





VOLUME 36 NUMBER 2

MAY 2020

# Happy Wheels

www.washingtonstategoodsams.com/

Facebook: Washington State Good Sams

Yahoo Groups: Washington State Good Sams

#### From the DIRECTORS...

Hello Good Sam Members,

Dee and I are thinking of everyone and hoping we all stay safe and remain healthy. Let's make it through this CO-VID-19 crisis together (apart). We are following the stay at home, social distancing guidelines. These are the most effective ways to stay safe. Due to the "stay at home shelter in place" CDC guidelines it, was necessary that I canceled the Lynden Outing.

I received Good Sam Support emails from National. I want to make you aware of a couple of these emails.

In the email from Good Sam Support dated March 20, 2020 part of it states:

"Due to recent developments, the concern over the health and well-being of our customers and community continues to grow. To keep you and your family safe, as well as continuing to follow the CDC guidelines, the difficult decision has been made to pause the Good Sam State/Provincial Director program, effective immediately".

Following this email, I canceled the Moses Lake event. I don't know when this crisis will end and when Good Sam Support will take the program off "pause". The Cashmere event is more than four months away and I am still hoping the Cashmere Outing will take place as planned. I will continue to add information to our state website as we receive the latest updates from Good Sam Support.

There is an email going around all the State/Provincial Directors on the CC address listing. For the first time (as far as I know) the State/Provincial Directors are communicating with each other. There were many questions about the status of the Good Sam Club. This is the Good Sam Support response:

"Good morning!

I hope this note finds you safe and well. I wanted to check-in with everyone to let you know that I am thinking about each of you.

Last Friday, March 20, I sent out a note stating that the Good Sam State/Provincial Director program is paused. Since then, many of you and your Chapter members have reached out with various questions. I wanted to let you know that I am compiling a list of everyone's questions and will work to get answers as soon as possible.

The company's focus at this time is to keep our RVing family safe and healthy, as well as making sure that our customer's essential needs for their home on wheels are being met. We ask that you be patient with the Good Sam team as we navigate these uncertain times. As soon as I have more information regarding the State/Provincial Director program, I will be sure to update everyone.

Thank you, Good Sam Support"

In this Happy Wheels issue, there is the Q/A sheet from the attachment of this email, it's titled: Good Sam State/Provincial Director Program - Frequently Asked Questions - March 20, 2020. See page 13.

These questions are from State/Providences Directors and the answers are from Good Sam Support (National). I thought you might like this information that affects our Clubs' activities. This and other information is also posted on the website at: www.washingtonstategoodsams.com.

I hope this will help you understand the things that are happening with the Club.

Stay safe and stay healthy. Dave & Dee

#### **UPCOMING STATE EVENT:**

September 18 - 20, 2020 Cashmere Fall Meeting: "Apples and Cinnamon: Yum Yum"

MAY 2020 HAPPY WHEELS

#### WASHINGTON STATE TEAM

#### STATE DIRECTOR

Dave (Dee) Cluett 11919 NE 140 Pl

Kirkland, WA 98034 (206) 718-3944

E-mail: etno1@hotmail.com

#### **TREASURER**

**Jody Mason** 

12206 Banner RD SE Olalla, WA 98359 (360) 265-5778 E-mail: afchfe9@gmail.com

#### **SECRETARY**

Ron (Pamela) Kelley

PO Box 956 Deer Park, WA 99006 (360) 739-0804

E-mail: ronekelley@yahoo.com

#### WAGONMASTER

Ron (Doreen) Adams

6350 Portal Way #65 Ferndale, WA 98003 H: (360) 398-2995 / C: (360) 305-9035

E-mail: doreen50@yahoo.com

#### REGISTRATION

**Jody Mason** 

12206 Banner RD SE Olalla, WA 98359 (360) 265-5778

E-mail: afchfe9@gmail.com

#### **WEBMASTER**

Bill (Linda) Brown

21903 114th St. E Bonney Lake, WA 98391 (253) 862-7352

E-mail: bill\_brown01@msn.com

#### HAPPY WHEELS EDITOR

Barbara (Steve) Erickson

14306 SE 49th St. Bellevue, WA 98006 H: (425) 746-1094 / C: (206) 387-1694 E-mail: bje46@msn.com

#### SOUND SYSTEM OPERATOR

Jim (Darlene) Hyson

2713 Converse Ave SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 (360) 620-2781 E-mail: whyson@outlook.com

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

John (Kathy) West

11525 173rd Ave Ct E. Bonney Lake, WA 98391 253-307-5867 E-mail: jcwest1@comcast.net

#### LEGISLATIVE

Steve (Judy) Brooks

2308 114th Drive NE Lake Stevens, WA 98258 (425) 334-1191

E-mail: sbrooks@kendra.com

#### **SUNSHINE**

Jean Little

1406 29th Anacortes, WA 98221 (360) 293-5297

E-mail: saw. and. sew 13@gmail.com

#### **ADVERTISING**

Volunteer Needed

#### RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

**Kathy West** 

11525 173rd Ave Ct E Bonney Lake, WA 98391 (253) 564-1829 E-mail: kj.west@comcast.net

