

# T.O.W. Line



## TEARDROPPERS OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON

<p><b>Mid-winter Potlucks</b>  <i>Join fellow teardroppers for good food and catch up on the latest happenings.</i>  <b>Pages 1 and 2</b></p>	<p><b>Summer Daze</b>  <i>Learn more about the new Summer Daze gathering.</i>  <b>Page 3</b></p>	<p><b>Gathering Recaps</b>  <i>Read all about the gatherings that have happened during last year's camping season.</i>  <b>Page 7</b></p>	<p><b>Calendar of Events</b>  <i>Plan your 2011 camping season now. Information on events are listed.</i>  <b>Page 10</b></p>
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Serving those who **are** or **wannabe** teardroppers.

## MID-WINTER POTLUCKS

Gather with friends for the mid-winter potlucks in Seattle, WA and Albany, OR.

### SEATTLE, WA - Saturday, February 12, 2011

This year our Washington TOW Mid-Winter Potluck will be held on Saturday, February 12th. **Ed Kelson** extends the invitation to the get-together to be held in the private museum called "A Touch of Nostalgia". He is very excited to have everyone come and enjoy what they see every day. The museum, located in the South Seattle area, is in the building that's part of the business the Kelson family runs. Bring your favorite dish and don't forget to bring serving spoons. Dinner will be at **12:00 PM**.

#### DIRECTIONS

The address is 201 S. Austin St, Seattle, WA 98108. There are two large Texaco signs outside the building that stands tall in the air plus a sign that will say MID-WINTER POTLUCK. If lost getting there, you can call the shop phone at **206-762-2227**.

FROM THE NORTH – Exit I-5 at #162 (Corson Ave) – Drive 0.8 miles until you come to Michigan St. – Turn Right onto Michigan and drive about one (1) mile until you get to WA-509 – Drive South on 509 a little bit and do a whoop-de-do up to the Right and back over the road to get onto WA-99S – Continue South another 0.3 miles until the traffic signal light at Holden – Turn Left and immediately turn left again on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave – Go to the next street and turn Right onto Austin St – You will see the shop/museum on the right.

FROM THE SOUTH – Exit I-5 at #156 (Tukwila/W Marginal Way) – The highway turns into WA-99N – Drive a total of 5.2 miles until you come to a traffic signal light at Holden – Turn **(continued on Page 2)**

### A Note from Gretchen:

You may have noticed that the Fall issue of the TOW Line never made it to press. There are some things in life that happen that make you sit back and reevaluate your commitments.

My mom became very ill in September, and I became her caretaker in October. She passed away in late December, and I'm just now finding the time and the energy to get the TOW Line out. My mom was a fellow teardropper in Florida and enjoyed going to many of the gatherings like we have in the NW. She instilled a love for the outdoors and camping in me that I will always appreciate.

So, I'm hoping for a calmer year and look forward to seeing you all at a gathering this year.

Happy Camping!

Gretchen DeMoss  
[trdrpr@me.com](mailto:trdrpr@me.com)

Right and immediately Left onto 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave and go to the next street and turn Right onto Austin St – You will see the shop/museum on the right. Contact [vintageracer@q.com](mailto:vintageracer@q.com) or 206-948-7840 for more information.

### ALBANY, OR - Saturday, February 19, 2011

Once again, our Oregon TOW Mid-Winter Potluck will be hosted by **Glenn and Laurie Anderson** in their barn located a few blocks from their home. The potluck is on February 19th. Let's figure to eat at **2:00 PM** as this should give everyone time to arrive and prepare.

There will be a chance for visiting with other teardroppers (old and new). All next summer's campouts and events will be reviewed. If you have any teardrop keepsakes or pictures of homebuilt projects underway, bring them also.

### DIRECTIONS

To get there, exit # 233 off I-5 heading to US Hwy 20 West. Drive about 0.5 miles until you come to Waverly Drive. At that point, turn Left and go 1.2 miles until you come to Grand Prairie Rd. Turn Right. Go another 0.4 mile and turn Left onto Chicago. This street dead-ends into a cul-de-sac, so go to the end and look Right. You will see a barn in this mostly urban neighborhood. It's grey with white trim and a black roof.

The barn address is 2656 Chicago St, Albany, Oregon.

If you have any trouble finding it, the number at the barn is **541-967-3479**. Glenn's Cell is **541-619-2179**. They will send out a search party! Laurie would like a head count, so please give them a call or drop them an email if you plan to attend.

If you want more information contact the Anderson home at **541-967-8716** or via e-mail at [glennanderson1@msn.com](mailto:glennanderson1@msn.com).

