

T.O.W. Line

TEARDROPPERS OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON

Serving those who **are** or **wannabe** teardroppers.



<p>Roslyn Teardrop Gathering <i>A fun event.</i></p> <p>Page 1</p>	<p>Vintage Trailer Gathering <i>A repeat performance.</i></p> <p>Page 4</p>	<p>Mid-Winter Potluck Pictures</p> <p>Page 9</p>	<p>Calendar of Events <i>Plan your 2012 camping season now. Information on events are listed.</i></p> <p>Pages 10 and 11</p>
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It's Almost Time for the Gorge Gathering

from Jim and Joyce Bailey

Hello again fellow campers. Registration is already picking up for the Memorial Day Weekend Gorge Gathering. So don't get left out. We will be taking reservations until May 18th this year. This will give everyone a last minute chance to register. We have to have the total number of campers in at that time in order to purchase enough food and supplies. May 14th will be our cut off date for any refunds due to the expenses to fund this wonderful event.

You can get all the information for the event on Page 3. The Sunday evening meal is still "undecided on what to serve." We are considering holding a "Chili Feed Top Chef Cook Off." That is, IF we have four willing cooks who want to show off their talents while letting the group be the judges. There will be prizes for all contestants, and the winner will receive a special prize. We will provide the ingredients. Would you consider being a contestant? Just email us with what you will need. If any of you have any other Sunday evening meal ideas, please email us! (jcbailey@gorge.net) Oh, and bring your cameras. You will want to take photos of all the things and events that will be going on.

Our goal is to again make this a fun relaxing weekend for all to enjoy and have a good time!

Roslyn, WA Teardrop Gathering

from Ed Kelson

Come join Ed Kelson in Roslyn, Washington for a tear drop trailer rally June 16-18.

There will be a vintage trailer rally at the park two blocks away at the same time. Enjoy a laid back atmosphere with easy walking distance to food and shops in the old historic town of Roslyn.

Also, don't forget to bring your extra trailer parts or camping gear to sell at the swap meet.

For more details contact Ed Kelson @ 206-948-7840

A Note from the Editors:

The calendar is filling up for this year's camping season. I hope you find lots of teardrop and vintage trailer gatherings to fill your weekends with friends and fun.

Remember to take pictures while you're out and about and send them, along with a short article, to us for inclusion in the newsletter. It works best if you send the photos separate from the text. Photos embedded in MS Word are hard to extract and are often too big to include in the newsletter.

As you get ready for the season, make sure you have your name badges and camp site banners ordered. That way we'll know who you are. You can find information on the bottom of pages 8 and 9.

We hope to see you at the gatherings this summer. Be sure to stop by and say, "Hi."

Happy camping.

Gretchen & Marty

Gretchen DeMoss
trdrpr@me.com

Marty Boehme
teardrops@bctonline.com

Trailorboat Gathering

May 10–12, 2012

By Dan Morley

There will be a Trailorboat trailer gathering May 10th, 11th and 12th, 2012 at the KOA in Petaluma CA. The KOA is just a bit north of San Rafael, the home of Trailorboat. For the second year in a row we will be showing our trailers in the downtown San Rafael May Madness car show. The trailers were the stars of the show last year and I expect more this year. For full details see the blog page at <http://trailorboattrailers.multiply.com/> or email trailorboat@yahoo.com

Creswell, OR Camp Out

June 7–10, 2012

By Larry Boehme

DATE: The second weekend of June. The gates will be open on Thursday June 7th for the ones who wish to come early. No activities are planned for that day. The cost will be \$30.00 for the weekend, and you pay at the gate when you arrive. Because of space, we are limiting the number of campers to 25, so signing up is necessary. Prior approval required for trailers other than teardrop trailers.

We will have a sale table again this year, so bring anything you wish to put on the table.

FRIDAY: It was decided last year to have "STONE SOUP" for the evening meal, which will be about 6:00 PM. Zelma and I will provide the stone and meat (beef), so bring something to add to the pot so we can feed the village. Bread will be provided, but bring your own soup bowls.

SATURDAY: We will hold our usual scavenger hunt, games, and prizes. At 6:00 PM we will have our potluck with many wonderful Dutch oven and other good food.

SUNDAY: Before you leave in the morning, we will provide pumpkin pancakes. It has been suggested that if you want eggs, bring them to cook in a bag; water will be boiling.