#### **FISHER HOUSE**

(Through Military Sams)

Diana (Mike) Supler-Varner

1603 Brunswick St. SE Lacey, WA 98503-6954 H: (360) 455-9294 / C: (360) 790-7366 E-mail: dandm1603@comcast.net

#### **DOGS FOR BETTER LIVES**

Markey (Ken) Petersen

8995 Fruitdale Rd. Sedro Woolley, WA 98284 H: (360) 856-5577 / C: (425) 299-7035 E-mail: troubles2@comcast.net

#### **Assistant Directors**

#### S. CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Volunteer needed for this area

#### N. CENTRAL WASHINGTON Volunteer needed for this area

#### ISLAND/WHATCOM / SKAGIT / SNOHOMISH / N. KING

#### Ron (Doreen) Adams

6350 Portal Way #65 Ferndale, WA 98248 H: (360) 398-2995 / C: (360) 305-9035 E-mail: doreen50@yahoo.com

# GREATER SPOKANE AREA Roger (Karen) Beckel

14710 E Crown Ave Spokane Valley, WA 99216 H: (509) 892-2472 / C: (760) 808-5065 E-mail: randkbeckel@sbcglobal.net

#### S. WESTERN WASHINGTON Bobbye (Gary) Simons

1041E Timberlakes Dr. E. Shelton, WA 98584 H: 360-426-4852 / C: 360-229-0581 E-mail: bandgsi@aol.com

# PIERCE / THURSTON / S. KING Ed (Benay) Nelson

13216 228th St. E. Graham, WA 98338

H: (360) 893-5208 / C: (253) 380-6992 E-mail: bmistymom1@centurylink.net

#### OLYMPIC / KITSAP PENINSULAS Holly (John) Byczynski

491 E. Phillips Lake Loop Road Shelton, WA 98584 H: (360) 427-1229 / C: (360) 490-9779 E-mail: hollyjb48@msn.com

#### FAR EASTERN WASHINGTON

Volunteer needed for this area



Hope you are all well and staying safe. It looks like we will be having a long summer ahead with very little camping. When we can get back to it, I know it will be fun.



I checked with Dogs for Better Lives and they are doing the same as the rest of us are – working from home and staying safe. The trainers have the dogs at home so that they can continue working with them.

Other news – there are improvements and updates to the original buildings and a new power grid to save on power bills. The best news of all is a new litter of lab puppies is due in a couple of weeks. How fun it would be to watch them grow.

Hope we can all get together in the fall. Keep safe and healthy.

**Markey Petersen** 

(360) 856-5577

troubles2@comcast.net





First, I hope all of our state Good Sam members are in good health. If you have lost a loved one for whatever reason, our condolences to you and all involved in your loss. This challenge we are all going through is hard, but hopefully, it will make us stronger. The number of Heroes stepping up during this crisis is amazing. It is humbling to see what people are accomplishing. To all the heroes, Thank You for all you are doing.

I understand if Fisher House is not on your mind. Our communities need of your support. We all need to do whatever we can to help our citizens in immediate need. I have not been able to reach either of the state Fisher Houses to find out if they are open. If they are open, I'm sure any amount

of assistance would be greatly appreciated.

If your chapter has raised money for either of the Fisher Houses, and you want to submit your donations, please send checks to me and I will personally make sure they are delivered to the JBLM and Puget Sound VA Fisher Houses. I ask that donations be sent to me so I can document your donations for this year. If you have already donated directly to one of the Fisher Houses, please send me an email with your chapter name, which house received the donation, the date and the amount of the donation. My contact information is listed on page 2 of the Happy Wheels.

Hope to see you all at Cashmere, God be willing. God bless you all.

Diana Supler-Varner

Cell: (360) 790-7366

Email: Dandm1603@comcast.net



# Ronald McDonald Houses of Washington www.rmhcinlandnw.org www.rmhcseattle.org



We are starting a New Year and none of us could have imagined this Coronavirus happening. My husband and I had a campfire in the backyard but it was too cold and windy. Just not the same without all our camping friends. Hopefully we will be together soon.

Ronald McDonald House, for the health and well-being of guest families, staff and the communities served, decided to immediately stop accepting new families. The families that are currently there are staying but have no access to the common rooms or kitchen. Meals are brought to their rooms. They are heavily dependent on donations at this time to meet their needs.

I have received two donations while we were snow birding in Arizona. (Both from Good Sam Golden Campers.) Thank you so much.

Families have now also moved into the Spokane 34 room campus house expansion. It more than doubled their space.

Both places can use monetary donations to help feed everyone and provide for their necessary supplies. I hope we will be together before the year is done. I have never cooked so much in my life. We will continue to shelter in place as long as is needed. I hope everyone stays healthy. Thanks for your continued support.

