

EMPIRE NEWS



NYSKPS CHAPTER 41 March 2010

NYSKPS CHAPTER 41 SPRING RALLY - JUNE 11 - 13, 2010 SOUTHWOODS RV RESORT, BYRON, NY

Join us in welcoming Spring to western New York State. Do you Geocache? Want to learn how? Let's hunt for hidden "treasures." Enjoy local history? Visit the Jello Museum or the Genesee Country Village and Museum. Paddle, bike, or hike? Join others to share the outdoors! Casino, shopping, scenic drive? Go for it! V.P. Bill Nixon has prepared a long list of nearby attractions and points of interest which will be available at the rally. Want to kick back and relax? Why not!

Southwoods RV Resort (www.southwoodsvresort.com) is holding water/electric sites for us in their rally circle. There is a pavilion in the center of the circle where we'll gather for our meals.

TENTATIVE ACTIVITIES:

Friday- Check in with Southwoods and at our registration area

4 p.m. Friendship Hour (BYO) and nibble to share

6:30 p.m. Hamburgs, Hot dogs, and side dish

Saturday_ 8 a.m. Breakfast - eggs and more

followed by chapter meeting

Lunch and Activities- your choice

4 p.m. Friendship Hour

6:30 p.m. Creamed Chicken and Biscuits, Mixed greens, Louisiana Dirt Pie

Sunday- 8 a.m. Hitch-up Breakfast Buffet: please bring something special for the buffet table

(i.e. fruit, muffins, scones, Danish, breads, meats) Hot or cold - use your imagination

Juice/coffee provided

Door Prizes*, Game Winners, Good-byes

Games, sing-along, campfire after sunset each evening.

*Please consider bringing a door prize to donate (new, merchant-donated, or gently used) It's great when every rig goes home with a door prize. Thanks in advance.

TWO-STEP REGISTRATION:

1. Mail the Chapter Registration Form with rally fee enclosed to our treasurer, Bev Quinn by May 25 so we can plan and prepare for meals. The registration form is included at the end of this newsletter.

2. Reserve your site directly with Southwoods RV Resort (585) 548-9002

Rates: \$27 - \$28 per night depending on number of rigs attending.

Extra days before and after will be charged at the rally rate. When calling, be sure to have your credit card ready and explain that you are reserving in the "Rally Circle for NY SKPS."

DIRECTIONS:

From the East: From NY Thruway (I-90) Exit 47, to 3.3 miles north on Rt. 19 to Rt.262 at Bergen. Turn left and go 4.5 miles west

From the West: From NY Thruway (I-90) Exit 48, go north on Rt. 98 to Rt 262 at Elba. Turn right and go 8 miles east.

HOSTS:

Pat and Sue Vitek suevitek@yahoo.com 631-235-2468

Fred and Phyllis Lyngard fredandphyl@aol.com 518-542-5397 (weekends only)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Livingston



John and I are “out there”, and began living our fulltime dream as of January, 2010! We left the cold, snowy, North for the cold, snowy, South and are still looking for a place to thaw out! We set up our residency in Livingston, Texas, visited the amazing mail forwarding facility, and the fabulous Care Center. We went to Bingo, learned new games, watched movies, did potlucks, explored new sites, and hiked new trails. We have met so many new friends, crossed path with old ones, but, the journey is bittersweet, as we have had to say goodbye to others. Please take a moment to remember our dear Chapter 41 friend, Rich Krumenacker who truly was an inspiration and surely touched the lives of all who knew him.

Our June rally is soon approaching and I encourage you all to come, renew friendships, explore a new area, or just put your feet up . Or, as it was for us, the rally is an excellent resource for exploring this fulltime lifestyle. For those of you still sitting on the fence.....Just do it!

FROM THE ROAD

Karen and Bob Burwell left NY "on wheels" in the fall of '08, spending two winters in Florida, a summer in New Hampshire, and last spring in Washington. They are currently in Arizona and will return to Gig Harbor, WA this summer. When Karen stops working, they "expect to rebase to the East....then hook up with you again.....Best to all."

