

T.O.W. Line

TEARDROPPERS OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON

Serving those who are or wannabe teardroppers.



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From the editor

The season is starting to wind down. *Where did it all go?* By the time the summer is over TOW will have been represented in two parades (and won at least one TOWphy), members will have stalked unsuspecting travelers in a Goodwill parking lot, countless drops of rain will have fallen at times we wish they wouldn't, songs will have been sung and written. There is still time left though. September is a beautiful time of year in the northwest, and Fall Brigade is coming up. Be sure to get signed up as soon as you get this. Still reading? Stop and sign up for the last TOW event of the season. You may get wet, but you won't be sorry. [Click here to sign up.](#)

Consider making a new camp season resolution for 2015 and get your signups in early, it really helps the hosts, and where would we be without all of those fine folks?

A Teardrop Song

As sung at the Tillamook Gathering

You Tube Video: [Teardrop for Sale or Rent](#)



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A Parade in Tillamook

By Amy Fuger

I have been to Tillamook many times growing up, but this was the first TOW event I attended out there. The Hosts of the Trask River Gathering are the wonderful Randy and Rikki Gottier. My dad, Dan Fuger, went to the event last year, so I opted to follow him. As soon as we arrived, the Gottiers both made us feel welcome, by showing us the best areas to park and even help set up camp. Rikki told everyone that there was hot coffee, tea, and cocoa inside the main lodge. There were also puzzles (which quickly became a favorite), brochures, and most importantly, a heater. There would also be a bonfire nightly, thanks to Randy and his trailer of pallets. Pretty ideal for a Friday, but Saturday, is where the fun would be.



For those that were going to be in the June Dairy Parade, it was an early wake up, but the Parade didn't start until 10:30am. This year, the theme was The Sound of Moosic. I was leery of putting my teardrop in the parade; I didn't feel it was nice enough to show off, which quickly became my first mistake! I opted to ride with my dad in the jeep, but I will be putting my teardrop in the parade next year! As we rolled to the starting point, we were joined by Rikki and Denise; they would walk the parade route, showing off the banner, with us in TOW (get it?). We were led by Randy and his Cozy, followed by John Casseday and his Teardrop, and then my dad and I with his. Doors and Galley hatches were open for everyone's viewing pleasure.



As we idled along the parade route, I walked behind snapping pictures with my iPad, and answered questions from the parade viewers. Most of them were unsure of the year, or even what the trailers were called. Sticking with the theme of the parade, there would be a loud "MOOO!!" from my dad's jeep; he has a loud speaker installed. The kids and parade

viewers seemed to enjoy it; I was just along for the ride. John hung a Navy bell on the side of his teardrop, and when the parade came to a brief stop, he would get out of his car (it was in park!) and ring the bell, also quite entertaining! I was surprised at the turnout for this event, and with further reading, the June Dairy Parade is one of Oregon's largest Parades.

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As the Parade began to wind down, the three entries pulled off to the side of the road to close hatches and doors and put flags away. Before we dispersed and headed our own way, Randy showed us this beauty! FIRST PLACE "Novelty Vehicle Group"! Where else can you get a trophy with a cow on it? Maybe next year we can have a bigger turn out and a couple more entries in the parade, I'm thinking about putting mine in!

Thanks again to the amazing hosts Rikki and Randy Gottier and the hard work they put into the 2014 Trask River Gathering in Tillamook, Oregon! See you next year!

IRG - International Redwoods Gathering

By Maureen McGuinness

IRG 5.0 took place over the Fourth of July weekend. The early birds started trickling into the meadow at Pamplin Grove on Monday. By Friday, there were around 120 teardrops along with a few tiny (and not so tiny) trailers nestled among the tall trees and basking in the sunny field. Did I say sunny? Yes, I did, the weather was perfect! Cool, overcast mornings that cleared before noon, providing us with glorious solar power and plenty of warmth for a dip in the river.



As usual, Dean and Joanie had planned a fun and activity-filled event. The old standbys of the morning Koffee Klatch, the Meat and Greet (with 195 pounds of meat), the Horseshoe Tournament and River Ducky Regatta, returned to the Redwoods and were enjoyed by many.