### The dogs of Spring Fling



## Spring Fling #13 - a New Name and a New Date

By Rod and Trudy Glassett

Have your 2011 calendars already been filled in with camping events? We hope you aren't that organized because we have a date change to announce.

Steve and Peggy Birley are inviting us back to camp on their property in Chehalis, WA ("Camp B") but NOT over Memorial Day weekend. Spring Fling #12 was so wet and muddy that the traffic caused major damage to their pasture. In hopes of better weather, we've set August 11, 12, and 13 for our camping event. There will be the traditional Spring Fling activities and favorite places in the area to visit. Assorted teardrop and vintage trailers and their fabulous owners will be in attendance. You won't want to miss this old/new event!

So adjust your 2011 calendars to read "Summer Daze Trailer Rally" on August 11-13. Look for more information in the next TOW Line.

Check out photos from Spring Fling #12 on the [www.teardroptrailers.org](http://www.teardroptrailers.org) site.

## Trailorboat Reunion

### A note from Dan Morley

Due to the Downtown San Rafael Association changing the date of their car show our reunion dates and details have changed. Campground details will be released soon. The new dates are below.

Trailorboat trailers 50th anniversary and reunion May 5th through 7th 2011 in San Rafael, CA. Among planned events are a car show and visit to the old Trailorboat factory site. Lets celebrate 50 years of these cool little trailers with the boat on top. I have family members of the founders of Trailorboat and former factory workers ready to meet us Friday evening for a potluck dinner at the campground. I am sure there will be lots of stories to be shared. Saturday those interested will be showing their trailers in downtown San Rafael's May Madness car show. I am sure that we will get lots of attention with the trailers at the show. Please help spread the word to Trailorboat trailer owners. Thanks. For full details visit the blog page at

<http://trailorboattrailers.multiply.com/home>

Also please email me at [trailorboat@yahoo.com](mailto:trailorboat@yahoo.com) if you may be attending.



**A corrected picture of a Trailorboat.**  
(The last TOW Line included an incorrect picture.)

## Bill Worman, Founder of Kit Teardrop Trailers Passes

Bill Worman, the founder of KIT Teardrop Trailers, died July 15th of natural causes. Staying at the home of his son, Jack, in Sequim, Washington Bill's health rapidly declined the last few months of his life. Bill was 93.

Bill's high school yearbook says he was the most "studious boy". After graduation, he wanted to get out of Spokane, since there were no opportunities there during the depression years. His dad dropped him off on a hill, where he would most likely be picked up by a slow moving truck driver on the steep upgrade. He ended up in Southern California.

He was a self-learned man, putting together a ham radio as a teen. At the age of 19, he was given an electrician journeyman's book and passed the tests to be a radio technician. He used this talent to work in the movie industry shortly before the beginning of WWII.

Always being fascinated with airplanes, he quickly moved to management where he oversaw the building of a basic trainer aircraft for the WWII war effort.

Just after the end of the war, Bill developed the most enduring of all teardrop trailers, the KIT. The company name was KIT Manufacturing Company and was headquartered in the shell of an abandoned fruit stand in Norwalk, California. After living in the San Francisco Bay Area for a number of years, Bill permanently retired on Orcas Island, Washington and lived there for 40 years.

Bill lost his wonderful wife, Ione about 18 years ago and is survived by three daughters, two sons and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

You can read about the history of teardrop trailers and Bill Worman's role at <http://www.socalteardrops.com/history.html>

### **Pictures! We Need Your Pictures (and Stories, too)!**

**Marty and I can't be everywhere this summer, so we need you to send your pictures and recaps of the gatherings to us for future newsletters.**





## The Southern California Touring Tears Gathering

March 24 - 27, 2011

**A note from Deane & David** - Hey! we are prepping for our 15th AND LAST Southern California Touring Tears Gathering, March 24th - 27th. (registration forms and details can be found at [www.teardroptours.com](http://www.teardroptours.com)) We would love to have all your OR & WA teardroppers join us. At Lake Perris we have 155 sites and the park will allow us to have two teardrops per site. I have contacted Huell Hauser Calif. Gold on the PBS channel (he did a series at our third gathering) and Guinness World Records. We thought Hauser would enjoy showing the huge advances in teardropping. I contacted Guinness in 1998 and they said there wasn't enough history/documentation to compare/verify with. MERCY! Do we have history & facts to show them!

We are going to try to have volunteers to handle the check-in table so we can actually have time to meet, greet and visit with our teardroppers.