Kathy West (253) 564-1829

Email: kj.west@comcast.net

## A Word From Our Secretary:

Hello, my name is Ron Kelley.

I am the man who replaced Ron Belden, your former State Secretary, now retired from his post. Like the rest of you, I have not had a chance to go to any state functions this year. So, I am introducing myself now.

I have been learning how to use the Good Sam database and updating the database with new members and dues payments.

After 10 plus years as State Secretary, my predecessor Ron Belden, is ready for retirement. Some chapters are still sending their dues to him! Please NOTE: Send YOUR DUES TO THE NEW "Ron":

Ron Kelley PO Box 956 Deer Park, WA 99006

The "NEW" Enrollment Form can be downloaded on the State's website. You can find this NEW form located under Information/Message Area. You can also use your own chapter form, as long as it has the same information.

Check out the new information needed on your form.

Hopefully, we will have a September Campout in Cashmere this year and I will be able to meet all Chapter Secretaries. Until we meet in the near future, please, be safe, be well, be happy.

Ron Kelley State Secretary

PO Box 956

Deer Park, WA 99006

Cell: 360-739-0804



**Coffee in the morning is a ritual with our club.** The Club has three coffee urns that need to be transported <u>from</u> the Cashmere Campout, stored, and then brought to the Moses Lake Rally in 2021.

A "VOLUNTEER" is needed to take on this vital task so we all can get our morning fix.

Interested? E-mail Dave: etno1@hotmail.com.

There must be **someone** that can't go without their morning FIX. This is your chance to step up and take part in this time-honored tradition. Making the morning coffee is easily done by using timers that will automatically turn them on in the morning.



#### WASHINGTON STATE CAMPOUT in CASHMERE, WA.

## Friday, September 18th-Sunday 20th Chelan County Expo Center 5700 Westcott Drive

Yes



Last Name	First Name (s)	•	
Address	City	State/Zip	Ph#
E-Mail	Want Confirmation Ye	Chapter (s)	Member at Large
Do you need handicap parking? This is First Come, First Served. <u>Plantage</u>	Yes lease display your Handicap si	ign in the windshield for t	he Wagon Master.
Registration fee Cover	s Fri. & Sat. Nights	Amount I	Due # Extra People
1 Rig/2 Persons	\$70.00 (US funds)	s	# Pets
1 Rig/1 Person	\$62.00 (US funds)	\$	
Extra Person	\$10/person (US funds)	\$	Daily walk-on rate is \$35.00 per
Circle Extra Night(s) You Plan to A	Attend = \$35.00 per night —	<b>→</b> \$	day/couple (for those not camping).
Monday Tuesday	Wednesday Thursday	Total \$	по саприду.
mail no later than 5 days from the start of the event.  I/we understand the Washington State Good Sam Organization has taken reasonable safety precautions and I/we accept full responsibility for the welfare of our units and all person in our unit while attending the Washington State campout.  Signature X			
Date Rec./Check #/Amount Due?		Refund date/Amt/Check #	
Check the state website at <a href="www.washingtonstategoodsams.com">www.washingtonstategoodsams.com</a> for updated event news. RV parking 8:00-5:00, for exceptions contact the Wagon Master Ron & Doreen Adams at 360.224.6183 or email at <a href="doreen50@yahoo.com">doreen50@yahoo.com</a> .			
Signature is required at the check-in gate when you arrive. You must also register inside the event building. Please check your program for registration times.			
If you wish to park with friends you must arrive together. Water, sewer and power are included at your site.			
For other questions call or e-mail State Director Dave Cluett: 206-718-3944 / etno1@hotmail.com			



Donations for the local food bank will be collected at this event.

#### **VOICES OF OUR LOCAL CHAPTERS**

#### Cariboo Trails Sams Submitted by Bob Chiles

WOW, who would have expected what we are experiencing with COVID-19!

I'm pretty sure all Good Sam clubs are in the same mode as Cariboo Trail Good Sam members, and that is doing our part to minimize and ultimately eliminate the effect of the coronavirus.

To date, we have our 2020 campouts planned with locations determined. We are looking forward to the time when we will be able to gather as Good Samers and friends.

Our prayers go out to those who have been tragically affected by the virus. We pray for all to grow and survive in this road of life, and for all of us to remain strong and healthy.

#### **Good Guy Sams**

Submitted by Barbara Smith

Well of course we are all home, mostly anyway, doing jobs we have put off for years, maybe, like cleaning drawers, closets, garages etc.

In our club the Good Guy Sams, we have been in contact with chain emails or texts about what is going on in our life and homes. Many are working on their yards, weather permitting, some are building additions to their homes, some are selling their houses, one bought a home and is filling it up with stuff, some have taken on jobs for temp agencies and one drives a big old truck off and on - delivering important items and some of us are yearning for the wineries to open back up.

Some of us have been ill and have had surgeries, but in the end we are all together in this time of Conoravirus.

We will look forward to the day when things are open again and the sickness goes away. Until then, stay home, stay safe and keep in touch with your friends. It only takes a minute to call and say hello and you may make that person's day.