On Saturday morning, the lucky Koffee Klatchers had an opportunity to feast on fried potatoes and a taste of home cured bacon as a special treat. The duckies needed a little helping hand from Joanie and Isaac to swim up river, but eventually, the winner crossed the finish line. The Pinewood Derby came back after taking a break for IRG 4.0. Kirk, the derby master was unable to officiate at the last minute, but Joanie stepped in and the crowd cheered on Jerome and Tyler, our winners!

One always has a chance to learn something new at IRG. In addition to Randy and Debbie Pontius' informative bird walk, there was a Zentangle class, taught by Cathy F., and Marge guided about 15 enthusiastic learners through the beginnings of Pine-Needle Basket making. A few overachievers even finished their baskets while still in the redwoods. It wouldn't be a teardrop gathering without some good cooking! Brian Woods entertained us with a Dutch oven cooking demo of his favorite bean recipe, delivered with humor and of course, his delightful Canadian accent. Jon W. and Sam taught a group of fascinated observers about using a Thermal Cooker, a sort of non-electric crockpot device that lets your food safely cook while you are off enjoying all the outdoors has to offer!

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What would the Fourth of July be without a red, white and blue celebration? No fireworks in the forest for obvious reasons, but that didn't stop the Teardroppers. A light parade of marchers with glow sticks, battery operated string lights and lanterns wound through the campground while singing some all-American songs to honor our country. Greg Pang, our TOW videographer extraordinaire, outdid himself in true techie form with an iPad on his chest that displayed a mini light show synced to music!

Saturday was the grand finale of the campout, with a Dutch oven potluck, campfire awards and the incredibly popular Nanny's Pay It Forward Raffle, at which a plethora of prizes were delivered to the lucky winners. The last of the die-hard attendees left Pamplin Grove on Monday morning, including our beloved TOWline editor's car on a flatbed tow truck with her teardrop hitched on the back, heading to Eureka to replace lost keys. Despite a calamity or two here and there over the weekend, it was a successful event. Thanks, Joanie and Dean!



[Click Here for Video](#) Thank you Greg Pang!



1st Annual Tear Jerkers Canadian Gathering

By Kelly Contant

The time had finally come for the "1st Annual Canadian Gathering 2014" as it was appropriately named. I had been anticipating this event (my first) all winter and got busy making improvement to my tiny trailer during the spring to make my stay that much easier. The drive up the Coquihalla went well although I usually make the trip solo or with just one of the kids at my side. This time around I had the whole family with me two kids, the wife, and even my brother tagged along as he wanted to see what all the fuss was about with these crazy little trailers.

The wife and I drove in the truck and trailer loaded down with all the camping gear, while my brother drove up in his car with my son and daughter. The hills were a bit more challenging than usual with all the extra gear we had on board, but, we managed none the less. As we travelled along the highway, all I kept thinking about was the fire that had been reported a few days earlier on the hillside quite close to our destination and whether we were even going to have an event to get to at all. Lucky for us, there was a big rain storm at the farm a few hours before we left Abbotsford, which put the fire out for the most part aside from a hot spot or two I watched getting water bombed the next morning.

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We arrived quite late Thursday evening but managed to find a smiling face to greet us as we pulled onto the farm property in the form of the lovely Sandi, wife of Brian (Vedette), our host. Brian was off giving a tour of one of several farm structures on the property, which back in the day, was home to one of only two chicken farms in the whole Westbank area. Nowadays, the buildings have been converted into hotrod restoration shops and or antique farm machinery storage. I never did get around to touring the buildings, but there is always next year, wink-wink. Once we tracked Brian down, he gave us a quick rundown of several areas available to setup camp and we got the trailer tucked in for the weekend. Brian and Sandi stayed up for a night cap with us before settling in for the night.

As mentioned earlier, I awoke the first morning to the sound of helicopter and water bombers flying overhead as they were putting out hotspots and patrolling the hillsides around the lake in case of any new fire activity. The short lived rainstorm that travelled through the afternoon before was the only moisture the area was to see the entire weekend. The temperature rose quickly and I definitely knew I wasn't on the coast any longer. However, we came prepared and there were many fruit trees around as well, to provide us with shade when needed. There wasn't a formal agenda planned for the event so we all just came and went as we pleased for the first day and made use of the ample amenities, and sights which were just a stone's throw away from the farm, for entertainment. We did gather around a fire that night at a very strategically placed fire ring in between the two farm building so as not to get busted by the fire department and discussed a few things we might all like to do for the weekend.

