



## **TOW Line**

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**T**eardroppers of **O**regon and **W**ashington  
*Serving those who **are** or **wannabe** teardroppers*

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### **NEXT UP - TEARDROPS AT ANTIQUE POWERLAND**

We're going to have a campout at Antique Powerland the first weekend of August. Move in on Friday (for \$5) and stay Saturday for the famous Steamup. That's August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Located at I-5 exit #163 just north of Salem, Oregon, you drive west about a quarter mile to the entrance. It can't be missed. The property is 62 acres, so drive in on the I-o-n-g driveway directly towards a Texaco sign seen in the distance. Turn right at the station to the camp. We will be easy to see from there.

Entrance to the grounds is free, as arrangements have been made at the main gate. In fact, if you show up before 9:00 AM on Saturday to enjoy the Steamup festivities, you get two passes onto the grounds. All 14 museums on the grounds will be in full operation all weekend. We will be part of the event, as we will be displaying our treasured teardrop trailers as part of a car show. You can call up Antique Powerland, Brooks, Oregon on the Internet to view all the activities going on.

This is a dry camp with no hookups. A three-minute walk brings you to a fully operational public restroom (with showers) or close by there is a Porta-Potty. We camp on a very lush lawn that's part of the Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum.

For more information, call or e-mail **Marty or Katie Boehme** at **503-632-6563** or [teardrops@bctonline.com](mailto:teardrops@bctonline.com).

### **SPRING FLING CELEBRATES 10 YEARS!**

**By Rod and Trudy Glassett**

Despite rising fuel costs and a not-so-promising weather forecast for Memorial Day weekend, Spring Fling #10 at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton, Washington, was well attended. We had evening temperatures in the mid-40s and a daytime high in the low 70s one day. Clouds hung low on the nearby mountain and we did have rain, but the picnic shelter and our canopies

proved to be nearly rainproof! The sun shone long enough for us to dry out our camping gear before we packed up to leave.

Spring Fling activities included the traditional Friday night Bingo, Saturday trips to Randle and Packwood for the swap meets, team Family Feud Saturday night, Saturday and Sunday night potlucks, Sunday pancake breakfast (prepared by the men), the "Tech Talk" Sunday night and Monday French toast (prepared by the women). **Irma and Larry Reed** provided some "pre-Olympic" entertainment with their puppets Saturday night. Sunday morning they held a non-traditional church service with "Cowboy Carl" on the topic of "restoration." The Cowchips entertained a large crowd, including some visitors, Sunday afternoon. The toe-tapping music held our attention and especially that of one seven year-old young man, who had to buy their CD to share with his grandpa. **Bob Johnson**, band member and a fellow camper promised a new CD for next year.

New this year was a Dutch oven seminar by our own DO experts Mike Burton and Jack Jacobson. They explained the equipment needed, the process of using the briquettes to achieve the desired cooking temperature, gave many suggestions, answered questions and handed out basic DO cookbooks. We consider this seminar a success because for the Sunday potluck, we had nearly 30 Dutch oven dishes-many by first time DO cooks! **Gretchen and Clyde DeMoss** donated a DO cookbook and a leather apron to two lucky drawing winners.

Several points of interest this year:

\*Fewer S'mores were made and eaten.

\*More people attended the "Tech Talk" and included quite a few women (maybe because it was held around the campfire!)

\*The young people (ages 7-21) requested another round of team Family Feud on Sunday night.

\*The longest distance traveled was 555 miles by **Grant Whipp** from Redding, CA. Danny Fantoni created another beautiful handmade wooden backscratcher for this award.

\*The youngest camper was **Shaelyn Abbott** at 3 months old!

\*We had 11 newbies this year, including **Mike and Patti Lama**, TD wannabe's, who stayed in a nearby motel so they could participate in our activities and check out the variety of teardrop trailers.

\*Two recently wed couples attended our event.

\*Since **Sandy and Jerry Hillburn's** tow vehicle was kaput, they camped in the back of **Thea and Dave Nutter's** truck so they could attend. Now, that's dedication to vintage trailer fun!

\*37 teardrops were present, including 2 from 1946 and one brand-new 2008 Adventure Tear.

\* Other trailers models were: Oasis, Aloha, Frolic, Argosy, two Shastas, Sport Ranger, homebuilt canned ham, two fifth wheels and several tents.

\*Campers were from BC, WA, ID, OR, and CA for a total of 100 people, plus several guests for meals.

\*A "Miss You" greeting card for **Ed Colvin** was passed around for everyone to add their best wishes.

\*Several campers donated door prizes and we had some SPECIAL prizes that we had drawings for.