Carol and John Berggren note that despite the unusually chilly weather in the South this year (We should have known - driving 4 hours in a PA blizzard on Oct. 15!) our canoe, bikes, hiking shoes and Geocache log got a lot of use. The best part of traveling for us is re-connecting with other RVers, especially SKPS. Making it a point to knock on the doors of rigs displaying the logo, as well as touting what a great organization Escapees is to others, we have met many friendly folks along the way. Hope to see you at the June rally.

Bill and Jeanne Nixon spent much of the winter at Rainbow Plantation in Summerdale, Alabama where our VP volunteered his capable services in the kitchen and elsewhere when he wasn't flying a kite. Jeanne continued her fabulous needlework for the hospital gift shop as well as other charitable groups. The Nixons' grandson graduates high school in Virginia the weekend of our June rally, but they will see everyone in September at Arrowhead.

Esther Tallamy, founder and first elected President of NYSKPS Chapter 41, spent a September week in Nova Scotia visiting relatives and joined up with the Nor'Easters at Indian Head Resort in Plymouth, MA over the Columbus Day weekend. She writes, "I will be here on L.I. getting 'cabin fever' as the months drag on until the Spring rally." Esther also noted that Chapter 41 members, **Carol and Bob Torns**, had gotten to Alaska and Yukon Territory during the 2009 summer.

Phyllis and Fred Lyngard began their Fall to Spring travels driving their motorhome to their home in Sherrill's Ford, NC. From there, they headed to their home in Venice, FL hoping to find warmer weather. Braving the Florida cold, they brought their home on wheels and joined the Berggrens at Ft. DeSoto County Park on Tampa Bay where John and Fred "did" the Tampa RV Show while Phyllis and Carol "waited" for them at the nearby Hard Rock Casino. The Lyngards hope to make the Multi-chapter rally in North Carolina before heading home to Galway, NY and preparations for our June rally.

Grace Whitbeck (activity host until mid-Nov.) crossed tracks with **Pam Bristol** (office host) when both were working at Turkey Creek and also enjoying shows in Branson. Pam was heading to Arizona and New Mexico; Grace going to Livingston, TX for the remainder of the winter, hoping to see other Chapter 41 members along the way.

Julie and George VanDeusen reported cold, cold January weather in Malta, but were planning a month-long March trip to Las Vegas where they will visit their daughter and son-in-law who are expecting the VanDeusen's first grandchild. They will bring pictures of Zinnia Marie to the June rally.

Jane and Burt Luther sent Christmas greetings from Rockport, TX on Dec. 23rd where the pool was 86° and "a sauna...mmmmm." Burt, meanwhile, was washing the rig "which made him very happy! He does not care for a dirty rig!!!" They closed with hugs and with "hope you are doing well and enjoying yourselves." In late January while at Livingston, TX, **John and Christine Straight** shared travel news and received garlic and shallots from the Luthers' garden.

Joyce and Bob Stephenson write "We remember the good time we had at the rally." (Chap. 41, Sept. 2009) Bob and Joyce, work campers for Escapees, were at Livingston for three months, leaving Jan. 1 for visits around Texas. They will be at Summerdale, AL from Feb. 7 - July 31, returning to NY in August. Their picture was in the Jan/Feb Escapees Magazine (p. 59) along with SKPS Terri and Jerry Hopman whom the Berggrens had met years ago at The Villages at Turning Stone (accepts Escapees 15% off year-round) near Utica/Rome, NY.

William "Ike" Eisenhower writes "Nice hearing from you. When I travel North, generally every 2nd year I get as far as Rifton, NY....On May 31st of last year to Jan. 23rd of 2010, I had several major medical issues which to date restrict my travel....I can only hope I'll go back to doing some travel in the future." For those of us who have not met him, Ike retired from the Air Force (National Guard) 105th Military Air Lift Group out of Newburg, NY. He resides at his "base camp- Colonia del Rey RV Park in Corpus Christi, TX"

Marg and Bill Merpaw are heading to Ocean Lakes Camp Ground, south of Myrtle Beach for Spring break where they plan to meet up with the Berggrens for a couple of days before returning to Canada. Our intrepid members from the North will see everyone at the June rally.