We decided to have a trailer tour for one of the mornings and a Dutch oven cookout/potluck for one of the evenings and that is as far as we got with any kind of agenda LOL. However I must admit being at the farm was far more relaxing than any campground I've ever been to and there really was no need for a list of things to do to keep us entertained as we were in such a relaxing environment. All the Teardroppers in attendance were very friendly people and Brian and Sandi opened up all they had for us and were very gracious hosts indeed. I can't wait to attend next year and see/meet many more Teardrop and Tiny Trailer enthusiasts like me.

[Click Here for Video](#)

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A Thank you from Brian and Sandi

As posted on tnttt.com by Brian Woods

Sandi & I would like to thank those who were able to attend our "1st Annual Tear Jerkers Canadian Gathering" to be known from this time forward as the "Farm Gathering"much more manageable title and won't take up so much room on the cake??



We managed 9 Teardrops and 2 tents for our first ever attempt, with attendees from B.C., Washington, Oregon, & Montana. We had a couple of no shows that would have extended our count to include Idaho and Alberta (but maybe next year?).

My research shows that this was a "Good" beginning for a Gathering that has the potential for growth, in comparison to the Tear Jerkers 1st Official Gathering ever which had 7 Tears in attendance and the 1st Dam Gathering which had 8 Teardrops.....and look where these have grown to today. For our first attempt we tried to keep our event relaxed and casual. Not to overwhelm ourselves and those who attended with too much organization and too many activities. For 6 of the 10 registered participants, this was their "First Ever" Teardrop gathering.....so it can only go uphill for them. We saw this as an opportunity for them to come and experience our beautiful Okanagan Valley and the Okanagan climate (not to mention the wine?) From the response of those who attended, it looks like this has now become an "Annual" event, as everyone said they would be back next year! The only thing we forgot on the Itinerary (besides the actual "Printed Itinerary") was to take the "Group Photo"

Once again....Thanks for creating another Teardrop Memory!

Hope to see more of our Teardrop Friends next year here at the Farm!

Good Roads - Brian & Sandi

What we did on our Summer Vacation 2014

By Mark and Stephanie Bergeron

How many papers did you have to write with almost that exact title as you were growing up? For us it was too many to remember. For Mark most of his summers had a trip to the Oregon coast with his family, staying at affordable beach motels. For me, summers were mostly one long camping trip with the family in our pop up trailer.

We'd pack up and head out to Battleground Lake on a Wednesday and set up camp.

Dad would go back and forth between Battleground Lake and his job in Vancouver and



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then settle down with us all for the weekend. We would camp, swim, hike and have great meals around the fire head home on Sunday to do laundry, and get ready to do it all again starting on Wednesday. It was GREAT!

Fast forward to now... With our sweet little teardrop trailer Mark and I have been out and about most of the summer and we put over 3000 miles on the tires. As soon as school got out in June, we were packing and getting ready to head out on the road.

The first morning...it rained as we headed out toward the Columbia River Gorge after we were on the road for about 1 hour the clouds parted and we had lovely weather the rest of the 2 weeks we were out. First stop was Emigrant Springs State park by Pendleton, OR. Nice campground, fun hosts and there were great trails running through the woods. Next day we headed out to Farewell Bend State park for 3 nights where the Oregon Trail emigrants rested near the Snake River for the last time as they headed out on their last leg of the Oregon Trail. I found out that I'm not a big fan of the desert or really hot weather. It was beautiful and we found lots of places to go hiking. We met a couple from California with a teardrop trailer while we were at the visitor's center in Baker City, OR. They were heading down toward Crater Lake on their return trip. Then we were off to Idaho and Lake Waldcott. Lucky us...we got there the day the damsel flies all hatched. Ugh! Those bugs were so thick on everything. By evening they were swarming and it looked almost biblical and they made the most eerie sound. The next day we found a store with a screen room that would pack down really small. Of course, we didn't know that the bugs were pretty much gone and the screen room wasn't really needed anymore. Oh well, we knew we were heading over to Yellowstone and had been warned that the mosquitoes could be thick. It was amazing seeing the changes in the landscape from the high desert in southern Idaho to the farm lands and then the mountains. I was so happy to be heading into Montana and Wyoming for our Yellowstone adventure. We only had 3 nights at Canyon Campground inside Yellowstone National Park. We did two tours, one a full day that took us all around the thermal sites, and a second tour that was a half day, early morning, that took us out to the Lamar Valley. There were lots of critters, bison, several elk, I even saw a wolf, and we both saw a grizzly bear, pronghorn antelope, and mountain goats. We are already looking forward to going back. The day we left Yellowstone was our longest driving day. We took off early and headed to Montana and drove straight across to Idaho and then to Spokane, WA, where we stayed at Riverside State Park. It is pretty there and you would hardly even know that you were mostly in the middle of the city. It is the most confusing park to get to though, and we were so thankful for our phones and the GPS/Maps! We spent 2 days there and found some nice trails to hike along the river. It was really hot and we were thankful that there was shade!