#### Valley Drifters Good Sams Submitted by Lloyd Hartley

What a year this has turned out to be! Our Chapter had all kinds of outings planned but, we are, for the most part, self-quarantining. We thought 2012 was bad when our Cashmere state outing was cancelled due to forest fires. Now the weather is beautiful and the skies are clear and we sit at home for the most part wishing we could get out and enjoy our beautiful state. Almost forgotten is the exorbitant cost of getting new license tabs.

A few of our members did get to parks on the coast and on Hood Canal before state parks closed for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and reported great wildlife sightings and clamming. For those of us who were unable to get out, our clams will have to come from cans. It was really disappointing for our past Chapter president and current State director Dave Cluett to have to cancel the Lynden and Moses Lake state outings. He and Dee put a lot into making those outings a success only to have to cancel them due to the governor's edict.

Valley Drifters had a party scheduled in March to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of our Chapter. We were founded in March 1970, so we are as old as the Good Sam National Organization. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our party due to the limitation of group meeting and dining size. The good thing is that we still have plenty of good ideas for outings when all the restrictions are lifted and the nation reawakens from this terrible pandemic.

If you are looking for a fun, active chapter, contact Dorothy Hartley at 253-631-5100 or at <a href="hartley90@comcast.net">hartley90@comcast.net</a>. We invite you to join us for an outing to check us out.



#### **Roamin Wheels**

Submitted by Iva Metz

JANUARY - We held our usual luncheon meeting at the Pancake House, where we were joined by our Asst. Directors, Ron and Doreen Adams.

Our Wagon Master (Rita) gave a report on the upcoming tour of Filson Clothing Mfg. on January 21st. Several of our members enjoyed that tour. This Company was started in the 1800's by one man with a dream. He saw a need for good strong clothing during the gold rush. Some of the clothing designs have not changed since the early days of that company. The clothing is so rugged that they have lasted 30-50 years. They would also repair any item that you purchased, no matter the age of that item. They make clothes, bags, pack backs, etc. Those items are shipped all over the world.

FEBRUARY - At our luncheon, Jan Harris informed us that some of the members were going to tour the Lemay-America's Car Museum in Tacoma.

The ones that went on that tour really enjoyed seeing hundreds of restored and maintained vehicles from every era. One of the most unique cars was a 1918 Liberty Cadillac. Wouldn't it have been something to be able to ride in that car way back then. You know the ones that did would have had a lot of money, and would be dressed for the occasion, can't you just imagine?

MARCH & APRIL - Our luncheon meetings were cancelled, because of the Coronavirus. March was the month we were to collect items for the Ronald McDonald House. That was not possible so our Treasurer (John) sent checks to both our charities and they could buy what they needed.

Who knows how things will work out so our Chapter can get back to normal. We hope and pray that we will all stay well.

#### **Good Sam Sneekers**

Submitted by Diane LaRue

Hope everyone out there in Happy Wheels land are keeping safe and healthy as you do your best to stay home.

We here at Good Sam Sneekers are doing the same. We've had our three meetings this year so far before everything went askew because of the COVID-19 virus. As of now we have canceled our meetings and campouts for the months of April and May and a good possibility of June if things do not get better.

#### Sandy Sams

Submitted by Phyllis Sievert

February 5, 2020 was a "meeting" of nine of our Moses Lake Sandy Sams members at Bob and Pat Barker's house in Yuma, Arizona.

- 1. Photo: L to R: Dick Casperson, Al and Cheri Wallace, Mike and Lee Lihou, Bob Baker, (Pat Baker is missing), Phyllis Sievert and center, Marie Casperson.
- 2. Photo: L to R: Dick Casperson, (Marie Casperson is missing) Al & Cheri Wallace, Mike and Lee Lihou, Bob and Pat Baker and Phyllis Sievert.

We had a wonderful reunion. That's all the news, until our first campout in April in Washington!





#### **Sounder Sams**

Submitted by Gitta Brown

Well, this is turning out to be one heck of a year so far – it's like living in an alternate Universe! Our Group had its usual Christmas party in December, followed by a dinner in January (without a regular meeting), and White Elephant gift exchange. And we all know what happened after that!

All monthly meetings were cancelled for now, and so far no outings have been scheduled for 2020. Those of our Group calling themselves Sounder Sams South (Yuma) on the other hand started the year with their usual fun gatherings, potlucks and Happy Hours. They even observed the monthly Men's Breakfast, and for Valentine's Day went to Laughlin, NV for 2 nights, enjoyed a Jet Boat Ride on Lake Havasu, crossed London Bridge, and spent some time shopping and eating. And some of the more adventurous members went out into the desert to keep their Jeep happily purring across some major rocks.

They kept us Northerners entertained (and a bit envious) posting photos of beautiful sunsets on Facebook. But after one last dinner together at a nice restaurant they all hunkered down, observing social distancing rules, posting photos of one couple sitting at a huge picnic table all by themselves. And some even joined the new craze of posting and sharing funny photos and videos on Facebook, mostly related and dedicated to – gasp – toilet paper and ensuing shortage thereof!

