

HTC Newsletter

Issue 52 Volume 2 April 2024



For fun and fellowship

Dear Handicapped Travel Club Members,

Aloha!

On the airplane to Hawaii I was thinking of all the things to do and see I am thankful that we choose to Get Out And Live. There is so much to experience in this world we live in and so many memories to make.

As I sit here in Waikiki looking out at the International Market Place across the street I am impressed at the number of people, families and young people on spring break, retired and locals walking and wheeling everywhere.

Although this is obviously not an RV trip it is certainly in the realm of Get Out And Live. As we pass by other people in wheelchairs, who are obviously having the time of their lives, pleasantries are exchanged along with information as to beach accessibility.

No one is deterred by "you can't get there", the response is "this is how we did it or the easiest way is..." Of course everybody has different abilities but they all are here and making the effort. In this setting of people watching I am seeing every level of ability imaginable and it is so inspiring. G.O.A.L. GET OUT AND LIVE! The next two weeks are dedicated to memory making and relaxation.

We are really looking forward to the rally in Oklahoma this September and seeing lots of existing members and hopefully meeting new members as well. We will for the first time be staying in lodging other than an RV but that will not stop us from having a great time. As we all have learned over time, when the abilities change we just change how we do things, not stop doing them.

A hui hou!

Hope to see you all in September!

Please contact me if you have thoughts to share, questions to ask, improvements to be made, etc. (President@handicappedtravelclub.com).

Warm Regards,

Loretta Spotts Club President Handicapped Travel Club



2024 HTC Annual Rally in Guthrie, Oklahoma

Greetings from your 2024 Wagon Masters Mike and Kelly Hodge,

The 2024 National rally will be held September 20th with checkout by noon September 25th in the central region. We have chosen historical Guthrie, Oklahoma as the site for the fun and friendship.

We have made arrangements with Cedar Valley RV Park to hold 12 spots and we have the Event Center rented for the whole rally. We will be putting information below for you to call and make your own reservation (see page 3). All sites are pull through with full hookups and concrete pads. Just mention the date and HTC. It wouldn't hurt to say that you would like to be as close to the Event Center as possible.

We have some ideas this year for some new and fun activities along with some of the old favorites. Since we have had the silent auction for several years, we are going to try something new and exciting. It will raise a little bit of money for the club, but it will also be a fun way to get to know everybody a little better. We are looking into some entertainment and outings. We are planning some events where you will need some nickels and another one that needs a couple quarters.

More information will be coming when the time gets closer. We are so looking forward to being your hosts at the 2024 rally!

\$43.99 per day. Reservation and one day's fee due to the park one month before your arrival.

Cedar Valley RV Park CedarValleyRVPark.com Ask for Kunal 405 282-4478.

Your Wagon Masters Mike and Kelly at 715 570-6650.

2024 Handicapped Travel Club (HTC) Rally Registration

Rally starts 3pm, Friday, Sept. 20th ends Noon check out Wednesday Sept. 25th

Cedar Valley RV Park
725 Masters Drive Guthrie, OK 73044

CedarValleyRVPark.com

For our records and planning please send your names and how many will be attending to mkhodge@gmail.com or contact wagon masters, Mike and Kelly at 715 570-6650. You can also use this form by copy and paste to above email. Even if you are considering coming let us know so we can plan accordingly.

You will need to book your campsite reservation by calling Kunal at Cedar Valley RV Park at 405 282-4478 and let him know it is for the HTC Rally and you would like a spot near the event center.

Camping RV pull through sites are at the daily rate of \$43.99 per night with full hookups and concrete pads.

You can reserve your campsite now.

Reservation and one day's fee is due to the park one month before you arrive at the park.

This is a popular campground and fills up rapidly, so please don't miss out on the Rally.

Names of those Attending Rally:

Rally Fee: \$30.00 per Person X _____ Persons = \$ _____

Please make cash or check payment for your Rally Fee to wagon masters at the rally on September 20, 2024.

Please provide your cell numbers and email address in case we need to contact you while you are traveling to the rally or need to notify you of any changes.

