

SeLoW Newsletter



Southeast Chapter Loners on Wheels

June-July 2014

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Links

SeLoW Website: <http://selows.lonersonwheels.com/>. Our Campout Schedule, Newsletters, and links to photo slide shows and photos are on this site.

Southeast Lows on Facebook: In Facebook, enter *Southeast Lows* in the Search box. Any member of our group on Facebook can post campout pictures.

Shutterfly: <http://www.selows.shutterfly.com>. Once on the site, click Photos and Videos, then click the first photo for a larger view. You can click Slide Show or scroll through by clicking the arrows. Any member can post campout photos on our Shutterfly site.

Membership

The updated Membership Roster (dated May 19, 2014) is attached to the email along with this newsletter. Two people joined at the May campout in Pigeon Forge: **Annette Whitner**, Sebring, FL; and **Carlynn Simmons**, Bonaire, GA. **Claudia Giddens**, Haines City, FL, who had joined previously has also been added to the roster. Total membership as of May 19, 2014 is 56. One of our long-time members, **Betty Howard**, will no longer be camping, and will have her motor home for sale. She came by the campground to see us at the June campout in Wilson. Unfortunately, we were out for the day and missed her. Hope she can stop by another time when we're camping nearby. Another long-time member, **Norma Owen**, has been having health problems this year and hasn't be able to camp. She had pneumonia and then blood problems about a month ago and has been in and out of the hospital and rehab ever since. When I talked with her today (6/29), she thought maybe she would be able to go home in about a week. She's at Abbots Creek Center in Lexington, NC.

LoWs 45th Anniversary Rally in Sedalia, MO

The LoW Newsletter May-June issue has information about the Anniversary Rally, October 1-5, 2014 in Sedalia, MO. The theme will be *Back in Time*, and they are asking for chapters to volunteer for various activities and to choose a theme and decorate their tables. Where is Bobbi when we need her--oh yeah, in Alaska. I've only been to one RV rally (the Citrus Rally last year). We need to discuss this. Also what our plans are for the trip. Our schedule has us arriving a day early for the day trip to Branson. **The deadline for registration to include the day trip is July 8. Registration for the rally, not including the day trip, is August 30.** Our schedule has us traveling from 9/21-29 with various stops on the way. **Please**

email me if you plan to go to the September campout in Franklin, NC and/or to Sedalia, MO, and let's get a conversation started about what stops everyone wants to make. I've never been to Branson and would like to spend more than one day there, so my preference is to make Branson a stop on the way to Sedalia. I haven't decided whether I'll go to the Franklin campout. Let's get some emails started among everyone planning to go to the rally so we can make definite plans. (However I'll be in Charlotte July 6-13 with no WiFi at the sites, so I'll check email when I can.) I talked with Pat Moore today; she plans to join us on the trip to Sedalia, and neither of us plan to go on the day trip on 9/30.

BTW, Norma Owen reminded me that this is also the 40th anniversary of SeLoWs. SeLoWs usually has a big celebration every five years, but it was overlooked this year. Maybe we'll make up for it in 2019.

Our Alaska Travelers

Four of our members, Bobbi Harden, Daryl Sponseller, Linda Kendall, and Steve Cohn, are on an Alaska trip originally planned by Steve. However, Bobbi, Daryl, Linda, and others went a different way from Steve's route through the Northwest Territory. Bobbi is posting a journal and pictures on <http://goodsamclub.mytripjournal.com/2014Alaskatrip>. If you want to receive email notices when Bobbi posts, click "Request Updates" when you go to the site. Steve is posting to his blog: <http://whereintheworldiswaldoimeansteven.blogspot.com/>.

Campout May 4-11, Eagles Nest Campground, Pigeon Forge, TN

We had a great campout in Pigeon Forge; photos are on our Facebook page.. We had 18 people for all or part of the campout. 14 members: Bobbi Harden, Bob Hollup, Cheryl Love, John Henry Markham, Pat Moore, Linda Kendall, Joyce Nesbit, Sandie Burns, Wal Kafitz, Annette Whitner, Dorothy Spang, Carlynn Simmons, Jeannine Fontaine, and Claudia Giddens; and 4 guests from Florida who joined us after an RV rally in Perry, GA: Cheryl Youngblood, Bob Kelley, Bobbe Walrath, and Bonnie Wilpon.

You'll notice that we have a new secretary, Jeannine Fontaine, elected at the business meeting in Pigeon Forge on 5/6.

Because Bobbi and Linda were leaving on Wednesday for their Alaska trip and some attendees didn't arrive until Tuesday afternoon, we did most of our activities in groups of three to six. The two shows most of us attended together were the Smoky Mountain Mystery Dinner Theater, where Jeannine participated as the biggest Elvis fan, and the Comedy Barn. Instead of a pot luck dinner, on Tuesday evening, we had pizza, John Henry's delicious spare ribs, Annette's mashed potatoes, Wal's pastries, ice cream, and birthday cake for Bobbi and John Henry.