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Leaving Spokane, we headed across to Mt Rainier entering the park via the White Pass. Oh my! It was beautiful and we stopped at several of the viewpoints. It is amazing but true, both of us grew up here in Washington, but neither of us had ever been to Mt Rainier National Park. We got to our camp site at Ohanapecosh campground and settled in. We were right above the river and looked across to the tree covered hills. Hiking the trails, finding lovely waterfalls and beautiful sites just in the campground would have been great, but we headed to Paradise higher up the mountain. OH MY! Spectacular views and the wild flowers were just starting to bloom. We had a late start leaving on our last day because we didn't really want to leave. Nice thing that Mt Rainier is just a couple hours up the road from our house. Why hadn't we done this before?

We were home for 1 week before we headed up north to the BC Gathering at the Woods' Farm. So happy our wonderful grandson was born the night before we left. Great timing! We headed down the road on another adventure starting in the bucketing rain! After realizing that I forgot the passports, we had to turn around 90 miles from home and go back to get them. After Mark drove 180 miles just to end up back where we started, I said I would drive all the way to Bellingham and our one night camp site. I think it would have been really pretty if the rain had ever let up and if it had been light enough outside to see the campground. As it was it, rained all day and night and into the next day until we were about 1 hour from Brian and Sandi Woods Farm. The sky cleared and it was lovely. I know there will be another article about this gathering so I'm just going to say it was a blast! If you have a chance to make it up north next summer for the Farm Gathering go! You won't be sorry.

Then we headed down to Winthrop WA, it was a bit scary driving through the areas where the fires had been burning just days before (and were smoldering still) thankfully, the power was back on to the town. We met up with Dave and Dixie who decided to stop at the Pine Near RV Campground where we already had reservations. They got the spot right next to us and we had a lovely time at the School house pub for dinner. The next day there was a 4 mile hike up Mt Patterson. We could see the smoke from fires that were still burning not too far away. Then we wandered around town for the afternoon. The next day we headed out nice and early to go to Mt Rainier again. This time we camped in the Wenatchee National Park and drove into Sunrise and hiked up the Sunrise nature trail and had an awesome view from Sourdough Ridge of more wildflowers in bloom. On our way back to camp, we stopped at Tipsoo Lake and saw even more wildflowers. We stopped at several viewpoints again and started planning our next adventure even before we were home from this one!

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To think that we started doing all of this because of how much easier it is to camp when you have a little teardrop trailer to be your home away from home. All I can think of is why did we wait so long???



Crashing a Popup Rally

By Mike Sandner

Jen and I began our trip like most, hurrying around to get the last few supplies packed and the trailer hitched up and ready to roll. We left Tacoma around 10am and headed down HWY 7, with a quick stop at the Walmart and a

missed turn in Elbe that sent us 15 miles to the entrance of Mount Rainier, we arrived around 2pm. Set up was quick as always and we were hoping the rain would hold off since it was June, but sadly no, the rain came in varied intensity for the rest of our trip. But even soggy, Iron Creek campground in Randle, WA is beautiful. You are surrounded by tall ancient evergreens and all the local plants that are a staple of a good deep woods outing. We were the only teardrop as this was an annual rally for the members of Popuportal.com, a popup camper forum. Even so they all loved my teardrop and I had to give many tours. We walked around the campground and introduced ourselves without hesitation to everyone who was hanging out around their camper and they were all very friendly people.