Cell Numbers: 1) _____ 2) _____

Email Address: _____

For non RV'ers. there are many motels, hotels available nearby in Guthrie, OK

Territorial Inn 405 282-2100 La Quinta 405 293-6000 Sleep Inn 405 260-1400 etc.

Message from our Treasurer

HTC has a new special interest group within the Escapees RV Club.

Details can be found on the HTC Club website at <https://handicappedtravelclub.com/escapees/>.

Message from our Newsletter Editor

In this issue, starting on page 5 you'll notice a look back at the HTC archives, this will allow new members an opportunity to enjoy some of our historical travel stories. If you have travel stories to share, please send to the editor; see details on the last page of the newsletter.

Future Events

Monthly on 3rd Wednesday

Monthly Zoom Meetings

Online/Virtual

The monthly zoom meeting is scheduled for the 3rd Wednesday every month at 4:00 PM pacific time/ 7:00 PM eastern. Be sure to adjust for your local time zone:

4:00 pm PST

5:00 pm MST

6:00 pm CST

7:00 pm EST

You should have been receiving an email from BradBartz@hotmail.com the Monday before the zoom meeting with the connection information. It's the same each month. If you're not receiving the monthly reminders, please email BradBartz@hotmail.com

2024 September 20

HTC 2024 Annual Rally

Guthrie, Oklahoma

The 2024 HTC Annual Rally will be held September 20th to September 25th in historical Guthrie, Oklahoma. More information will be coming when the time gets closer. See pages 3 and 4 for rally information and rally registration form.

Your Rally Wagon Masters are Mike and Kelly Hodge (715) 570-6650.

New Members - Welcome!

Diane Stanton

Manassas, VA

Remembrances

Evelyn Joan Young Albertson, November 19, 1936 - March 11, 2024

(I like most folks in the travel club met Evelyn and her brother Merle at one of the many rallies they attended. Evelyn served as the club's social secretary. Over the years, I knew Evelyn as a gracious, kind, and caring person, a great sister and friend to Merle. Empowering Merle to live life to the fullest. As many of you know, some of the wonderful club members we get to meet at the rallies are the friends, spouses, and family attending with the person living life with a disability. Evelyn is one of those wonderful people, she will be missed. —Will

The following is online information about Evelyn's life; link included below.)



Evelyn Joan Young Carney Albertson, 91, of Fishers, passed away on Monday, March 11, 2024 at Prairie Lakes Health Campus in Noblesville. She was born on November 19, 1932 to Harold and Gladys (Hensley) Young in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Evelyn loved to travel and see the beautiful nature that God had created. Late in life, Evelyn was excited at the opportunity to travel, full time, with her brother, Merle. At a young age, Merle was stricken with polio. Despite the challenges of living in a motor home, let alone her brother using a wheelchair full time, Evelyn and Merle spent about five years traveling this beautiful country, including one trip to Alaska. Throughout their travels, Evelyn and Merle were very involved with the Handicapped Travel Club. The motto of the HTC is "Fun and Fellowship", yet they also want to encourage those who may have disabilities to Get Out And Live "G.O.A.L."

After making the difficult decision to park their motor home, they made their home in Noblesville, Indiana. Evelyn continued to care for her brother until he passed in 2019. Alan and Andrew are so thankful to Evelyn for the loving care she provided, not just to Buddy Merle, but to the others within their community. Evelyn was a true blessing to all she met. Evelyn will be dearly missed, but those that remain are thankful she has ascended to a place where there is no pain or sickness, and she is now reunited with her beloved family who has passed before her.

In addition to her parents, Evelyn was preceded in death by her son, Dale Carney; brother, Merle "Bud" R. Young; and her step-daughter, Linda R. Albertson.

Memorial contributions may be made to Handicapped Travel Club, <https://handicappedtravelclub.com>

Link to online information: <https://www.randallroberts.com/obituaries/evelyn-albertson>

Stories from the HTC Archives

A Traveling Trail Story by Ed and Bonnie Pearson

Looks like I'm the oldest traveling member, so I can get away with embellishing stuff a little now that 25 years have gone by since I joined the group.