Sue and Pat Vitek left Canandaigua, NY in mid-January, leaving their house and driveway in the capable hands of Jeanne Nixon's brother. In February they wrote, "...we are currently in Spring Hill, FL where we'll stay for several more weeks. (Maybe it will warm up before we leave!!) We'll be doing a lot of visiting on our way north, arriving home around June 1st."

You are invited to contact the editor (see address at end of newsletter) with your recent news to be included in the July newsletter. It is a great way to keep connected with Chapter members.

IN MEMORIAM



Our good friend Rich Krumenacker passed away in February at home. We will miss him at rallies; he was always willing to lend a hand, listen to our tales, or share stories about his kids, the phone company, or sailing. We always enjoyed our times together, paddling, bicycling, or sharing a campfire with Rich and Kath. Rich lost his long battle with cancer, but he won our hearts with his brave and positive outlook. We all extend our sympathy to Kath and know that she will have her family nearby and her Chapter 41 friends to extend a hand in the future.

CHAPTER 41 FALL 2010 RALLY - SEPTEMBER 10 - 12

Mark your calendar and prepare to saddle up your horse (power) to giddy-up to Glenville, NY for our Western Theme Rally being held at Arrowhead Marina & RV Park (www.arrowheadmrvp.com) on the Mohawk River near Scotia, NY. Several Escapee members camp there seasonally so plan to come early; stay longer and we'll extend the "rodeo."

Looking forward to:

Chuck Wagon Chili; Bring a can of beans
Campfire Melodrama Theater; Bring a flashlight and a "western" prop
Do you have an idea for a skit?
Rhinestone-Cowboy Craft
A Raging Bonfire (An Arrowhead signature event)
Evening Concert performed by Dan Berggren; Adirondack Folksinger
Various museums, historic sites, biking, canoeing, kayaking

Many "ranch hands" make the "round-up" run smoothly so offer your time and talents to help out... parking, registration, host a Friendship Hour, meal prep & clean up, campfire building, etc.

Look for more details in the next newsletter. . And remember, "Don't squat with your spurs on."

Arrowhead Rally hosts:

Julie & George VanDeusen; julievandeusen@gmail.com (518) 899-4937
Ginny & Eric LaJuene; lajuene@gmail.com (518) 423-9657

CHAPTER 3 RALLIES

Joyce Bogan keeps us posted with information about Escapees Northeast Chapter 3 events. Their June rally conflicts with our dates this year, but their rally at Pumpkin Patch RV Resort in Herman, ME this year will be on August 18-22. Details may be found at www.escapees.com/chapter3.

EASTERN MULTI-CHAPTER RALLY

April 29 - May 3, 2010, in Marion, NC

April 1st is the deadline for reserving a spot at the Multi-Chapter rally being held at Tom Johnson's Rally Park in Marion, NC just off the Blue Ridge Parkway. Bryan and Jane Rose and their helpers have been working hard to set this up for folks who are returning from warmer climes or those who want to limber up their rigs for the summer.

If you have made a reservation and included a payment for the optional self-guided Biltmore Estate Tour which is scheduled for Friday, April 30, you may want to contact the Biltmore Estate directly to arrange to take one of their "behind the scenes tours" while you are there with the rally group (800-411-3812).

Rally schedule and reservation forms are available for download at the rally website:

<http://sites.google.com/site/rallyinfosite/>

ESCAPADE 2010

This year's Escapees Escapade will be held in Goshen, Indiana on September 12-17, 2010. Please let President Christine know if you are planning to attend this year.

WELCOME

A special welcome to our new members **Jack and Jackie Peterson** and **Roy and Ann Brody**. We are looking forward to meeting you all soon at a rally.

MEET THE MEMBERS: Jack and Jackie Peterson

New members, the Petersons from Gananoque, Ontario, have been camping and RVing for 40 years. While Gananoque is their current home base, Jackie is originally from Lake George and Jack is from Vancouver. With a family of six kids, they are now blessed with 8 grandkids. Before retirement, Jack worked for Border Services. Jackie, semi-retired, is an optician. We're hoping the Petersons will be able to load up their 25' 5th-wheel or 34' Class A and meet us at the rally in Byron this June.