There was a dessert potluck that night, which I had never attended one before. There were cakes (made on site!), candy, cookies, alcoholic Jello shots as well as mimosas. In true North West camping fashion we were all huddled under our own blue sky, because what rainy camping trip would be complete without a giant blue tarp to keep you dry? But, even in close quarters and very damp surroundings, we all had a blast. I even endured a little ribbing about being a "darksider", which is their term for a non-popup camper. But it was all in good fun. As we made our way back to the tear to give another tour, we met some of the younger crowd, like ourselves, and eventually made our way back to their site for a night of spirits and laughs. On the way back to our campsite for the night the rain had let up a little but I was still met with the nice surprise of yet another leak to deal with. Seems my new door seal job did not stop water from seeping in at the very bottom corner. This was taken care of back home with some very inexpensive vinyl J trim to act as a gutter system above the door. We went to bed watching a few episodes of Big Bang Theory, my personal favorite.

After a nice sleep in, we awoke to see many had left early in the morning. We wished we could have said our goodbyes but that could wait until we were back online again. After a relaxing walk around the park, we said our farewells to those that were left, and with the silent sadness that comes with having to leave

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your peaceful camp, packed up and went down the road back to the hustle and bustle of city life. But, we will never forget our short trip to Iron Creek and the new friends we will see again next year.

Wazat? Or “How we became “The Kids””

By Jennifer Robbins

My boyfriend – Chad - and I have wanted to travel the country since high school. We were both living on the East coast of Florida and it was late winter of 2014 when we decided that we needed to pack up and hit the road. Chad is in his late thirties and is self-employed selling his hollow wood surfboard plans, book and kits (TimelessSurfCompany.com). I am in my late twenties and was – before we started traveling - working as a manager at a local hardware store.



Originally we had planned on taking Chad’s 1983 ½ Volkswagen Westfalia camper van around the country after dropping my Honda CR-V at my parents’ in Michigan. More than half of our belongings had been sold or donated in preparation for our new lifestyle. Living on boats in the past had introduced us to minimalism, but we still had – what seemed like – too much to travel in a Westy. We began to think that being able to detach our living quarters from our way of transportation would be more convenient than the Westy. Less than a week before we were to vacate our apartment, Chad put it up for sale. Within 48 hours of selling it, he bought a Chevrolet Tahoe and a 17ft camper. We *quickly* found that such a big rig would *not* suit our style of camping and traveling. The camper was sold within two days of the listing and we got rid of even *more* stuff and packed the rest of our belongings into the Tahoe and my Honda CR-V.

Our first destination – with no set arrival date – was mid-Michigan. We are both from there and had not visited family and friends in some time. Having no van and no camper, we tent camped our way to Michigan. We took about five days to drive there, stopping in on a couple of friends in Alabama and Tennessee, and checking out some other states on the way.

Once in Michigan, we had six weeks before having to be at our next destination – central Illinois. My family was throwing a surprise 80th birthday party for my grandmother there and we didn’t want to miss it. That six weeks in Michigan gave us plenty of time to visit with a few friends and *lots* of family. We also needed to rethink how or what we’d be traveling in. Tent camping and sleeping on the ground for extended periods of time is very uncomfortable and not very protective in bear country. We Googled (that *is* a word in the dictionary now, right?) “small camper”, “tiny camper” and other such things and stumbled across

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some of the most adorable little things called “teardrop campers”. We were amazed. How perfect! We spend days searching Craigslist for teardrops for sale near mid-Michigan or on our way to Illinois. Nothing. Everything was either too expensive or too heavy for my four-cylinder, two-wheel-drive CR-V to haul. Are you wondering why we wouldn’t just use the beefier Tahoe? Well, that’s another story in itself, but Chad sold it. Anyway, we couldn’t find just the right trailer and building our own seemed like the only way. Of course we didn’t know at the time that we could have easily spent a small fortune doing so. *Luckily* – before we had gathered any materials to start building – Chad’s dad found a strange-looking camper on Craigslist about 45 minutes away and for a great price. It wasn’t the traditional teardrop shape and had an interesting name (Wazat), but it was small, very lightweight, in great condition and just the right price.

Long story short – we bought the camper and brought it to Chad’s dad’s to make a few modifications. Having never seen a teardrop in person or met anyone that has owned one, we sort of stepped blindly into the project. First we ordered and installed a Reese hitch onto the CR-V. Then, we took the camper for a few test drives and slept in it. Having never hauled a trailer, I quickly learned to maneuver forward and backward with the Wazat behind us. We ordered and installed bigger tires, sawed off and reattached the fenders to fit over the bigger tires, welded a frame to hold our “junk box” on the front of the trailer and installed cupboards inside.