DIRECTIONS: Traveling south on I-5 take exit 188 (Hwy 58). Go east 5 miles and turn right on Enterprise Rd. (signs will be up) then go 3 miles. Traveling north on I-5, take exit 182 turn right on Cloverdale, go 3 miles and turn right on Hendricks Rd. (signs will be up) Go 1 mile, turn left on Enterprise Rd, go 1 mile.

Email to register for this event. larrycadt@yahoo.com



The Gorge Gathering - Stevenson, WA

May 25 - 28, 2012

from Jim and Joyce Bailey

Hello Fellow Campers. Once again we will be hosting “The Gorge Gathering”. – . Last year was a lot of fun, relaxing and great time visiting with all! So we are having it again!! It is held on the Skamania County Fairgrounds just up river from the Bridge-of-the-Gods in Stevenson, Washington.

This beautiful site provides a grassy campsite right in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge. Each unit has access to power (via extension cords) and centrally located water bibs. There are heated men & women’s bathrooms with coin operated showers.

The 6000 sq ft. event hall is also heated that has a large kitchen and floor to ceiling glass “garage” doors that overlook the mountains – raised weather permitting. This gorgeous location offers much to explore including the close-by Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center, the Hood River Air and Auto Museum, the famous Skamania Lodge, and numerous Gorge waterfalls and trails. For more info on this locale, search for the Skamania County web site. <http://www.skamaniacounty.org/facilities-rec/homepage/events/tear-drop-trailers/>

Planned Events:

- Friday night is our Welcome Meeting; cardboard games will be available to play and/or just relax in the event hall.
- Saturday night is our “Adult Carnival” including a creative version of “shuffleboard”, Ping-Pong, and numerous board games, new games are being added this year! Please bring a “white elephant gift” for the game winners.
- Sunday evening will have a special movie presentation and any left-over desserts as well as popcorn & hot chocolate.

Meal menus:

Saturday: Breakfast - omelets-in-a-bag & fruit. Lunch – on your own

Dinner – baked potato with all the trimmings, hot dogs, chili bar & veggies

Dessert potluck – bring your favorite

Sunday: Breakfast – Pancakes,Sausages & Scrambled Eggs; Lunch – on your own; Dinner – Chill Feed (details to follow on this)

And of course the popcorn machine will be available throughout in the event hall!

To register – go to the events page at www.teardroptrailers.org.

The 4-day (3 night) weekend total fee is just \$50 per trailer, which covers the event expenses including three group meals, coffee, welcome packets, dash plaques, plus fairgrounds rent including the hall, campsite, power, water, garbage service, restrooms, etc. This is a fairground rental package where we all share the group fee (not a per night fee like most campgrounds).

Don’t miss this *FUN* weekend! Only registered units may attend—limited to 60 Teardrop and vintage-type trailers, so register early. For questions (such as trailer style) contact Jim Bailey at jcbaily@gorge.net or call 541-400-0393 (home) or 509-427-5835 (cell). See you there!



Vintage Trailer Gathering - Marblemount, WA

June 29 - July 8, 2012

From Mike and Cheri Aiken

Hear ye, Hear ye! You are invited to this second-time event held at Alpine RV Park, 60751 State Route 20, Marblemount, WA 98267 (Located between Mile post 107 and 108 outside of Marblemount)

What to expect: This is a campground nestled among the foothills of the Cascades. It is about an hour drive over the North Cascade Pass to the wonderful tourist town of Winthrop. If anyone is interested in car pooling over the pass, information will be available.

Newhalem, a wonderful company-owned town is just up the road, and the Buffalo Restaurant offers wonderful meals in Marblemount. There is the Skagit River boat launch in town at Marblemount (over the bridge) and many hiking trails.

<http://www.seattle.gov/light/tours/skagit/> (tours to the dam need reservations)

<http://www.seattle.gov/light/printdocs/Newhalem.pdf> (walking tour of Newhalem)

Along the way up or back, there is a honey stand and a wine tasting farm, and Cascadian Farms has wonderful ice cream worth stopping for.

If there is no fire burn ban going on, there will be a fire going for roasting marshmallows and conversation.

Sunday morning, there is a church in Marblemount if anyone would like to attend. Starting at 1:00 pm on Sunday, we will have a swap meet going on in the RV park. Bring anything you might like to sell or trade.

There are showers (no cost), restrooms, and a laundry room (washer and dryers).

You must call or e-mail for reservations as there is limited space, jra@cnw.com or (928) 505-2730. After May 15, 2012 call (360) 595-2611.