\***Ed Ester** brought "restored" butcher and serrated knives to give to campers.

\***Marty and Katie Boehme** won a prize for camping at Spring Fling the most times (9 out of 10).

\***Rod and Trudy** were presented with a hand-crafted wooden plaque of a vintage car towing a teardrop-

a treasure to mount on the wall. Thank you!

Thanks to all who helped set up, clean up, cook, lead worship and the seminar, donated prizes, showed their trailers to guests and were just great people! Spring Fling wouldn't happen without you!!

We look forward to another terrific Spring Fling next Memorial Day weekend. Comments and suggestions are welcome at [glassettgang@juno.com](mailto:glassettgang@juno.com).

## FUN ADVENTURE AWAITS YOU AT "NW TREK WILDLIFE PARK"

By Katie Boehme

For those attending Spring Fling, I'd like to recommend a delightful day's excursion to **NW TREK** near Eatonville, Washington. After a 40-minute scenic drive from Morton, you arrive at this 723 acre forested park

The land is just beautiful - with lakes, mature deciduous and evergreen trees and vistas of snow-capped mountains. Here walking trails and excursion trams, with huge sliding windows, help you view NW native animals in their natural habitat. The tram sightings are like riding on a hiking trail. The narrow one-way road means you don't see the road or any traffic- only green and animals - many times right next to the tram or 10 feet away. I have never been so close to elk herds, caribou, bighorn sheep, and buffalo and deer (also moose) in a free-roam area.

The forested walking trails also gave you views into natural, treed habitats (no enclosure in sight) to view wolves, bobcats, eagles, raccoons, red foxes and coyotes. You can also see many varieties of birds (swans, geese, osprey, owls and ducks) while riding on the tram..

Marty and I love nature and greatly enjoyed our visit there. They also have the Fir Bough café and a gift shop selling nature and animal items. A very FUN day, seeing well over a hundred animals!!! We were blessed with free admission from tickets won at the Spring Fling and thank our benefactors **Steve and Nancy Bagley** who volunteer at the Trek. The Trek is open 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM on weekends. Google NW Trek Wildlife Park to visit their web site for more info.

## MT. BAKER VINTAGE TRAILER RALLY

By Pat Ewing

All teardrops, regardless of vintage, are invited to attend our annual Vintage Trailer Rally being held in Deming, Washington from August 14<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>. This year, we are honored to have the author of the "hot off the press" book "*Teardrops and Tiny Trailers*" attend the rally. He is **Doug Keister** who not only wrote the text but also photographed all the trailers seen in the book. Many of the owners are willing to autograph the pages showing their trailers.

The rally will cost \$10 a day for dry camping. The rally fee is \$25 per unit for the four-day event. Early arrivals are most welcome. To get there, exit I-5 at #255 in Bellingham. Head east on the Mt. Baker Hwy (SR 542) towards Mt. Baker until you pass mile marker #9. Then at the bottom of a hill turn left onto Cedarville road. In about a mile, the Deming Log Show Grounds will be on the left.

We've scheduled lots of eating and visiting. Thursday night, you're on your own.

Friday night is potluck at the picnic shelter. Afterwards, local author Gen Des Jardins, will give a presentation on his new book "Asses to Airstreams". The book covers his various travels (maybe by burro?) with pictures. Copies are available and can be signed by the author

Saturday, there will be a swap meet/flea market at 1:00 PM. Please bring any household or trailer items, craft/hobby items and /or any miscellaneous items you'd like to sell at this event. Then, for supper, you are on your own. This is an excellent time to eat and visit with your neighbors.

After supper, the rally's main event takes place with a dessert "social" with Doug Keister. Doug will give a presentation of his new book and will sign all purchased copies.

Sunday is pack up and leave after saying your "good-byes" to old and new friends.

For more information, please contact **Joanne** or me at 360-966-4253 or

[pre47airstream@aol.com](mailto:pre47airstream@aol.com).

## **DONATION FROM A "HAPPY CAMPER"**

What a wonderful surprise!! TOW received an anonymous and benevolent gift from one of our teardrop family of friends. It is a very welcome donation that will allow us to support more teardrop functions in the Pacific Northwest as well as publish the flyer many of us hand out to interested visitors asking about our trailers and activities.

TOW was founded in 2002 with the name registered with the state of Oregon. With this registration, we were able to acquire a fee-free checking account with the Bank of America (because we fit into the "club" category). The account has been used to support gatherings and to help sponsoring hosts defray some of their costs. The funds also support the mailings of the TOW Line (for the 20 + who have no e-mail), printing costs of the free TOW brochures with information about purchasing /building a tear, pay our Oregon state registration, pay to re-up our web site name and other TOW activities.