It was early June and time to head to central Illinois to visit with family there for a few days and celebrate grandma’s birthday. The whole family was quite intrigued by the Wazat and that we’d be living in it for an undetermined amount of time.

We left the Illinois valley to head West on Sunday, June 8th, 2014. We drove through and stopped in Iowa, South Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho, and Oregon. We used freecampsites.net to find most of our campsites, but splurged on a few KOA’s to do laundry, take showers and sit in the hot tubs. Yahoo and Google became good friends of ours as we searched for nearby parks, forests, attractions, etc. Aside from me becoming ill in South Dakota and Chad in Oregon, we had a pretty good time.

We arrived in Tillamook, Oregon on June, 2014. Earlier that day, we had stopped at a garage sale a few towns away. While chatting with the couple who was having the sale, they recommended stopping at the Tillamook cheese factory for cheese samples and ice cream. So, on our way we went to the Tillamook cheese factory. Before we reached the factory, we were distracted by a large Goodwill and another garage sale sign. Score!

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Chad was getting tired of waiting for me in Goodwill and took the keys to wait in the car for me. When he got to the car he was surprised to see two women standing near it. They introduced themselves and explained that there was a TOW (Teardroppers of Oregon and Washington) gathering up in the mountain and gave him printed driving directions. When I came out of the store, the women were no longer there. I hopped in the car and Chad immediately began telling me about what happened. He said the women had waited nearly twenty minutes for us to come out of Goodwill to invite us to their gathering. We were both pretty shocked that there was such a thing – a teardrop trailer gathering. We didn't think there were that many people that owned teardrops, let alone enough to constitute having a gathering.

We definitely had the time and were very curious to see what this gathering was all about. After checking out the cheese factory, we drove up the mountain to a pretty remote campground where there were about eight to ten teardrop campers and their owners. I don't know about Chad, but I felt slightly intrusive as we first met a few other teardroppers. I didn't think of our camper as a "teardrop" camper since it wasn't a real teardrop shape and we were *not* from Oregon or Washington. Everyone in the group was very friendly and welcoming, and assured us that we fit in. We joined in their potluck dinner that night, sang songs, sat around a bonfire and roasted marshmallows.

A few people made mention of the "IRG" (International Redwood Gathering) and asked if we were on our way there. There are *more* Teardroppers?! – I thought.

Come to find out that there is an even bigger gathering of teardroppers in the redwoods at Pamplin Grove in California every two years. It was to be held the following Wednesday through Sunday – the weekend of Independence Day. This would work perfectly for us! We wouldn't have to fight to get a campsite somewhere that busy holiday weekend, we were going to head down to California and wanted to see the redwoods, and we would get the opportunity to meet more teardroppers and see their campers.

There are limited spaces available for the IRG and it was all sold out. Unfortunately a couple (Randy and Rickie) from the TOW gathering in Oregon had paid for their spot, but would not be able to make it. They were kind enough to sell us their spot. We will be forever grateful to them!

A few of the teardroppers stopped and camped at a fellow teardroppers home. Phil and Beth
We pulled into Pamplin Grove Wednesday, July 2nd. After driving around to find just the right spot to park and camp for the next several days, we found it and started to set up our canopy. As we were setting up, Joanie and Dean walked by. I believe Joanie said, "You must be the kids!" I guess that was what a few of the teardroppers were calling us since we were a bit younger than most of the rest. Joanie and Dean

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introduced themselves and informed us about the check-in process and that the spot Chad was setting up our canopy was full of poison oak. Oops! Yes, Chad *did* end up getting poison oak.

Right from the beginning, our experience at the IRG was great – besides the poison oak. Joani and Dean were amazing coordinators and speakers, and very helpful and friendly. There were daytime activities, music by the community fire pit at night, fantastic potluck dinners, a large raffle and awards. Being at the IRG was a little bit like being a summer camp with family members. If you have a teardrop and you haven't been to the IRG or any other gathering, you're missing out. Chad and I are so happy that we were able to join such a great group of people. It has definitely been the highlight of our entire trip.

We want to thank *everyone* that was at the TOW gathering and the IRG. You've been a part of a great memory for Chad and I and a story we'll tell for years to come. A special thanks to Marianne and Maureen for stalking us outside of the Tillamook Goodwill and inviting us to be a part of such a wonderful group of people.