Cost \$15.00 a night for hook ups and \$10.00 for no hook ups, dry camping. Discount \$100.00 for the 10 days and \$75.00 dry camping for the 10 days.

Some of the events in the works are Dutch oven cooking, a BBQ, scavenger hunt, old car rally to Newhalem, game day/night, book trade, swap meet, pot luck dinner, movie night. Participate in all, some, or none - your choice.

Camp Hosts

Cheri and Mike Aiken

(360) 595-2611, Park Number (360) 873-9002



Summer Daze #2

August 10–12, 2012

By Trudy Glassett

Calling all teardrop and vintage trailer owners! **Summer Daze #2** will be held August 10-12, 2012 again at Camp B (**Steve and Peggy Birley's** property) in Chehalis, WA. This re-assigned event worked well in August with many of the former **Spring Fling's** favorite activities: Bingo, potluck, live entertainment, continental breakfasts, door prizes, dash plaques, and lots of fun activities right in the pasture or in the nearby area.

There is no cost for camping and the registration fee is only \$25, which includes all of the above. You can find the registration at www.teardroptrailers.org/SummerDazeRegistrationForm.doc or contact us for it and more information

Last year, we had almost 50 assorted trailers and had room for plenty more. We hope you'll join in the fun this year.

Rod and Trudy Glassett glassettgang@juno.com or 360-293-1108.

LeMay Museum Up and Running

by Marty Boehme

We've been displaying our teardrop trailers at the LeMay Open House since 1998. It was on that year everyone who attended this free event found out that plans were afoot to build a destination-type museum to house LeMay's vast collection. Many thought that would signal the end of teardrop gatherings at LeMay. Far from the truth; the Open House is still alive, and we're still there displaying our teardrops year after year. This year, it will be the 15th year.

Recently, after two years preparing the collection for the new museum, it was finally time to move cars from the Collection Management's temporary home in Fife to the new 165,000 square-foot building in Tacoma!

The first day of the move was primarily all of the pre-war vehicles that were ready and waiting at the warehouse. Many of these were open cars with delicate interiors and exteriors. The usually fickle Pacific Northwest weather turned out to be sunny and nice, so the move was done in safety.

With the help of friends at Tacoma Towing, over 100 vehicles were moved into the museum in two days. Full operation will happen next. For the 2012 Open House, we might have an opportunity to visit the museum if we show up a day early. Or, perhaps have a guided tour on the Sunday after the Saturday Open House. We'll have to wait to see.

The Grand Opening is scheduled for Saturday, June 2nd. Be sure to put that date on your calendar. Meanwhile, there is a web site where you can see a recent broadcast report on the museum in operation. Here it is: <http://www.komonews.com/news/local/New-museum-celebrates-Americas-love-affair-with-the-car-134569683.html?tab=video>

A Teardrop Trailer Experience

By Trudy Glassett

Our church friend, Marge, almost 90 years old, found out that we had a teardrop trailer. Really? So did I! Really? Rod and I sat down to get the details, and Marge even brought some old photos.

Seems her husband Ralph returned to San Diego from the War and, like many, was unable to find a long-term job. His parents suggested they travel to WA state to pick apples, and his parents would go along. Somewhere Dad got/borrowed a teardrop trailer that the parents would sleep in and Marge and Ralph made a bed in the back seat of their car. They leisurely traveled up the coast, just pulling off along side the road when they were ready to stop for the day. When they came to the WA orchard, the apples weren't ready to pick, so they picked pears instead. The four of them stayed in a workers' house with a stove while they worked the orchard. Due to several circumstances, Marge and Ralph returned to San Diego by bus, and he eventually found steady work. They never saw the teardrop again.

Marge saw a photo of Birleys' Spartan and told us that she and her hubby also had a 34 foot Royal Mansion that they bought in Dallas, TX for \$3000 cash when it was new. They lived in it in Indiana and California for four years, then traded it for a house in California!

They had several other camping trailers, including a Kenskill, which had Pappy Boyington's name as a previous owner. They enjoyed camping with the Bremerton shipyard group, as well as others, and she has many memories (and photos) of these happy times.

Marge thoroughly enjoyed looking through the Summer Daze photo album and wishes she was up to traveling to Chehalis to see the teardrop and vintage trailers, but she's having a difficult time getting around--after all, she's almost 90.



Our friend Marge (left) and her mother-in-law beginning to set up camp.



Mother-in-law, Ralph, and Marge enjoying breakfast. Note the Hills Brothers coffee can on the table.