This year just about everyone decided to ride out the viral storm in Yuma, since they are not feeling the brunt of COVID-19 fallout as much as other areas, and not planning to return home until sometime in May. Can't say I blame them. But the good news is that so far nobody in our Group has caught that nasty virus – knock on wood!! One of our ladies is an avid quilter, and despite arthritic hands she and her Quilt Group has been supplying local medical facilities with approx. 1,500 hand sewn masks! Kudos to Dixie!!

We hope that everyone reading this will remain safe, and mostly sane!

#### **Three River Sams**

Submitted by Delphine Palmer

For this issue I think we should change our newsletter's name to "Not So Happy Wheels!" Our Chapter, like most, was looking forward to a summer of campouts, but the virus stopped those plans in short order. Fortunately, a few members were able to attend our March Campout at the Pendleton KOA. Although many businesses were closed, we still had fun visiting, playing cards and (SURPRISE) enjoying great pot luck meals together in the clubhouse. Besides campouts we also miss our Thursday morning breakfasts at Denny's. Even with everything going on around us, we were pleased to welcome new members, Ken and Star Knudsen.

Jeanette Jensen is generously using her home time sewing masks. She has made over thirty masks and plans to continue as long as they are needed. Thank you Jeanette for your generous donations to the community.

Even with this horrendous virus there are still some funny things happening. Several weeks ago, I noticed a young cat in the yard. With the virus, I didn't think anyone would feed the cat so I started putting food out each night. Although I didn't see him again, I did notice the "cat" certainly ate a lot! Last week around 3:00 a.m. I heard a noise on my porch. When I looked out I saw the biggest, healthiest SKUNK I have ever seen happily eating the cat food. Needless to say, I am no longer feeding the "cat." We also just learned the original, young cat we first sighted belongs to a new neighbor!

Lastly, several of our members have acquired new puppies. With all the time at home, I'm sure everyone will dedicate hours and hours to obedience training so our dogs will excel at the 2021 Moses Lake Rally Obedience Competition! Be Safe and God Bless.

#### **Daffodil Ramblers**

Submitted by Jerry Knudsen

It has been awhile since the Daffodil Ramblers included an article in Happy Wheels. Wish I could say it was because we were all so busy camping. But no.

Last season we were able to get out frequently and had some really good campouts. We discovered a few new places to go, and a couple that we probably won't go back to.

Over the winter we were able to gather as we normally do and share a good time. Then came this spring. We were looking forward to our first campout, rigs were ready to roll, well you know the rest of that story. Our rigs have become lawn ornaments. Personally I have thought of just putting a camp chair next to the rig and building a campfire in the driveway.

Though we are not able to meet or camp at the moment we do stay in contact through the various social media outlets. Not nearly as good as being around the campfire or the table, but for the moment it will suffice.

We did get a webpage up and running, check it out, it will give you something to do: <a href="https://daffodilramblers.wee-bly.com/">https://daffodilramblers.wee-bly.com/</a>. I know I have looked at all yours. When the highlight of the week is taking the garbage to the curb finding things to do to keep the mind occupied can be hard sometimes.

This is a good time though to go through our rigs and take care of those little things that you never seem to have time for. Or make that one improvement that you have wanted to but were always too busy. Maybe clean out the basement of your rig. You may find things that you didn't know were there.

We look forward to when we are able to get out again. To be able to see everyone again and share some good times. For the time being though, stay safe and stay healthy.

#### **What-Com Sams**

Submitted by Patricia Kazarow

In his poem, "To a Mouse," the 18<sup>th</sup> century Scottish poet and lyricist, Robert Burns penned, "The best laid schemes o'Mice an' Men Gang aft agley..." which has been adapted to the more familiar "The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry." His prescient lines certainly describe what happened to the What-Com Good Sams early this year.

In January, our luncheon meeting was canceled due to snow. In February, we discussed who would participate in the Moses Lake talent show. In March, we determined what we were going to do as hosts of the Lynden State Rally. Of course, both of these gatherings have now been canceled as has our first campout in April. We are still hopeful for June's gathering at Rasar State Park in Concrete and our remaining calendar of activities.

As we all know, the name "Good Sam" is based on the Biblical parable of the Good Samaritan who helped a fellow traveler in need. The "Club" continues to embrace this original spirit of assisting others in need.

Two members of our What-Com Sams have certainly helped our chapter carry this part of the Club's mission into the community by assisting our county with the COVID-19 pandemic response. Having completed CERT (Community Emergency Response Training) basic training in March of 2019, Max Archer (our President) and Ann Archer (our Treasurer) were called this spring to assist at the Whatcom Unified Command Center to mitigate the spread of the virus. The WUC Incident Commanders noted that between March 8 and April 8, in addition to providing essential PPE for healthcare workers and first responders, volunteers have "received and distributed tables, tents, sleeping pads/bags, personal hygiene items, food, portable toilets and handwash stations." For more information, check out their website @whatcomcovid.com.