A VISIT WITH THE KEMPS

Our fall rally at Lakeside Farm Cidermill was attended by several Escapees members who chose to "stop by" and attend a New York State rally for the weekend. It is such a pleasure to welcome these folks. Chapter Historian, Esther Tallamy, interviewed one of our visiting couples and mailed us the following:

"My interview at the rally with Judy and Gordon Kemp from Alberta, Canada was fun to do. Gordon was in the Canadian Air Force for 29 years and worked in related air industries before retiring. They spent a winter in Texas, learned of the Escapees, returned to Canada, sold their home and took to the road in a class C RV. They are traveling currently in a 40' Class A Alfa, diesel pusher, towing a Prius, and carrying a kayak on top of the Alfa. They learned of the Chapter 41 rally through the SKP magazine, contacted rally hosts, the Berggrens, and joined us. The Kemps joined Escapees in 2005 and have been on the road three years. Gordon joined other rally attendees on a paddle of Ballston Lake which included Rich Krumenacker who amazes us all with his strong determination to overcome cancer." Those of you who met the Kemps would enjoy keeping up with their travels on their blog:

<http://www.kempstravels.blogspot.com>

RECIPE CORNER

5-MINUTE CHOCOLATE MUG CAKE

4 tablespoons flour	3 tablespoons oil
4 tablespoons sugar	3 tablespoons chocolate chips (optional)
2 tablespoons cocoa	small splash of vanilla extract
1 egg	1 large microwave safe coffee mug
3 tablespoons milk	

Add dry ingredients to mug; mix well. Add the egg and mix thoroughly. Pour in the milk and oil and mix well. Add the chocolate chips (if using) and vanilla extract; mix again.

Put the mug into the microwave and cook for 3 minutes at high (1000 watts). The cake will rise over the top of the mug, but don't be alarmed! Allow to cool a little, and tip out onto a plate if desired..

.....EAT! (can serve 2)

This was on the internet and we chuckled over it, but we decided to try it. The grandkids love to prepare, watch, and eat it (with ice cream, of course). We have to admit to preparing it for ourselves on a cold winter night! John and Carol Berggren

A MESSAGE FROM THE ESCAPEES NATIONAL CHAPTER DIRECTORS

It is the **MEMBERS** who make any group successful.

It is the members who are glue that holds a group together.

It is the members who become the officers.

And it is the members who support the officers and volunteer to host events.

The members come up with new ideas. They are the ones who share their talents and creativity. It is the members who to inspire others to do more.

If your group is fun and you enjoy going to the activities, "been there, done that" is not an excuse for not being involved. We have all worked the 40 hr routine, we've all volunteered along the way, and volunteering is what keeps a group alive, fun and thriving. We can all contribute something to make any group better. Even the best groups need new ideas and folks to step up to keep the group fresh, interesting, welcoming and growing.

We're never too old to be an inspiration to others, a spark plug of ideas or a friend to the new members.

So if you enjoy your chapter, just step up to be counted as a real member!

Hugs,

Susie & Denny Orr

Editor's Note: Susie has been having trouble with her wrist to the point of a third bone graft. As a result, she and Denny have been grounded for a while in the Midwest, but she expects to be "mended and as good as can be by Escapade." The Orrs have been most helpful to our Chapter and we wish Susie a speedy healing process.

CHAPTER 41 RALLIES - 2011

You are our greatest source of information and ideas. If you are coming to the June rally, please bring specific rally site ideas and recommendations. If not, send them along to Vice President Bill Nixon (wrnix@frontiernet.net). It's never too early to plan ahead.

ELECTIONS

Elections for Vice President will take place at the June meeting. Bill Nixon has agreed to serve another two years. In order to comply with the By-laws requiring staggered terms for officers, Treasurer Bev Quinn has agreed to be "re-elected" to a 2-year term. If any member wishes to run for either of these offices they may contact the President. Nominations, with verbal consent, may be taken from the floor at the meeting.

KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST CHAPTER 41 EVENTS

The Escapees website contains a Chapter 41 page you can access for up to date news about upcoming events. Eric LaJuene is doing a great job creating an interactive webpage with photos, links, printable membership form, and officer contact information. Go to www.escapees.com/chapter41/ That will bring you to our own Chapter 41 page. If you feel there is any Chapter information that should be included on that page, contact webmaster Eric LaJuene at Lajuene@gmail.com.