A Vintage Trailer Saga

By Mike Perini

My wife and I have been married almost 20 years and have enjoyed all kinds of camping: tent camping, motor home camping, motorcycle camping. We love to take camping trips on the Oregon coast any time of the year, but we enjoy the fall and winter the best.

When I was growing up we lived in Arcata California on the Northern California coast and it seems that we were camping almost every weekend. My folks owned a teardrop when I was just a baby but with three kids in a few years my folks switched to tent camping. Life was much different back then; a slower pace than today.

Back in 2007 I bought a PT Cruiser, which started this whole vintage trailer saga. The buddy of mine that I bought the car from owned a teardrop trailer, and I offered to buy it to go with the PT Cruiser. Sadly, I was informed that he had just sold it to another dealer. So, I started looking for a vintage teardrop because I like to restore things. Three months later I was the proud owner of a '47 Kenskill teardrop. The only response from the wife was you paid how much and what the hell were you thinking. After a full year of restoration most of the time looking for the correct lights, tires, wheels, hubcaps, paint, and the wife took ownership of the trailer.

Our first teardrop rally was the IRG 2008. It was a week of camping, good food, and good friends - one of the best camping trips that we ever had. The following year we went to the Dam gathering, and I can honestly say I have never camped in so much rain - and I live in Oregon!

I bought a 1949 Chevy custom as our new tow rig, and we have gone to 4 or 5 camp outs every year with T.O.W. teardrops and car shows and have had a blast. The wife has enjoyed herself so much over the last few years and has stated that we have found something that she loves to do

The wife mentions it sure would be nice if we had a trailer that we could stand up in, so the search was on for the second trailer. The second Vintage Trailer, a 1957 cardinal 14ft, was located about 150 miles from us. I took a day off from work and made the trip in the PT Cruiser and made the deal. I took the truck the next day to pick up my canned ham. Little did I know that it would be a full restoration with all the hidden water damage, and before I could start any major work something funny happened on the way to the trailer restoration.

The third trailer I found on Craigslist was a 1951 Boles Aero 16ft. After a 350 mile drive on way to look at the trailer, I said what I was thinking. After some serious horse trading we hooked up the trailer and headed home. It needs a full restoration the trailer is complete but with major water damage. After polishing the trailer and repairing the lower edge with new aluminum modeling and replacing the bottom rivets, we started on the interior, but for some reason only known to the Vintage trailer gods I stopped and started the '57 cardinal restorations.

The 1957 Cardinal restoration was a two month restoration, almost a complete tear down. I removed all the dry rot and water

Continued on next page.

damaged interior panels, hand sanded all the birch interior , put on five coats of amber shellac, hand sanded between coats, polished the exterior, lowered the trailer, got new tires and wheels, and new wiring for the outside and inside. I have spent months collecting the interior furnishings for the trailer. We have gone to four rallies since the restoration and regular camping trips. We belong to the Rollin Oldies vintage trailers club and T.O.W. Teardrops

The wife mentions that a bath room would be nice, so I found one. I removed a full enclosed bathroom out of a 1972 ford F-250 motor home complete with holding tank. Now to find a trailer to put it in, but what do I do? I buy trailer # 4.

Trailer # 4 is a 1957 18 ft Traveler already restored. Bought it for a song and was totally disappointed. The trailer looks very nice and has a nice bathroom but is not original. So do I spend more money or sell it? Question answered - I bought Trailer # 5.

Trailer # 5 is a 1956 Roadmaster 18 ft completely original that does not need a restoration; all it needs is our camping gear. Found this trailer on Craigslist about 10 miles away from me. I believe I paid about a tenth of what the trailer is really worth. I will give trailer # 4, the '57 Traveler, to my brother as a Christmas present.

The only thing left to do on my restorations is to find a small Vintage trailer that my shower unit will fit in, so I guess I am looking for vintage trailer #6

Link to our photo albums

<http://community.webshots.com/user/myperini>



TOW Camp Site Banners are available.

TOW camp site banners are available for \$20 each. They can be imprinted with up to two lines of custom text. Typically, people include their names and home town, but you can include anything. Banners measure 12" wide by 18" long with grommets in the corners. You will need to provide the garden flag holder.

The order form can be downloaded from

www.teardroptrailers.org/products.htm



Mid-Winter Potluck Pictures



Seattle Mid-Winter Potluck hosted by Ed Kelson



Oregon Mid-Winter Potluck hosted by Glenn and Laurie Anderson



The Oregon Mid-Winter Potluck in Albany, OR

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. 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.