### Towing a Teardrop with a Hybrid

By Marty Boehme

I got a note from a person wanting to know if any of you teardroppers has had any experience towing a 1000 pound teardrop with a Toyota hybrid. Here is the text I received:

Hi -This isn't a question about your club, but I thought you might be able to help. My husband and I badly want to buy a teardrop trailer (about 1000 lbs) and we want to tow it with a 2010 Camry hybrid. Of course Toyota says no way, but I was wondering if you know anybody who is doing this and whether or not it has been successful?

Would really appreciate a reply Thanks very much. Vicki Lee @ 714-680-4105

## Vintage Trailer Rally at the Oregon Coast

April 22 - 24, 2011

**Diana and Terry Lindsley** are hosting a new vintage trailer rally in April 22-24, 2011 in lovely Newport, OR at the South Beach State Park. It will kick off the Oregon camping season. The event will be a laid back event, with a potluck on Saturday night in the Yurt meeting hall. The park has paved trails to the beach, the south jetty at Newport Bay, and the Oregon Aquarium. It is just south of town where there are some lovely shops, and near the Rogue Brewery.

If you are interested in attending, they'd love to have you. You can make your own reservations at Reserve America [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com) then search for Oregon state parks, South Beach State Park. They have prepaid a few sites in loop A so they can get the meeting hall Yurt for the potluck. Cost is \$52 to the park for both nights. If you decide to come, please email Diana so that she can add your name to the list of attendees. She may make name cards, wants to have enough coffee, etc., and so she can update you on anything as they plan this. Diana's email is [tcdiana@comcast.net](mailto:tcdiana@comcast.net)

## Columbia Gorge Gathering

May 27 - 30, 2011

Looking for something to do over Memorial Day weekend? Jim and Joyce Bailey, along with Marty and Katie Boehme, are putting together a Teardrop Gathering up in the Columbia River Gorge at Stevenson, Washington. It is going to be held at the Skamania County Fairground in Stevenson Memorial Day weekend, Friday May 27th to Monday May 30th. More information will follow in the April issue of the TOWLine.

## The Last Carnation, WA Fourth of July Celebration

July 1 - 5, 2011

Ken and Marty Masden are retiring (Congratulations!!!) to AZ but will be in town to host one last Fourth of July Celebration at their wonderful home in Carnation, WA. Mark your calendars and watch for more details in the next newsletter.



### Did you catch it?

Doug Keister, author of *Ready to Roll*, *Silver Palaces*, *Mobile Mansions*, and *Teardrops and Tiny Trailers* had an article published in the July/August 2010 issue of "[Cottages and Bungalows](#)." Included in his article "A Moveable Feat" were photos of the Glassetts' and Cronn's teardrop trailers, as well as those of other beautiful vintage trailers.



A collection of vintage trailers  
(please note photos are not from Doug's article)

## Gathering Recaps

### June 2010 Gathering at Larry & Della Boehme's Property

by Leslie

The teardrop event held at Larry & Della Boehme's property June 4-6, 2010 was a great success. It looks like "Tri-T NW" has a permanent home with the big shelter Larry built (26' wide x 24' deep) that makes a wonderful for dining, for congregating and shielded us from the rain shower on Sunday morning. It even has a cozy fireplace.

Larry and Della were the perfect co-hosts, with Larry personally delivering teardrops to their campsites with his new *all-wheel-steering* tractor as the ground was soft and saturated with moisture. Thanks Larry and Della for co-hosting this great event!

A big thank you goes also to Hosts Pam Hernandez and Lonnie & Sheryl Aaron for their putting all of this together.....the great soups on Friday night, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday and the delicious potluck of Dutch oven meals on Saturday night. There were 12 teardrops at the campout and almost as many dogs (most of which were very well behaved), which made it easy to be able to visit and share stories and have lots of laughs with everyone.

We even had some "sun breaks" on Saturday as everyone scoured the area for Larry's hidden treasures, for which the one winner received a beautiful handmade wooden chess set. There were three things to find and were so well hidden, only one was found. Larry gave a demonstration of his "exotic" one-of-a-kind teardrop with all the bells and whistles.

Once again there was a craft project, this time a fabulous wind chime, made from leftover pipe from Larry's previous shelter (do you get the idea that Larry lets nothing go to waste?), with a teardrop as part of the clapper. What a great souvenir for a great campout!! Saturday night's game of "Who's Got the Right Card" was a fun event, with the winners (everyone!) receiving a beautiful handmade wooden box by Larry with a teardrop embellishing each one. Each was unique in it's woods and patterns.

