan's Wonderland, which hopes to open its waterpark in June. "That's why we need the pneumatic chair."

Cooper, the director of the Human Engineering Research Laboratories, a collaboration between Pitt, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and UPMC, said he and his team have worked on the air-powered chair, the PneuChair, for about three years. Cooper wanted to design a powered wheelchair without the batteries. The PneuChair's other benefits over traditional battery-operated chairs — it can get wet; it's lighter; it recharges faster; it's easier to maintain — were bonuses.

About 1.7 million people use a wheelchair or scooter, according to the University of California Disability Statistics Center. Both Rander and Cooper said early interest in a non-electric, air-powered model has been high.

"I've been amazed at the response we've gotten. People, they just want their kids to be able to run through sprinklers," Cooper said. "Veterans who say they just want to be able to wade in the water to go trout fishing."

Two air tanks similar to what firemen carry power rotary-piston motors that turn the wheels of the chair.

Cooper and his team also use air to power the steering.

The PneuChair and scooter can run for about three miles on a single charge while standard battery-powered models have a range of three to nine miles on a single charge. Recharging the tanks on a PneuChair, however, takes only five minutes. Battery-operated chairs can take about eight hours. The PneuChair weighs about 120 pounds, much lighter than battery operated chairs that weigh about 400 pounds.

Cooper said the PneuChair and scooter cost about the same as comparable electric models, based on early estimates. The PneuChair will cost about \$6,000 and the scooter between \$2,000 and \$3,000. Over the long run, however, maintenance on the air-powered chairs and scooters will be much less than battery-powered versions, Cooper said.

Sports Outdoors and Recreation, a nonprofit established by The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation in San Antonio, bought the chair and scooter designs from Pitt and the VA, Rander said. The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation runs Morgan's Wonderland, named for Gordon Hartman's daughter, Morgan, who suffers from a cognitive delay.

Pride Mobility Corp., a maker of electric wheelchairs and scooters in West Pittston in Luzerne County, will manufacture the chairs and scooters, Cooper said. The first 10 chairs will go to Morgan's Wonderland.

"I'm ecstatic," Rander said. "I've been wanting to have a waterpark for a long time. I think the pneumatic chair will be so impactful."

Aaron Aupperlee is a Tribune-Review staff writer. Reach him at aaupperlee@tribweb.com, 412-336-8448 or via Twitter @tinynotebook.

Sent in by William Gratze.

Lunch Bunch

The Mesa lunch bunch chapter had their June get together at the Black Bear restaurant in Gilbert on Thursday June 1st and the heat was on in Arizona at 105. We had a small group of 7, but had a good time. Those in attendance were Clark Bostwick, John Gilbertson, Roland, Carroll and Jenni Winters and Ed and Jane Crawford. When out in the South West come and visit.



While on a trip to California in March the Winters were able to hook up for lunch with long time HTC member David Juare and his wife Penny. We had a great time reminiscing about the good old days. In the photos on the left are David and Penny Juare and on the right the Winters. See you down the road in Kernville Texas.



Lunch Bunch

The Orange County Lunch bunch had their get together on Saturday March 25th at the American Tavern in Anaheim CA, and this month decided to have a dinner instead of a lunch. The food and service was great and the companions were the best, we had a great time. Those in attendance were Ron Purdy, Arnie and Marilyn Pike, Estrell Manchester, Michelle Bernard, Ray Castillo, Geraldine Winters, Bra and Nikki Hall, and all the way from Arizona Roland, Carroll and Jenni Winters.



Travelers

Tom and Pat Gutzke visit in Arizona with the Winters and Clark Bostwick on their way home to Wisconsin, after the Annual National Rally in Red Bluffs, CA. We had a great time talking about the rally.

Took a 14-week trip to the west coast last year from mid-August to just before Thanksgiving. We took I-94 west from our home in suburban Milwaukee, Wisconsin and did a lot of sightseeing along the way, including a week at Yellowstone National Park [our first time there]. In Washington State we took a Boeing tour, Pike's Market, the Seattle Underground, Grand Coulee Dam, and lots more, including Mount St. Helen's plus Olympia and Mount Rainier National Parks. This was our first visit to Washington State.

Then we headed south to Oregon, our first time visiting this state. We took in the sites around Portland, saw Fort Clatsup [where Lewis and Clark spent the winter of 1805], Crater Lake N.P. and the beautiful Oregon Coast.

Next it was California where we attended our first HTC Rally [in Red Bluff] at a beautiful and reasonably priced RV Resort. We also saw Redwoods, drive through one - kind of [the truck was too big but Pat's scooter fit just fine], and more National Parks [Sequoia, Kings Canyon, Yosemite, and Joshua Tree].

Then Arizona where we saw the Sedona, took the train ride on the Verde Canyon Railroad, and saw Montezuma's Castle and the Church in the Hill. We stopped in Phoenix and spent a very enjoyable day and evening visiting the Winters family and Clark Bostwick.

Our last stop before heading home was our first time in Kansas where we saw President Dwight D. Eisenhower's boyhood home and museum in Abilene.

We have now stayed overnight in and seen specific things in 49 of the 50 states. We hope to complete our list by spending 17 days in Hawaii late this fall after the Kerrville, Texas rally.

It's been a rough spring and summer so far for us. Pat's brother and his wife have wintered in Florida for almost ten years. She learned she had cancer late last year and were able to go south anyway. We visited them in Indian Shores in March. Shortly after they returned home in late March she passed on April 4th. It was a very difficult time for all.

We did get to go camping once in April before Pat became very confused. She had started a new medication in early January and, just over three months later, started having a reaction to it. It scrambled her brain for about a month, starting with mild confusion and getting worse to the point that she was almost unresponsive. This type of problem is listed as one of the side-effects of the new medication. She was hospitalized for almost six weeks [3 weeks in Intensive Care]. After 5 weeks in the hospital she started to show signs of returning to normal. Another five weeks in a "Transitional Care Unit" helped her to get better. It was another four weeks before her brain was back to her normal state.

For the past two weeks she has improved tremendously. From not even being able to sit up with assistance [due to extreme pain from a coccyx and left pelvis fractures] she can now sit up in a wheelchair for 8-10 hours a day before the aches and pain start getting uncomfortable. She is still non-weight bearing as the pelvis fracture hasn't healed completely. A follow-up is scheduled for July 27th. As it will be ten weeks since the pelvis fracture [and even more for the tailbone] we are fairly confident that she will once again be weight-bearing.

In the meantime she is getting by using a slide board to get from bed to the wheelchair, the wheelchair to therapy, and anything else she needs to transfer to from the wheelchair. Her strength is much better and continues to improve. We hope that she is well enough that we can make it to Kerrville in October and then to Hawaii in November. We are looking forward to renewing our friendships with those we met at California's rally and to meeting even more members of the HTC.

Our best to all. Tom and Pat Gutzke

13 Locations in Four States

ARIZONA

- Goodyear
- Phoenix
- Tucson

CALIFORNIA

- Fresno
- Inland Empire
- Los Angeles
- Orange County
- Sacramento
- San Diego
- San Luis Obispo

NEVADA

- Las Vegas

OREGON

- Eugene
- Portland



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