I joined in 1992. I think it was hoping to find a wheelchair accessible RV. That didn't happen through the club, but I did find a used Class C in Florida that put my wife Colleen and I on the road. Colleen used a wheelchair due to polio, and I was using a chair most of the time after a lifetime of crutches, so accessibility was a must. Our first rally was in 1994 at Chula Vista RV south of San Diego. A great place next to the yacht harbor and my all-time favorite, but it's now being taken over by the County for fancier use.

Our next rally was in the Chicago area in 1996. The rally was good, not least because Mandy and Gretchen Wenzel joined us as new members. The bad news was that the officers resigned and those of us left over wondered if this was the end of the road. Merle Young, bless his Hoosier heart, volunteered to be President and Colleen took over a merged Secretary-Treasurer function. We struggled financially, using the annual rally as a fundraiser, taking in enough money from games to keep us afloat. Times have changed for the better since then because as you know we now actually have a CD on file and money in the treasury. From the pit of despair to comfortable functionality. Now all we need is new members.

I followed Merle as President and Mandy and Mike Drew moved us on into the future. And of course Roland Winters has been an effective and hardworking President for several years, and various club members have stepped up to keep us on track.

Colleen and I put on rallies in 1998 and 2001 in Indio, California and a mini-rally in Sacramento around that time that included one of the original members of the club: Red Glasco, who lived in Sacramento and was an ardent club member. I visited him and he was proud to show me a pile of newsletters in the corner that he had saved since the club's beginning. His daughter said the club had been a highlight of his life. We are carrying on a disabled RV tradition to be proud of. Keep it up!

Speaking of newsletters, a little story here... We put our Class C on the market, and a guy named Patrick Kenneally came to look at it, but it didn't fit his needs, so he ordered a Play-Mor handicapped-equipped trailer. As it turns out, we did too, so we each had a 1997 travel trailer. Patrick joined the club and eventually became our newsletter editor. Patrick has now passed on, but his travel trailer lives on. Our Play-Mor died but Patrick's trailer was alive because his girlfriend at the time didn't like to travel and he was happy to sell it to us. Is that a happy or sad story? Anyway, Patrick left us last year, and we celebrate his memory and his trailer as well.

In retrospect, I've attended 23 national rallies, and I am looking forward to the 24th rally in Kennewick, Washington.

Colleen passed on in 2002, and Bonnie and I were married in 2009, just in time for her to help put on our 2010 rally at Seven Feathers Resort in Oregon. We helped Sharon and Don Bonney put on the 2016 rally in Red Bluff, California. Welcome to the club Bonnie. Your enthusiasm is much appreciated.

The highlights of my club membership are of course the wonderful people we've met and see annually and stay in touch with but also the incentive to travel to places we would not ordinarily go to, like: Vermont, Florida, North Carolina, Texas, Washington, and who knows where else?

See you down the road.

Ed and Bonnie Pearson



Handicapped Travel Club Lunch Bunch

This is our second lunch out together in California's Central Valley. The first was in Lodi, at an Italian restaurant in December. We faced a rainy day, scarce parking, and crowded restaurant with Christmas office parties!

We enjoyed our visit despite the odds. We're not intimidated by much!

This month's lunch was in Elk Grove at a pizza and pasta restaurant.

Bonnie and Ed, Sharon and Don, Barbara and Giancarlo, and Miss Cookie all enjoyed a great lunch and conversation.

Hoping to plan more lunches in the future, we extend an invitation to others in the area to join us. We try to arrange a location convenient to all. For more information, call Barbara at 925-989-2330.

2001 Winnebago Journey Diesel Pusher

RV Class A, Diesel Pusher CAT 330HP, Freightliner Chassis, Self-leveling Jacks, Mileage 99,251
Model WKP34BD, Generator (front), CAT Scale weighed 10-23 GVW 24,980, Loaded
2 Electric Wheelchairs & Rack
\$91,000 or best offer; (HTC 10% discount)

Questions? **Janice R. Snuffer 503-410-2710** voice or text in MT time zone; Email Janice.Rittberg@gmail.com
Delivery possible. More pictures available.