Thanks again to Pam, Sheryl, Lonnie, Della & Larry for a memorable weekend.

### Did You Know?

## TOW Name Badges are Available

Nice hard, plastic name badges are available for ordering. They use a strong magnet rather than a pin to attach to your clothing. Order badges from Marty Boehme. They are \$7.50 each. To order, fill out the order form on the web site, [www.teardroptrailers.org](http://www.teardroptrailers.org). You need to supply your first and last names and then the home town, too.

Mail the order form to Marty at 20232 S Jasan Dr - Oregon City, OR 97045. Or, you can order by e-mailing Marty at [teardrops@bctonline.com](mailto:teardrops@bctonline.com).



## More Gathering Recaps

### July 2010 Antique Powerland Gathering

A note from Marty Boehme:

Hi everyone! Thanks for helping Katie and I this last weekend. With us remodeling our office, bedroom and kitchen, (plus getting ready for a garage sale) we were not as organized as we could be. It was buying and packing everything the day before.

BTW, Powerland had one of it's best turnouts in years. More and more building is going on each year with more and more for spectators to see. I've heard that Antique Powerland is "one of the best kept secrets in the Willamette Valley" but I predict it will become a destination museum soon.

### October 2010 Fall Brigade - Teardrops in the Rain

By Carol Seifert

“Teardrops in the rain”, sounds a little like a country and western song, but, unlike one of those, there was not a single D-I-V-O-R-C-E during the weekend, and to my knowledge, nobody's dog ran away or any of those other unhappy events that C&W songs seem to go on about.

In fact, it was a great time at what I fondly refer to as “Camp Soggy Bottom”. It was my very first campout with the TOW Group and only about my third campout with my new teardrop; “My ‘Lil Margie”. I met some wonderful people and made a lot of new friends. Saw some terrific teardrops and other small trailers.

We had great evenings around a campfire and had some wonderful food with a lot of it cooked in Dutch Ovens. Who knew? Who ever heard of “omelets-in-a-bag”? Not me, and they are great. I have shared this little trick with lots of folks.

Everyone there was very helpful with this novice camper, from setup to teardown of the campsite. When the rain got too heavy to ignore, we gathered in the lodge and did whatever, from just talking, to games, to reading, to more eating.

I had a wonderful time, my first campout with TOW and I cannot wait until the next event.



Fall Brigade Attendees (photo by Monique Rodriguez)

**Look for more gathering recaps in the Spring issue of the TOWLine!**



## 2010 LeMay Museum Teardrop Gathering

By Gary Ludeke

We were a part of an eight-teardrop caravan that arrived from western Oregon on Friday afternoon. We quickly set up our trailers with the rest of the group (18 teardrops total) on the beautiful Marymount grounds and headed for a burgers and trimmings in the town of Spanaway. This was our first trip to the LeMay Museum and, having heard what a great place it was, we looked forward to our day of touring the grounds and volunteering as museum monitors and docents with great anticipation. We were not disappointed!

As soon as the event was open on Saturday morning, Marty Boehme led this year's group of "newbies" on a tour of the LeMay family's home grounds. There were buildings filled with all types of cars, trucks, automotive memorabilia and dolls (hundreds and hundreds of dolls!) collected through the years by Nancy LeMay, wife of the museum's founder, Harold. Back at the museum grounds we started on the overwhelming task of trying to see everything before our first volunteer shift started at 11:00. There were vehicles on display everywhere! In addition to the hundreds and hundreds of museum and LeMay family vehicles on display, there were many privately-owned antique, classic and hot rod vehicles on display. We were like "kids in a candy store" – Wow!!

We were assigned to work in the "green building" watching to see that the public didn't damage the

vehicles on display, or bring food or drink into the museum. We looked very official in museum hats and shirts provided to the volunteers. The public was very well behaved. We learned a lot just listening to the comments of the public as they looked at the vehicles and discussed the differences between model years, makes, etc. There was a lot of expertise walking around in the museum that day!

We had a continental breakfast in the teardrop display area, and lunch and dinner in the museum's main building that once served as a military boy's academy run by the Catholic Church. Our lunch and dinner were provided by the museum as compensation for our volunteer work. Nancy LeMay spoke before the dinner banquet to very sincerely thank all the volunteers (around 450 total) who made the event a great success.