Funds in the account use to come from providing a themed teardrop display at the annual Portland, Northwest Car Collectors Show. Each year, all participating car clubs and TOW shared in the net profits from the show. TOW expenses were covered as well.. Profits were dropping each year and TOW stepped aside from displaying our trailers at the show. This thousand-dollar donation is a wonderful blessing for helping fund the TOW account.

## **LAID BACK WEEKEND AT THE KELSON KAMPOUT**

By **Linda Kelson**

Our weekend started on Thursday when we arrived to set things up at our folk's Roslyn, Washington property. That night, we ate at the Village Pizzeria which is the best in town. More teardroppers showed up the next day.

The first thing we did on Friday was a run into Cle Elum to check out the museums and garage sales. Later, the Masdens and Birleys arrived and set up. We walked into town and had snacks and drinks at The Brick. After the Glassetts had set up camp, we all walked into town for dinner. You can get a drift of how big Roslyn is - everything is within walking distance.

Saturday morning was for me and my spin at making biscuits and gravy. It went OK as everyone got full. Dave Snow and sidekick Ed showed up on their way to Cle Elum. During the day, I baked a cake that turned out to be one expensive cake by the time I added everything into it. That was for supper. Meanwhile, we mostly went into town for food and drinks.

**Glen Leighton** showed up later Saturday. He had taken lots and lots of pictures at the Spring Fling. We all enjoyed them before drifting off to bed.

Sunday morning featured breakfast made from a recipe I got from the Rachael Ray cooking TV show. Then, everyone packed up and left for home.

It was a very relaxed weekend with lots of visiting with some choosing to read or nap. We really like this type of campout with our teardrop family of friends. It is a lot of work for such a small group, so we might not have it at Roslyn anymore. We'll see what our health issues are next year and maybe we can have it at our place in Covington.

## **GREAT CAMPOUT IN STORE FOR US AT LeMAY THIS YEAR**

When some of us wear out LeMay tee shirts, we're often hit up, "I've heard about LeMay, can you tell me more?" Indeed, this collection of automobile and transportation related memorabilia has no equal in the world. It's located on two sites in Tacoma with shuttle buses (often a London Double-Decker) taking us from one place to the other. We teardroppers can view the collection "up close and personal" at our annual campout the weekend of the LeMay Open House. This year it will be Friday night August 29<sup>th</sup> to camp overnight. Most stay Saturday night too.

Our hosts for the event, **Pat and Jan Estes**, ask us to register with them (see the attachment or the TOW website ([www.teardroptrailers.org](http://www.teardroptrailers.org) for \$10). We're reminded to mail in the registration by August 11<sup>th</sup> to Pat Estes, 13504 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. S, Tacoma, WA 98444. To help

out with hosting the Open House, we have to also register with the LeMay website [http://www.lemaymuseum.org/carshow\\_volunteer.php](http://www.lemaymuseum.org/carshow_volunteer.php)). This is for a chance for volunteer duty when LeMay plays host to thousands of visitors. Teardroppers take pride in manning all the volunteer posts in the "Big Green" building on the Marymount Campus.

The rewards are many. When we check in at the volunteer table, we get a collectable tee shirt and either your choice of baseball cap or flat hat. We also have lunch and dinner provided on Saturday. The tee shirt is the ticket for these meals as well as the bus rides. Public visitors pay to view the collection, but teardroppers don't. Our teardrop hosts provide a Continental Breakfast on Saturday morning. That morning, we get up early to get ready. You'll be provided with a complete information packet when you arrive.

Our campsite and display of teardrops is located on LeMay's Marymount Campus in the Spanaway area in south Tacoma. Exit I-5 at #127 driving east towards Mt. Rainer. After driving about three miles, get off at Pacific Ave. Go south about three more miles to a major intersection with 152<sup>nd</sup> Street on the left and Military Road on the right. Turn left and go east a few blocks to the main Marymount entrance (look for a sign and address of 325). Turn left again onto the main grounds and proceed left to our camping area.

## **TOW NAMETAGS, PATCHES AND JACKETS ARE AVAILABLE**

At this year's Midwinter Luncheon the new TOW patch went on sale. It was designed by **Herb and Elaine Kipp** and featuring the cartoon-like TOW logo. It can be seen on the TOW website [www.teardroptrailers.org](http://www.teardroptrailers.org). The new nametag is shown on the site also. Several orders were made at the Luncheon and Spring Fling. A couple of the patches are still available.