Have Kid – Will Teardrop

A site for parents camping with kids (and Tiny Trailers) in the Northwest

Blog about Teardropping with kids

<http://havekidwillteardrop.wordpress.com/>



Blog about a Teardropper's recent trip across Route 66

By Jerry Ferguson

This is a blog of my recent 4 week cross country trip including driving the full length of Route 66 from Downtown Chicago to the pier at Santa Monica Ca. Jerry

<http://www.ragtopon66.blogspot.com/>

An offer from a local builder

Hello my name is Michael Maier (co-founder of DNM Teardrops in Eugene Oregon). I am opening a new Teardrop Trailer manufacturing business in Portland Oregon which I will be calling North Coast Teardrops. To generate interest and fund the start up, I am currently offering a \$500 thank you gift to anyone who makes a referral resulting in the sale of a 5x8 or 5x10 Teardrop. My website is currently under construction, so for now contact me by email @ northcoastteardrops@gmail.com for details. Thank you, Michael

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TEARDROPPERS OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON

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A service from TOW for Event Hosts

Hosting an event? If you would like for us to help you set up online registration, contact our webmaster by [clicking here](#). As a service to hosts, TOW can set up a page for you for no fees to Host/TOW (there ARE fees to PayPal, ask for more details)

Great gadget



The Dolphin water pump. While everyone else was going back and forth to the water hose bib, I went once a day and had all of my water needs there at camp! Pump a few times and there was the water to do dishes, clean or whatever. It is also good for drinking water, but I have beer, so heck with that. Dry camping? This \$20.00 gizmo and some water from the machine outside a grocery store and we were off the grid and didn't have to lift the 5 gallon container every time we needed water. [Dolphin Water Pump at Amazon](#). At IRG people asked me about it and said they nominated it for best idea.

RECIPE Dutch oven Cobbler



By Ellen Lancaster

It's easy! A tractor camp favorite!!

You will need:

About 30 charcoal briquettes started in a chimney starter, a Dutch oven with legs and a flat lid to hold the coals on top and somewhere heat proof to set it, about 4 large cans of fruit of your choice, one cake mix of your choice, and a stick of butter.

Drain the fruit and put it in the Dutch oven. Sprinkle on the cake mix and dot on the stick of butter. Put on the lid and put 18 coals under and 11 on the lid. Cook for 30 - 45 minutes or until the cake is nice and brown, when it smells really good it is usually done! You can use any combination of fruit you want, or even fresh fruit and a bit of sugar. Try peaches and spice cake, cherries (or un-drained cherry pie filling) and chocolate cake, mixed fruit and yellow or white cake . . . extra good if someone has ice cream!

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TOW branded items available!

A portion of the sales price goes to TOW (the rest goes to CafePress). There is everything from receiver hitch covers to pajamas. <http://www.cafepress.com/towline>



TOW Name Badges

Save someone from forgetting your name. Nice hard, plastic name badges are available for ordering. They use a strong magnet rather than a pin to attach to your clothing. You need to supply your first and last names and your home town.

Send all email requests for badges to

Attention Terry: (weigel123@comcast.net)

Cost per badge: \$8.50 (prices good thru 2014)

Shipping: U.S.MAIL (packaging & postage) \$5.00

Note: if more than two badges ordered at one time, ask in advance for shipping charges, they could be more.

TOW Camp Site Banners



Hollywood Banners

539 Oak St - Copiague, New York 11726

Phone: [631-842-3000](tel:631-842-3000) - Web www.hollywoodbanners.com

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2014 Event Details

August 29– 31, Tacoma, WASHINGTON

T.O.W. at the LeMay Marymount Open House at the LeMay Open House Campout August 29th TOW participates in the LeMay Open House by showing our trailers and by providing volunteers. As volunteers we are provided with access to the displays, and lots of other goodies. If you choose not to volunteer please contribute to the Open House by paying the entrance fee. Look at the LeMay Family Foundation website to get more details about the Open House and Lucky Collector Car Auction. We hope you will come, camp and volunteer to help. Volunteer applications are due by August 1st.
<http://www.lemaymarymount.org/lemay-at-marymount-events.htm>. There is a lot to see and enjoy at this event.