Ann and Max certainly join others in our own chapter and in all of the chapters throughout Washington to carry that part of the Good Sam mission into our communities. Thank you for your service! We certainly look forward to returning to another part of our mission: to "bring RVers together" and enjoy our camping adventures.

## **Washington Good Sams Celebrate 50 Years!**



#### Deer Park White-Tail Sams

Submitted by Sharon Crump

Well, we are all experiencing a new phase of "living". Most of us are old enough to remember past trials, economic depression, natural disasters, health problems large and small, but nothing quite like this Coronavirus World shut down.

For many of us, it's given us time to reflect on the true meaning of life and what is really important. Many of us have examined our preparedness, or lack thereof, to weather the storm in all the ways it has disrupted our lives and the lives of those around us. Many of us have had an opportunity to strengthen our relationship with the Savior and draw on Him for strength and peace while things get sorted out. We face situations learning anew, what we can and can't control. Pretty amazing isn't it?

My husband and I live on the edge of a beautiful lake, so the shelter in place, hasn't been a burden at all. However, my husband's advanced dementia, and a broken ankle from his recent fall, have given us new challenges. But the Lord has blessed us, with amazing caregivers and friends to assist, our burdens are made lighter. We have experienced the Lord's tender mercies many times.

As I reach out to my fellow White Tails, we are all missing the wonderful luncheons and campouts, but each one has expressed a greater faith and appreciation for the lives that we have and are living. Greater resolve to serve each other. Greater desire to rejoice with gratitude for all the goodness that we've been blessed with each and every day, regardless of the world circumstances.

Prayers and blessing to each of our fellow "Good Sam" family. Look forward to seeing you in the near future.

#### **Fort Vancouver Sams**

Submitted by Gay Rochel

"It was the worst of times, it was the best of times" wrote Charles Dickens. We can all reflect on this in our current lives. Good things have come out of "sheltering in place."

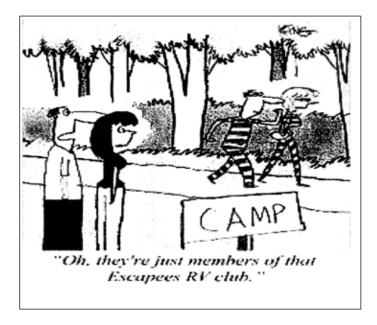
We held meetings in January and February, we cancelled our meeting for March. During the first two meetings of the new year, we accomplished a great deal. New officers were in place. Our new budget was approved. Wagonmaster, Wayne Davis distributed our campout schedule for 2020. We have added on a few extended campouts for those who wished to stay out longer. Doug and Bernie Bachelor developed a club calendar. It consists of all campouts and arrangements for same. It notes members birthdays, holidays and more. Doug and Bernie, we so admire and appreciate your ingenuity and generosity.

Our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is this year. We are developing a patch to signify this event. We have our Facebook page completed. We will be able to use the site not only for our pictures, but also for communication. We voted for the charities we wish to support for 2020 and they are: Aphasia Network, Fisher House and Dogs for Better Lives (formerly called Dogs for the Deaf). The March meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.

One other quote by Charles Dickens as we continue to miss family and friends: "Family need not only consist of merely those whom we share blood, but also for those whom we'd give blood."

It is time for a much lighter note. Don Rogers and Doug Bachelor have been forwarding many funny emails to us. Keep them coming guys. We in turn are sending them on to our family and friends.

I want to close by sharing a cartoon --



#### **Desert Drifters Sams**

Submitted by Renae Koop

Well...just like everyone else I am finding that 2020 is not going as planned. Our first two camping trips have already been canceled and at this point, we are hoping things change very soon!

So, instead of focusing on what we have not been able to do so far this year, I have been reflecting on some of the fabulous trips we have taken over the past years. Some of the most memorable trips have been simple and close by, while others have been longer journey's with longer stays.

One of the first trips I remember was a trip to Boardman, OR. Only one hour away from home, and not much to do but enjoy each other's company while we watched "snow" fly as the cottonwood trees bloomed. We also enjoyed several trips to beautiful and quaint Dayton, WA where we camped in the infield at the Fairgrounds during Mule Days. From our camping spots, we had a perfect view of the events in the arena. As part of Mule Days, we enjoyed a fabulous parade down Main Street and a Dutch-oven meal at the chuckwagon competition. There were our trips to Sisters, OR where we stayed at the beautiful Sisters Garden RV Park. We played Bocce Ball around the entire lake, enjoyed a Bloody Mary Bar with flamingos lighting up the trees, and one year we had a blast with "Christmas in July!" Then, of course, we can't forget the white-water jet boat trip through Hells Canyon.

One of the places we plan to return this summer is Osburn, ID, where on our last trip there we rode the gondola to the top of Silver Mountain and enjoyed dinner, drinks, and music.

And this is only a few of some fantastic trips we've taken.