Along with these two items, a jacket for both sexes can be purchased with the patch sewn on the back. But, many prefer to sew the patch on a favorite jacket. Look for the order form on the website. The order form has pricing information.

If orders are received by August 10<sup>th</sup>, free delivery will be made at the LeMay 2008. These are sold with **NO** markup. What you pay is what TOW pays. We also have a source for small patches used for hats and shirts at a cost of \$6.00.

## **TEARDROP SHOW AND SHINE AT OUR BLOCK PARTY BARBEQUE**

By **Steven Price**

How many times have you set up your teardrop so people could take a look at it and you could show off your little treasure? Well the Price's did that last year and so many people have asked for us to do it again that we are going to sponsor a **Teardrop Show and Shine** on Labor Day weekend (Saturday).

This will be the twenty-first year that we have hosted a block party where we provide the meat and everyone else brings salads, deserts or snacks. Last year I wanted to display my second homemade trailer so I parked the Chili Pepper tear and the "Oakland Raider" in the driveway. Along came **Marty and Katie Boehme** with their trailer and we had a show. It was the hit of our annual event and our guests wanted to see more.

So if you would like to display your trailer (at any stage of construction) and have some good barbecue then join us Saturday August 30th from 2:00 PM till dusk We'll park the trailers on the street and let the crowd vote for their favorites. Some small prizes will be awarded. And, it's a good time for new Portland area teardroppers to meet one another.

We're located in Portland at 9311 SE Yamhill (near Mall 205). We know it's LeMay weekend this year, but we always hold this barbeque the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. So, if you want to stay local and have a good time you sure are invited. For more information or to tell us of your participation, pick up the phone and call us, **Steven and Deb Price** at 503-252-1897 or drop us an email at [sgprice1@gmail.com](mailto:sgprice1@gmail.com).

## CARNATION FORTH - A GREAT TIME HAD BY ALL

**Ken and Marty Masden** were the most gracious hosts for our teardrop trailer rally at their place in Carnation, Washington. The highlight of this Fourth of July weekend was the three caravans that Ken had meticulously organized. All of us had a chance to ride in Ken's collector cars (mostly 1936 vintage iron) or in their rumble seats. Lots of folks (especially the kids) had lots of fun riding around the property in a wagon behind Ken's grandfather's 1938 John Deere tractor. **Ed Kelson** and **Bob Johnson** (both master mechanics) got Ken's 1935 Harley with sidecar running and were able to give some of the kids a sidecar ride (fantastic fun for the riders!). Bob also got the Model T running well and gave a lot of rides in it! **Peggy Birley** washed nearly every car so that we all could enjoy their beauty.

The caravan on Thursday evening was to the Carnation Senior Center. Ken handed out a map of our 22.4 mile round trip. Times at major intersections were listed to the nearest minute. This was our first group experience as we were going to a Spaghetti Feed.

Our time the next day (Friday, the Fourth) started with a short trip into town for a church's annual Independence Day breakfast. Then, we hauled our camp chairs to the curb on the main street to watch both the Kiddy Parade and the city's main Fourth of July Parade. The weather was perfect.

Later that day at the Masdens, we joined in the traditional potluck in the home's garage area. Great food provided by all with our hosts providing the burgers/hotdogs and many great Dutch Oven and other dishes provided by the campers. A trip back into town that night gave us a chance to see a great fireworks display, a real good display for a small town.

The next day after a great biscuit and gravy breakfast prepared by Idaho's **Mike Burton** in his Dutch Oven, everyone saddled-up for our second caravan excursion. It was to Snoqualmie Falls. Even though it's only a short drive from Carnation, Ken had mapped out a round trip route of 26.0 miles. At the falls, the 19 cars (mostly Ken's) lined up for a photo-op in the parking lot. **Glen Leighton** did the honors with his trusty camera and ended up taking a group picture. It should be on the TOW website ([www.teardroptrailers.org](http://www.teardroptrailers.org)). The visit to the falls was just GREAT. It was in full flood and spectacular! We then trucked up to the nearby town of Snoqualmie for lunch or ice cream at the local vintage burger restaurant.

Our next excursion that day was to the **XXX** Drive-in in Issaquah. This 24.5 mile round trip was another caravan Ken had mapped out for us. That was the supper for the day, as this drive-in restaurant is the last of the **XXX** chain within the United States. It was a great dining experience! It is impossible to describe the entire automobile memorabilia hung on the walls. It would be great to add a TOW patch to the collection.

**Roland Faragjer-Howell** was one of our campers. He lives in Seattle and commutes to work on a Segway! What's more, he brought it with him. It was fun watching us "work" this marvelous machine. Roland was very patient in teaching us how to ride it. Talk about bringing something to a campout - this was the ultimate!