Seattle Mid-Winter Potluck

by Trudy Glassett

The Seattle area mid-winter potluck was held at *Don and Annette Kelson's eclectic museum "Touch of Nostalgia" on Saturday, February 11th. Attended by about 40 teardrop and vintage trailer friends, it was more like a family reunion. We shared hugs, handshakes, and had time to "catch up" before lining up for a delicious potluck of an assortment of foods. The visiting continued through the meal, as we learned of each other's activities since we were last together (many of us not since Fall Brigade in October or even before that). While enjoying desserts, greetings were extended from those unable to attend the potluck and this year's events were announced. Those who had information on the campouts shared the specific details and several had registration forms ready. Ed Kelson, our host, reminded everyone about a few maintenance items to be checked on our trailers before taking them on the road. Before heading out, several guests found and purchased some treasures among the items Kelsons had displayed on tables. Thanks to Don, Annette, and Ed for hosting the annual Seattle potluck.

*We met Don and Annette at the first LeMay TD display back in '98 when they brought their '40s Kenskill to show. Several years later, we saw it as Doug Cronn's turquoise "Hillbilly Bungalow" at the '02 Spring Fling and for many years after. It now has a new owner. Also, Ed hosts a campout at Kelsons' home in downtown Roslyn in June. Check the calendar of events for this year's date.

Oregon Mid-Winter Potluck

by Gretchen Stahmer DeMoss

The Oregon mid-winter potluck was hosted by Glenn and Laurie Anderson at their "barn" in Albany, OR on Saturday, February 18th. In addition to the wonderful spread of food, we were treated to some delicious, fresh-cooked Æbleskiver. As was mentioned in the Winter newsletter, they are solid like a pancake but light and fluffy like a popover. What a treat!

There were about 30 or so people in attendance. It was great to see all of our Oregon teardrop friends as well as some of our Washington friends who made the trek down I-5.



Newsletter Editor

My job has changed over the last year, and, unfortunately, I no longer have the time to do the TOWLine newsletter. The template is set up in Pages for Mac. The newsletter goes out quarterly. If you are interested in taking this over, please email me at trdrpr@me.com I can set you up with all of the files as well as the Pages files for all of the back issues.

Thanks,
Gretchen



2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	INFO	HOST(S)
May 3 - 6, 2012	19th Annual Dam Gathering (Lakehead, CA)	A great annual event.	Grant Whipp 530-242-6452 info@teardrops.net
May 10 - 12, 2012	Trailorboat Gathering (Petaluma, CA)	A campout and a car show	Dan Morley trailorboat@yahoo.com
May 25 - 28, 2012	The Gorge Gathering (Stevenson, WA)	A great way to kick off the summer camping season	Jim & Joyce Bailey 509-427-5835 jcbailey@gorge.net
June 8 - 10, 2012	Cresswell Campout (Cresswell, OR)	Limited to teardrop trailers only	Larry & Zelma Boehme 541-895-2754 larrycad@yahoo.com
June 29 - July 8, 2012	Vintage Trailer Campout (Marblemount, WA)	Second-time event	Mike & Cherri Aiken jra@cnw.com
July 26 - 29, 2012	International Redwood Gathering (Carlotta, CA)	The 4th annual gathering	http://www.pamplingrove.com/Regform.html
August 3 - 5, 2012	Antique Powerland (Brooks, OR)	Held on the campus of the Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum	Marty & Katie Boehme 503-632-6563 teardrops@bctonline.com
August 10 - 12, 2012	Summer Daze (Chehalis, WA)	Great friends, food, and fellowship	Rod & Trudy Glassett 360-293-1108 glassettgang@juno.com
September 14 - 16, 2012	2nd Annual ROVT Rally (South Beach State Park, OR)	An event for vintage trailers and teardrops.	Diana & Terry Lindsley tcdiana@comcast.net

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 June for the summer newsletter.

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS (CONT.)

DATE	EVENT	INFO	HOST(S)
September 28 - 30, 2012	Fall Brigade (Mulino, OR)	Held at the Oregon City Elks Park.	Marty & Katie Boehme 503-632-6563 teardrops@bctonline.com
May 2 - 5, 2013	20th Dam Gathering of the Tears (Lakehead, CA)	It's going to be a biggie!	Grant Whipp 530-242-6452 info@teardrops.net

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. 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.