So many great memories with great friends! I hope we can focus on the fun we've had, as well as our trips to come once we get back to "normal" whatever that may look like.

### Lilac City Sams

Submitted by Betty Higley

I hope everyone enjoyed Easter recently. Some set out a few decorations celebrating this special day.

Many people celebrated with kindness to another or made a video enhanced phone call to family and friends. We are stocking our RV's with the anticipation in hopes the May campout will be a go. I have even thought of camping in the motorhome for a day or two, and play the video "The Long Long Trailer" with Lucille Ball, giving us that sense of adventure, sit back and relax with popcorn, and enjoy camping at the campground called "Home – Beside the Home".



Our members: Bob and Lonni Olson moved to Spokane Valley and joined Lilac City Sams in 2018. Let's go back a few years. Bob and Lonni married in 1967. They reminisced about their camping trips to the desert with their dune buggy. Then there were Bob and Lonni's three boys and most often included the boys' friends. The teens spent hours at the beach surfboarding. Lonni remembers the mounds of eggs and lots of food she cooked for Bob and the teens, who are now adults with families of their own.

Bob had a toy hauler he converted into a camping trailer. They once camped by the beginning of the Rose Parade, and walked just one block to the Parade. San Elijo CA ST Park & Glamas (officially called Imperial Sand Dunes were a couple of their favorite places to visit. Bob made additions to this 12' trailer and he and Lonni still camp in it today. Their travels have been a lifetime of camping in many places including campouts with 3 different groups over the years.

Find time to keep in touch with members. It brings us together when we temporarily aren't able.

One final thought: It is good for the soul to have this group called "Good Sam Friends".

#### Tired and Retired

Submitted by Tammy Romanoff

We started out our 2020 camping season at Elma RV Park, In April we be checking out the crab festival in Westport staying at American Sunset Rv Park.

Our Wagon Master has done a great job and filled our schedule for this season.

- April 15-19 American Sunset RV Park
- June 4-7 We will be in Moses Lake for the State Rally
- July 22-26 Will find us in Tokeland and Bayshore RV
- Aug 23-29 We are going to Fidalgo Bay RV
- Sept 18-20 Cashmere for the State Rally
- Oct 21-25 We will be having a Spooktacular time at Midway RV Park, in Centralia
- Nov 12-15 We will end the camping season at Elma with our Thanksgiving weekend.

Don't let our name scare you away if you happen to be lucky like me and still work. Not all our members have retired those of us that still work are just tired.

If you would be interested in coming to any or all our campouts, we would love to have you.

You can Contact Our President Tammy Romanoff at 253-394-8930

Or Jo Boyett at Cell 206-818-4212 or Home 425-481-9208.



# The Good Sam Club Pledge

As a member of the Good Sam Club I pledge to give aid to others in need, respect nature and the environment, give back to the community and those less fortunate, treat others with dignity and respect, and to wear a smile (like Good Sam and Good Samantha's) and promote the pledge of the Good Sam Club to others.





William & Tommi Addison Hoodsport, WA Hood Canal Sams

Paul & Kendall Eminger Spokane, WA Lilac City Sams

Charles & Vicki Bernert Silverdale, WA Sounder Sams Joe & Carol Robel Olympia, WA Tramper Sams

David Hansman Olympia, WA Single Sams of Washington

Dewey & Lori Honcoup Lynden, WA What-com's Good Sams Ron & Jerry Holtrop Lynden, WA What-com's Good Sams

Jerry & Carlene Adamowicz Vancouver, WA Member at Large

Vernon & Nancy Steward Burien, WA Valley Drifters

We are sorry to lose Play it Again Sams, but glad you are still with us!

Donna Fellows Steilacoom, WA Pam Lyyski Lakewood, WA Carol Thompson University Place, WA



#### Good Sam State/Provincial Director Program

#### Frequently Asked Questions

March 20, 2020

Q: Can I continue to host Good Sam state/provincial & individual chapter meetings?

A: At this time, all meetings should be cancelled.

Q: How does this impact my state/provincial rally?

A: All Good Sam State/Provincial rallies are to be cancelled. A note will be placed on GoodSam.com/Events that all 2020 Good Sam State/Provincial Rallies are postponed indefinitely.

Q: If I cancel my event, but cannot receive a refund, what should I do?

A: Event venues are diligently working with organizations to either provide a full refund or offer a credit towards a future event. Please inquire if the venue is willing to provide.

Q: Can I still get reimbursed for my expenses?

A: Effective March 20, 2020, reimbursement for Good Sam State/Provincial Director expenses will be paused. If you have expenses prior to Friday, March 20, 2020, please submit those as soon as possible. We will work to get everyone reimbursed. We will accept expenses for reimbursement through Friday, April 10, 2020.

Q: Will my complimentary memberships provided to me by the company remain active – Good Sam membership, Roadside Assistance, Travel Assist, Coast to Coast and Passport America?

A: All of these memberships will remain active until the date printed on your membership card.

