

Escapade Officers Meeting July 2, 2008 – Gillette, WY

Thank You for volunteering to serve your chapter / c-bof as an officer, a chairperson, or as a member. The Escapees philosophy of Caring and Sharing was begun by Joe and Kay Petersen and continues by you - the members. You will always receive much more than you give – especially if the task is shared by many. Thank you for coming to this meeting to better understand the duties and responsibilities of keeping a successful chapter / c--bof growing and healthy.

The cost of travel affects us all, however this is a great time for the chapter/c-bof rallies. Folks maybe traveling shorter distances – so promote your local area rallies, contact the New Escapees in your area. Welcome them to your events.

Membership: Many chapters struggle with gaining new members – others continue to grow yearly. What makes the difference?

- Ask Members to bring a friend
- Use the mailing labels from Escapees
 - New Members since last Escapade
 - All Area Members
- Escapees Member information includes address, phone and email address as permitted. Do personally contact these members – inviting them to your next rally or luncheon or activity.
- Share your rally information with neighboring chapters newsletters and websites
- Daisy Chain Phone Calls to remind members of Luncheons, Rallies
- Email all members about Luncheons & Rallies – perhaps start a yahoo.groups to easily email your membership reminders.
- You can also request a list of ALL the members in your geographical area. Ask us.
- Continue to send a group roster annually – by newsletter, email, or separate copy
- **Asking for your IDEAS – please share them with us.**

Rally Hosts: To have successful rallies, you need rally hosts. Rally Hosts need to know what is expected of them. To make their job easier, **please have several copies of the “Rally Planning” folders to pass on to each Rally Host.** This information is also on the website – Officer Manuals – as a separate Rally Host file to download – everything from A to Z. Perhaps pair a NEW Host with someone with experience. Or let the new hosts try new ideas. Great Rallies keep members coming back and draw new members.

Task information:

- Manuals and forms all at <http://www.escapees.com/chapters/OfficerManuals.asp> . You will need your personal Escapees ID & Password to open these ‘key’ areas. Call Escapees 888-757-2582 if you do not have this ID & Password. Save them to your computer
- Review “First Task of New Officers” and your job description – know your responsibilities
- Meeting Agenda outline makes running a meeting easier
- Send Magazine Report form with Rally, Luncheon, and Officer up dates. We send reminders the odd months.
- NEW chapter /c-bofs pages in July/August magazine – take a closer look
- Send Annual Treasurer Audit form (done once per year or before new Treasurer takes office) to densu@escapees.com
- Please email **us the name, email address and SKP#** of those new members who present your chapter with the **“Free Membership”** coupon. We do follow up with them.
- Website is a great way to share your chapter activities and information – Thank you for keeping the information updated and current.

- Newsletter – Thank you for being the editor and sharing your group news and information. Many groups are now emailing newsletters. That works well!
- Voicemail – Escapees has a new phone system. The NEW instruction sheet is being sent to all current officers. It is also in the manuals on the website.
- Please send Chapter / C-BOF communications, minutes, newsletters, etc to addresses below. Email also is very acceptable for all group communications.
 - ❖ Club Business, 100 Rainbow Dr, Livingston, TX 77351-9300 or clubbusiness@escapees.com
 - ❖ Chapter Directors (Denny & Susie Orr) 202 Rainbow Dr, #10263, Livingston, TX 77399-2002 or densu@escapees.com

CARE donations – **Thank You** – Last year 2007 -- \$31,000, this year 2008 -- \$18,000 donated by Chapters/C-BOFs/Co-Ops. The Camping World Receipts program has changed – **they only accept receipts from the last 3 months**. Members can scan or copy them, then send them to Kellie Rossow. She does not have to have the original. kellierossow@escapees.com

Remember **All Escapees welcome at ALL events**. You do not need to belong to a chapter/C-BOF to visit, however, for courtesy, do let them know you are coming. Look for rally dates in each Escapees Magazine – Events and Rally Calendar and SKP Get Togethers for luncheons.

Visitors are welcome to attend up to three Escapees events. By then they should know if they want to join Escapees. This is explained in the Officer's Manuals. An updated Escapees Handbook is also available on the website at <http://www.escapees.com/edocs/MemberHandbook.pdf>. Page 4-6 covers membership.

Members with lapsed membership do need to renew membership to continue coming to Escapees rallies and events. **Let's go to a Rally!**

- VCRs are **Volunteer Club Representatives**. Please welcome them, introduce them at your rallies and luncheons, and give them some time to share information. If you have questions – they are your local representatives from Escapees – so if you have questions -- ask them. They will be glad to be of assistance to you. We consider the VCRs our right arm and our in person representatives at your event. Some chapters enjoy having the VCRs install their new officers, so do ask them if you elect new officers.
- Check the Escapees Magazine and Website for **FUN and EXCITING HOP events** scheduled throughout the year. Bruce & Louise Schweichler are always working on new adventures.
- For those traveling to Quartzsite in January 2008 – we'll again be hosting, along with the VCRs in the area, a **Quartzsite Escapees Happy Hour January 15-16 1-3 pm**. Scaddam Wash – Frontage Road South of I-10 East of Exit #19. Follow the signs. Bring a friend. All Welcome. Bring a chair, a drink and a snack to share. See you there!

Escapade 2009: Sedalia, MO May 24-29. Sign up NOW for Pre/Post events with Bill Fisher please. Presidents and Vice Presidents were sent these forms by email attachment recently.

How can we better serve you – the chapters and certified birds of a feather? Need help or assistance? Let us know. We are here for you. densu@escapees.com or 219-670-3007.

SKP Hugs - Denny & Susie Orr, Chapter Directors – Escapees RV Club

If we have sent this to you in error – please let us know – then please give it to the correct person. Thank You!

Escapees Chapter / C-BOF Voicemail Instructions

June 2008, Escapees updated and improved their phone system. The new phone system requires NEW ID's and Passwords to access the group voicemail program. Following are the NEW instructions. Remember to listen carefully to the prompts, take your time and you will be successful in updating the Voicemail message. It is helpful to plan your message before recording.

- 1) Please call 888-757-7701 – Listen to the welcome prompt.
- 2) Enter your group extension - Chapter extensions: 80 + chapter number = 8001 for Chapter #1, 8010 for Chapter #10, etc.
- 3) C-BOF extensions:
 - a. Christian Fellowship = 8084
 - b. DOVEs = 8083
 - c. ELK = 8082
 - d. Habitat = 8085
 - e. MDT = 8081
 - f. SOLOs = 8080
- 4) The prompt will then ask you:
 - a. Press “1” to Listen to the greeting
 - b. Press “2” to Change your greeting
- 5) Press “2” to change your greeting - the voice prompt will ask for your password – enter **2580 as the password please**
- 6) The prompt will give you 3 choices:
 - a. Listen to your greeting = 1
 - b. Change your greeting = 2
 - c. Save your greeting = 3
- 7) Press “2” to change your greeting. Record your message carefully - distinctly
- 8) Then follow the prompts to re-listen to your greeting by pressing “1”
- 9) Press “2” if you need to re-record your message
- 10) Press “3” to save the greeting after you are sure it is correct.