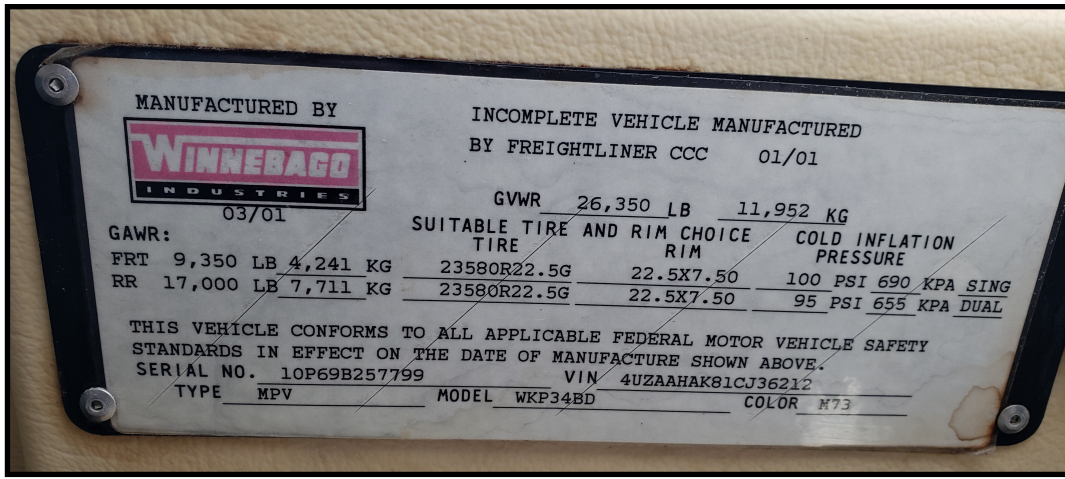
Features: Captain's Chairs, Curtains on Front Windows, Blinds and Screens on Other Windows, Sofa with 2 Manual Recliners with Covers, Washer/Dryer Unit, Handicapped Roll-in Shower, Grab Bars, Shower Chair, Skylight, 2 Fans; TVs, Stereos and CD Player, DVD Players, Rear Monitor, Wheelchair Lift, Wheelchair Tie Downs, Hitch; 3 Burner Stove, Convection Microwave Oven, Full-size Refrigerator/Freezer/Ice Maker; Storage Inside and Under; 2 Slide-outs (Bedroom / Living Room), 2 Awnings; Stereo Speakers, Many Outlets & Reading Lights, Tire Covers. CB Radio, Air Horns; Bedroom: Queen Bed, Stereo, TV, Upper Cabinets, Drawers, Poles.

New in 2023: Hubcap Replacement 05-23; New House Batteries 11-22; HVAC Blower Motor/Fan 09-23; Dish King Antenna, 2 Receivers, 05-23; Hand-controls Compassion Mobility, Utah, 10-22; Tire Minder (display/all wheels) 08-23; Oil Change/Filter, Added Water Separator 09-23; Chassis Inspection 04-23; Gen-Turi Air-cooled Venturi RX Generator Exhaust System 06-23; Fire Pit, Battery Tester, Under Compartments New Gas Struts; Propane/Generator/50 Amp Plug; Sirius Radio & Antenna; LOVPOI GPS Setup; Engine Batteries 08-22.



Note: Previously owned by person who had a double amputation, and person with quadriplegia (four limbs affected) thus many accommodations provided for. Original Winnebago Manuals, Video and Upgrade Books and Receipts.





Newsletter Submissions: Please submit material for inclusion in the newsletter to the editor William Robinson at email address: Editor@handicappedtravelclub.com. If possible, send submission materials by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Quarterly publication months are: January, April, July, October.

If you need to send submission material via USPS paper mail, call Will at 425 889-0183 for mailing address and coordinating receipt of paper mail.

Advertising: \$100 for full page; \$50 for 1/2 page; 1/4 page \$35; 1/8 page \$20.

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