Q: Can I still receive crewmember pricing when making a purchase at any Camping World or Gander RV & Outdoors Super Center?

A: Yes, your crewmember pricing will remain active.

Q: Can I still receive my Rally support funds in 2020, even though my event is being cancelled?

A: Since going forward all GS Rallies are cancelled funds, will not be available. If your state/province has already received their support, we encourage you to use the funds to support a charitable organization in your area during this time of need.

Q: This is an election year for my state/province, are we continuing with the elections?

A: The Good Sam State/Provincial Director program is paused until further notice. More updates will be available at a later time.

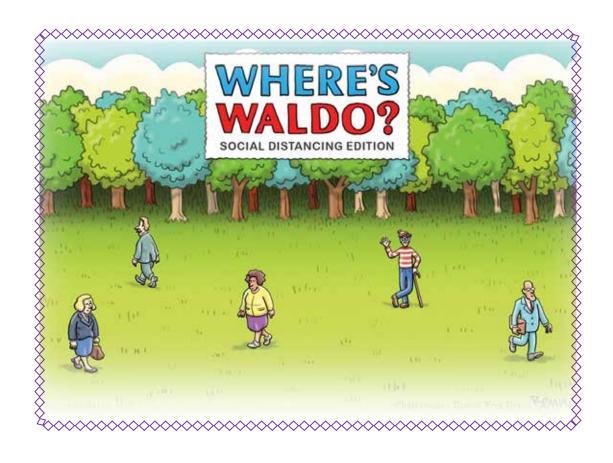
Q: When will the program begin again?

A: At this time, the program is paused until further notice. We will continue to send communication to the team as updates are available.



# Spread the Word: 10 Reasons to Join a Good Sam Chapter

- 1. Group Campouts / Get Togethers
- 2. Group Campout Benefits
- 3. An Extended Family
- 4. Chapter Activities (Índoor/Outdoor Games, Etc.)
- 5. Strong State Organization Support
- 6. Meet New Friends (Everyone you know you met for the first time)
- 7. Helping Others
- 8. A Good Reason to Use Your RV
- 9. RV Help From Chapter "Experienced Campers" 10. FUN!



# Driving the Happy Wheels News-bus!

Barbara Erickson, Happy Wheels Editor

Thank you to everyone who submitted articles for this month's newsletter! It has been quite an interesting 2020 to date. Postponements of meetings, campouts, gatherings of any type squashed. We are all hoping to salvage some sort of RV travel yet this year. Hope springs eternal.

We should also be thankful for the first responders and the workers - health care, grocery store, and those within the supply chains. Steve and I have joined the 8:00pm "give them a cheer" as we step outside onto the porch and give a round of applause to all.

Stay Home. Stop the Spread. Save Lives.

**LOGO:** This quarter's issue focuses on the Blue Mountain Sams logo. The story is that in 1986 a group split off from an existing Good Sam group. They enjoyed camping in the Blue Mountains and each other so they decided to get together to form the Blue Mountain Sams of Washington -- thus Evergreen State image with Blue Mountains in eastern corner! Short story but proud to be.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** You may have noticed more photographs accompanying the articles lately. I am including photgraphs as I have room. Remember we have a **300 word limit**. If I have to increase the size of your column to fit photos in, I will do so as **space permits**! or I will inevitably have to omit the photo. Space limitations also determine the layout of the articles and size of the photographs. Resolution and size of the photograph you send determine the quality.

**STATE EVENTS:** Spread the word... State campouts are fun!



Depending on the outcome of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis we may still have the Washington State Campout in Cashmere on September 18 – 20th.

Dee and I are starting to make a fun agenda that everyone will enjoy. We have a few new ideas so come and see what we have planned, take part in the events and have some fun. Remember please register EARLY. Registration on page 5.

WA State Good Sams Happy Wheels 14306 SE 49th Street Bellevue, WA 98006



The Washington State Good Sam Newsletter is the quarterly published voice for Washington State Good Sams Chapter Members. At Large Members may subscribe to a nominal fee by contacting the Good Sam State Secretary.

# CHANGES OF ADDRESS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE SECRETARY AT THE ADDRESS ON THE STAFF PAGE (PAGE 2)

Submission deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October for publishing the first week of February, May, August and November.

#### **ADVERTISING FEES**

Fees are for Copy Ready material to be published four consecutive times. Copy of Newsletter is included. For Sale and Want Ads are not accepted. Make Checks payable to Washington State Good Sams and mail check along with copy of ad to State Director Dave Cluett. (Fees are based on four issues, payable in advance.)

1/2 Page (approx \* 5" x 8") \$150.00 1/4 Page (approx \* 5" x 4") \$100.00 1/8 Page (approx \* 3.5" x 2") \$50.00

Newsletter is 8.5"x 11". Ads will require lock-up/margins.

For questions or more information, please contact: State Good Sam Director email: etno1@hotmail.com

Mail to: Dave Cluett 11919 NE 140th PL Kirkland, WA. 98034