If you don't have access to the web, phone this free number- 1-888-757-7701, voicemail extension 8041 for information about our next Chapter 41 event.

CURRENT OFFICERS

President- Christine Straight (518) 461-8959 luvz2cook@aol.com
106 Rainbow Dr., Suite 611, Livingston, TX 77399

Vice-President- Bill Nixon (315) 256-7007 wrnix@frontiernet.net
5470 Nott Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Secretary- Carol Berggren (518) 885-5207 ic5thwheel@aol.com
392 Brownell Road, Malta, NY 12020-3741

Treasurer- Beverly Quinn (518) 279-3830 quinntroy@peoplepc.com
898 Hoosick Road, Troy, NY 12180

Officer-at-Large- Elizabeth Bell (518) 828-7293
61 Arthur Avenue Hudson, NY 12534-1401

Officer-at-Large- Immediate Past President- Bruce Robinson (315) 767-9239
bhrobins@gw.dec.state.ny.us
17286 County Route 155, Watertown, NY 13601

APPOINTMENTS

Historian- Esther Tallamy (631) 567-4507
P.O. Box 345, Oakdale, NY 11769-0345

Historian Technical Assistant-Bill Mikiewicz (585) 544-6234 wcmik@msn.com
110 Florack Street, Rochester, NY 14621

Membership/Newsletter Editor- John Berggren (518) 885-5207 ic5thwheel@aol.com
392 Brownell Road, Malta, NY 12020-3741

Sunshine- Marg Merpaw (613) 924-9776 bbmerpaw@explornet.com
120 Temperance Lake Rd. RR#3, Athens, Ontario, CA K0E 1B0

Webmaster- Eric LaJuene (518) 423-9657 Lajuene@gmail.com
211 Crawford Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12306

Voicemail- Fred Lyngard (518) 882-9128 fredandphyl@aol.com
POB 250, Galway, NY 12074

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/UPDATE FORM (Dues are due no later than October 1)

Chapter 41 annual dues are \$5.00. Please send your dues and application/renewal/update form to Bev Quinn, 898 Hoosick Road, Troy, NY 12180

Membership Application, Renewal and/or Update - NYSKPS Chapter 41

Renewal _____ Correction _____ New Member _____ SKP # _____

Name _____

Spouse/Companion _____

Address _____

Street City State & Zip Code

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Winter Address and Phone (include only if dates in effect from 12/1 to 4/1)

Address _____

Street City State & Zip Code

No person may be a member of NYSKPS Chapter #41 unless he/she is a member of National Escapees. Dues do not cover the cost of camping fees. Dues are effective from October 1 - September 30. Make check for \$5.00 payable to NYSKPS Chapter 41

**NYSKPS CHAPTER 41 SPRING RALLY JUNE 11 - 13, 2010 CHAPTER
REGISTRATION FORM**

By your attendance at this event you are agreeing to the following: As an attendee, you assume all risk and danger relating to your personal property, RV, and attendance at this Chapter event, whether occurring prior to, during, or after the event. In the event of loss or theft, no claim will be made upon Escapees, its volunteers, employees, or agents. Volunteers may be directing and assisting you in your parking areas. It is, however, the driver of the RV or other vehicle who is ultimately responsible for avoiding obstacles or dangerous situations and is solely responsible for any damages to their property or the property of others. As an attendee at this event, you are granting your permission to be filmed, videotaped, audiotaped, or photographed, and granting full use without compensation.

Name(s) _____ SKP# _____
—

Address: _____ Chap. 41 Member ? Y
N

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

RV Type: _____ Length: _____

Dates you've reserved at Southwoods:

Rally Fee:

\$15.00 per person for the weekend X _____ people.....=TOTAL: \$ _____

Includes: Friday supper, Saturday breakfast and dinner, Sunday hitch-up breakfast buffet (Please bring something special to contribute to Sunday breakfast.)

Mail reservation form and payment by May 25th to:
Bev Quinn, 898 Hoosick Road, Troy, NY 12180
Write checks payable to: NYSKPS Chapter 41