Most of us teardroppers spent a pleasant evening in our camping area taking pictures, visiting, playing games, and celebrating Grace Abbott's 5th birthday. Meanwhile, other museum volunteers and staff scurried about the grounds taking down the canopies, ropes, structures and other items needed during the show. All the privately-owned show cars quietly disappeared into the early evening twilight. By the time we hit the sack around 11 p.m. very few traces of the event remained. Even the portable potty building set up for our use disappeared into the night. (We had to use the facility in the main building during the evening and on Sunday morning before we departed.).

### New Co-director for Tearjerkers Jefferson State Chapter

TearJerkers Jefferson State Chapter has a new Co-director, Kay Cortipassi. She is a very enthusiastic teardropper and loves camping. Watch for more gatherings in Jefferson State as Eunice and Kay plan for the next camping season



## 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	INFO	HOST(S)
February 12, 2011	Mid-winter Potluck (Seattle, WA)	Our traditional potluck; this year at the Kelson Shop Museum	Ed Kelson 206-948-7840 <a href="mailto:vintageracer@q.com">vintageracer@q.com</a>
February 19, 2011	Mid-winter Potluck (Albany, WA)	Potluck held at the Anderson cast iron collection barn	Glenn & Laurie Anderson 541-967-8716 <a href="mailto:glennanderson1@msn.com">glennanderson1@msn.com</a>
March 24 - 27, 2011	Southern CA Touring Tears Gathering (Lake Perris SRA, CA)	15th annual gathering	Deane & Dave Locke <a href="mailto:SCTTinfo@teardroptours.com">SCTTinfo@teardroptours.com</a>
April 22 - 24, 2011	Oregon Coast Vintage Trailer Gathering (Newport, OR)	Held at South Beach State Park	Diana & Terry Lindsley <a href="mailto:tcdiana@comcast.net">tcdiana@comcast.net</a>
April 28 - May 1	Shasta Dam Gathering (Lakehead, CA)	18th Dam Gathering	Grant Whipp 530-275-6728 <a href="mailto:info@teardrops.net">info@teardrops.net</a>
May 5 - 7, 2011	Trailorboat Reunion (Petaluma, CA)	50th anniversary reunion in Petaluma, CA	Dan Morley <a href="mailto:trailorboat@yahoo.com">trailorboat@yahoo.com</a>
May 27 - 30, 2011	Columbia Gorge Gathering (Stevenson, WA)	A new gathering.	Jim & Joyce Bailey 509-427-5835 <a href="mailto:jcbailey@gorge.net">jcbailey@gorge.net</a>
July 1- 5, 2011	Last Carnation Fourth (Carnation, WA)	A great place for teardrop fellowship. Lots of fun for all.	Ken & Marty Masden 425-333-5219 <a href="mailto:36fun@centurytel.net">36fun@centurytel.net</a>
August 5 - 7, 2011	Ocean Tears Campout and Kite Fly (Ocean City State Park, WA)	A low-key event near the beach	Kevin Nickel 253-736-3473 <a href="mailto:knickel@hotmail.com">knickel@hotmail.com</a>

## 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS (CONT.)

DATE	EVENT	INFO	HOST(S)
August 5 - 7, 2011	Antique Powerland (Brooks, OR)	Held on the campus of the Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum	Marty & Katie Boehme 503-632-6563 <a href="mailto:teardrops@bctonline.com">teardrops@bctonline.com</a>
August 11 - 13, 2011	Summer Daze Trailer Rally (Chehalis, WA)	A drier version of Spring Fling held at Birley's Farm	Rod & Trudy Glassett 360-293-1108 <a href="mailto:glassettgang@juno.com">glassettgang@juno.com</a>
September 8 - 11, 2011	Vintage Trailer Rally (Lyndon, WA)	Located at the NW Washington Fairgrounds	Pat & Joanne Ewing 360-966-4253 <a href="mailto:pre47airstream@aol.com">pre47airstream@aol.com</a>
October 9 - 12, 2010	Fall Brigade (Mulino, OR)	Held at the Oregon City Elks Park.	Marty & Katie Boehme 503-632-6563 <a href="mailto:teardrops@bctonline.com">teardrops@bctonline.com</a>

If you know of events that are not listed on the calendar, please be sure to submit them to Gretchen or Marty before the middle of March for the April newsletter.

### Did You Know?

This newsletter is emailed to anyone who wishes to receive it. It is sent as a BCC to protect your email from others. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for the next issue, send an email to [teardrops@bctonline.com](mailto:teardrops@bctonline.com). It would be helpful if you include your home town and phone number.

All email addresses and web page links are active in this newsletter making it easy to contact event coordinators and visit web sites. If you're reading this in the snail mail version, you may want to consider moving to the electronic version.