We made good use of the Fun Time Trolley to get around; and at various times, most of us went to Dollywood, visited shops in the Old Mill Square and ate at the Old Mill Restaurant, and went on the Winery Trail. Some of us went to Cades Cove in Smoky Mountain National Park, and walked around The Island, a new shopping area still under construction. Some went to flea markets and Outlet Malls.

Campout June 1-8, Kampers Lodge of America, Wilson, NC

We had only five members attend: Jimmie Crawford and Cheryl Love (co-hosts), Edith Skinner, John Henry Markham, and Jeannine Fontaine. We had a guest for Sunday Happy Hour, Joe Martin, a single RVer who was staying in the campground, and we joined him for a campfire at his RV after dinner. Although we were only five, and then four (Jeannine had to leave Wednesday morning because of her business), the campground owners and staff were very attentive and nice to us. We had exclusive use of their rec room the entire week. In the evenings, we played miniature golf, darts, dominoes (Cheryl

brought), Qwirkle (Jeannine brought), and Wii (the campground set up for us). Because Jeannine left on Wednesday morning, her impression of Wilson probably wasn't as good as everyone else's because the first time we went into Wilson, we went through a run-down area to reach downtown and then found many shops closed and boarded up when we got there. Also, while waiting for us in the car with the windows rolled down, John Henry was approached by a lady of the afternoon. On subsequent trips downtown, we went different routes and saw more prosperous areas of town. All the small towns we visited, although with historic and beautifully kept old buildings, most had many closed and boarded-up storefronts and the towns seem to be dying.

After the rough start, we did find plenty to do. We went to the warehouse where Vollis Simpson's whirligigs are being restored and then to his farm where a few originals remain. We went to the Rose Garden, Edith and I went to the Botanical Gardens and to the Baseball Museum, Jimmie and John Henry went to Lizard Lick Towing, we went to Wilson Arts Center, the Freeman Round House, the Antique Barn and Hobby Shop and to the field where they fly remote controlled airplanes, the Ava Gardner Museum in Smithfield, the Country Doctor Museum in Bailey, Old Atkinson Mill in Selma, the Rocky Mount Train Station and the Rocky Mount Greenway Trail.

We ate lunch out most every day at some good and interesting restaurants, and Jimmie and John Henry often ate breakfast and sometimes dinner out. Because we were so few, we decided not to have a pot luck dinner. Some of the restaurants we enjoyed were Parkers Barbecue, Bill's Grill, Robin's Roost in Selma, Dick's Hot Dogs (a local favorite), and the Bailey Cafe.

2014 Campout Schedule

Tell the campground that you're with SeLoWs when you make a reservation, and also when you arrive if you don't have an assigned site. When you've made a reservation, please let the host know. If there is no host, let Cheryl Love know.

- July 6–13 Tom Johnson's Camping Center at the Charlotte Motor speedway.
<http://www.charlottespeedway.com/camping/daily/>
 To make reservations, call 704-455-4445. 10-15 sites will remain on hold for us unless they sell out. July will be hot in Charlotte, but we have two canopies for shade and will be going to many air-conditioned attractions. **Cancellation policy: they do not give refunds (only credit toward a future stay), but you can give a deposit as long as you pay the full amount *before* your arrival.** Jimmy Crawford and Cheryl Love will be Co-Hosts and will be in the first two of our group's sites. \$23/day, \$161/wk, pull-throughs, full hook-ups, WiFi access at the check-in cabin.
- Aug 3–10 Croft State Park, 450 Croft State Park Road, Spartanburg, SC,
 Make reservations through reserveamerica.com or call 866-345-7275.
 Water/electric, \$150.92/wk; with SC senior discount \$102/wk.
 Canoe/kayak and fishing boat rentals are available; 15-mile bike trail. **This is a popular campground in the summer, so reserve early. Sites 28, 30, 34, 36, and 37 have been reserved thus far.** Co-hosts: David Poole and Sharon Hatch.
- Sept 14–21 Cartoogechaye Creek Campground, 91 No Name Road, Franklin, N.C.28734.
 828-524-8553, <http://www.franklin-chamber.com/cartoogechaye/>
 Passport America, \$108/Week for 30amp; 50 amp +\$1.00/day.

Sept 21–29

Caravan to Sedalia, MO. with various stops on the way. Email Cheryl Love if you plan to go, so we can start making plans for the trip.

Sept 29–Oct 5

Sedalia MO. LoW's 45th Anniversary Rally, <http://www.lonersonwheels.com/rallies.html>. The deadline for the registration form to be turned in to include the Branson day trip is July 8; registration for the Anniversary Rally not including the day trip is August 30th. *An alternate October campout for those not attending the Anniversary Rally will be determined at a later date.*