**Doug Cronn**, **Rod Glassett** and Ken's friend and neighbor **Alan Whitney** all worked on the Masterbilt trailer (painting the inside, putting on the cabinet doors, etc..). This was greatly appreciated as now Ken may really be able to have the Masterbilt (the vintage 1936 travel trailer we all admired in Ken's big shop) at the rally in Deming on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Ken tells us he felt just like Tom Sawyer - he sat around with his feet up while watching friends do his work!

We all had a great time visiting with new teardroppers. There were a total of 41 campers (31 teardrops and 10 other) registering with Ken. It was the first time for many to attend a rally. Most were from Washington (but some came from California). There were only one or two teardrops that were the same, so visitors really got to view many for ideas to build their own. Perhaps the most unusual was one built by **Del Little** from Yakima. It was copied from the "Mystery Tear" seen on one of the many teardrop related web sites. It was bright yellow, football-shaped. At one time when Del rose to choose a door-prize, all of us broke out with the song "Yellow Submarine". What a way to kid a fellow teardropper!

The loyal and helpful crew (**Glassetts, Birleys, Kelsons, Doug Cronn and his grandsons Jacob and Justin**) arrived a couple of days early to help get things going. They form the core of help the Masdens have in helping put on this event (which could not happen without everyone's help). There are so many tasks needing to be done to put on a rally of this size and scope it would be too big for Ken and Marty to handle it. During our stay and after it was over, many more hands were used to help clean up, straighten up and put away. Many thanks to these folks from all of us.

On Sunday morning, the crew headed up by **Trudy Glassett** set up the fixings for our traditional "Omelet in the Bag" breakfast. Then, it was break-camp time, saying good byes to old and new friends and telling both Ken and Marty our heartfelt thanks for hosting such a great rally.

## **THE BOOK *TEARDROPS AND TINY TRAILERS* IS PUBLISHED!**

Many of us had the opportunity to buy this book from **Pat Ewing** at the Carnation Fourth rally. What a blast we had in collecting the autographs of those owners whose trailers were shown in the book. Here is what the publisher has to say:

"Buckle up as **Douglas Keister** takes you for a decidedly retro ride in the world of diminutive travel trailers in *Teardrops and Tiny Trailers*. The demand for vintage trailers - the smaller the better - has risen dramatically in recent years, with the most in-demand trailers being "teardrops," first manufactured in the 1930s and containing just indoor sleeping space and an outdoor exterior kitchen. Also profiled in the book are "canned ham" trailers, whose shape resembles the profile of a can of ham; small-size examples of America's most beloved vintage trailer, the Airstream; miniscule gypsy caravans in Europe; and fiberglass trailers made in Canada. Two hundred color photographs showcase these trailers' sleek exteriors, retro-styled interiors, and, in many cases, the restored classic cars that tow them. *Teardrops and Tiny Trailers* includes a resource section chock-full of places to locate vintage trailers, clubs to join, and rallies to attend. \$19.99 Hardcover 160 pages. All full-color."

## **CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> - 2<sup>ND</sup> - *Teardrops on Display - Brooks, OR*

This new event includes admission to the annual Antique Powerland Steamup. Contact **Marty or Katie Boehme** at 503-632-6563 or [teardrops@bctonline.com](mailto:teardrops@bctonline.com)  
**1.**

AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup> - *TCT Vintage Trailer Rally - Deming, WA*

This traditional vintage trailer rally also invites teardrop trailer owners to attend. Contact **Pat or Joanne Ewing** at 360-966-4253 or [pre52@verizon.net](mailto:pre52@verizon.net).

AUGUST 29<sup>TH</sup> - 31<sup>ST</sup> - *LeMay Open House Campout - Tacoma, WA*

Our annual rally and volunteering for the LeMay Open House for the LeMay Museum. Contact **Pat and Jan Estes** at [opasgang@yahoo.com](mailto:opasgang@yahoo.com)

AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup> - *Teardrop Show and Shine - Portland, OR*

A show of teardrop trailers on this Saturday afternoon with barbeque at the home of **Steven and Deb Price**. Contact them at 503-252-1897 or at [sgprice1@gmail.com](mailto:sgprice1@gmail.com)

SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> - 21<sup>ST</sup> - *Festival of Wheels - Goldendale, WA*

Third gathering for all vintage trailers and teardrops. Stay at the county fairgrounds. Contact **Lorraine** at 509-773-0567 or web site [www.cityofgoldendale.com](http://www.cityofgoldendale.com).