Camping Registration Fee is \$10.00 per trailer paid to your TOW hosts. The payment to your TOW hosts covers Continental Breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday mornings and a Teardrop Dash Plaque and teardrop sized gift. Please register by contacting Jan Estes before August 1st so at jln4deafkids@hotmail.com. Or by snail mail: Pat 'n' Jan Estes 13504 14th Ave. S. Tacoma, WA 98444. FYI, we dry camp on a field so there is no electricity or showers on site, we have access to port-a-potties and hand washing stations.

Take I-5 exit #127 Hwy 512 driving east towards Mt. Rainer. Drive about three miles, get off at Pacific Ave. Go south about three more miles to a major intersection with 152nd 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).

Register as a volunteer with the LeMay Family Museum at Marymount website:

www.lemaymarymount.org, on this on-line registration form indicate "TEARDROP GROUP" in the space asking for "Club Affiliation".

For camping register with **Pat and Jan Estes**; see the form on the TOW website (www.teardroptrailers.org), mail in the registration and \$10 camping fee by August 1st to Pat Estes, 13504 14th Ave. S, Tacoma, WA 98444. Pat and Jan Estes opasgang@yahoo.com, jln4deafkids@hotmail.com

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September 5-7, Lynden, Washington

Mt Baker Vintage Trailer Rally Come join us at the Pacific Northwest's largest vintage trailer rally. We had 146 trailers at the 2013 event let's make 2014 bigger. The official dates are the 5-7 of Sept but you can come as early as the 2nd. The price is \$20 per night and an \$18 rally fee. More details and schedule to follow later. Contact Brian Morrow 253-431-9709 or maxandchip@aol.com Power and water are available for all. Just bring a hose and ext. cord. Bathrooms with showers are on site.



September 18-27, near Austin, Nevada

Jefferson State TearJerkers' Reunion at the Glyphs at the Hickeson Petroglyphs Campground, 25 miles east of historic Austin, NV, and just off Hwy 50, dry primitive camping with vault toilets, self-guided petroglyph trail, nearby natural hot springs, spectacular star gazing, maybe ride the Ghost Train in Ely a couple of hours east. More info on JSC section of TearJerkers' website, http://www.tearjerkers.net/new_forum/viewforum.php?f=10&sid=2a39133dd3a42c176cb8993e59482e54 or from kayperkay@msn.com

September 19-21, Union Gap, Washington

TNT (teardrops and tractors), the sequel a gathering of all small and vintage trailers. Central Washington Agricultural Museum in Union Gap (next to Yakima), Washington. WHY: Winding down from a great summer of fun in a place that still thinks its summer. WHO: Contact Doug Clark at sealark2@juno.com or 509-972-8771. HOW MUCH: FREE!!!! (We will be passing the hat for donations to the museum)

The Ag Museum is located on 17 acres of park, most is lawn type with shade trees, excellent for our type of camping. Although you should think of this as 'dry' camping, water is available at several locations. Port-a-potties will be present and there is a flush toilet in the visitor's center.

There is a power pole for those with a medical NEED. Generators, dogs (usual restrictions) and portable fire pits are allowed. Several truck stops for showers are nearby. Alcohol is not permitted with the following exception: We are going to have wine tasting both Friday and Saturday night. Friday is wine and chocolate and Saturday is wine and cheese. Those wishing to participate MUST contact Doug Clark by Monday, 9/15. (21+ years old, of course)

The museum's normal hours are from 10 to 4. Normally, the gate is closed to drive in traffic at 4pm but the gate is NOT locked. You are most welcome to come and go, just close it behind you.

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DIRECTIONS: Go to centralwaagmuseum.org and download the directions there. Otherwise, go to Union Gap and follow the signs as you head south out of town.



September 27–28, Mulino, Oregon

Fall Brigade This year, the annual fall rally for teardrops and vintage TTTs will start September 27th. See the Event Page on the TOW website www.teardroptrailers.org for the registration form. A confirmation email will be sent out that will give driving directions and outline activities. This gathering of our family of TOW friends wraps up the camping schedule for the year. It's held in a quaint vintage lodge heated by a fireplace. This site is

located about 15 miles South of Oregon City (part of the greater Portland Metropolitan area). The Oregon City Elks Lodge owns this private, invite-only campground. It's a "dry" camp with power for medical reasons available. Remember to bring your outdoor extension cord if you need power.

This year you can sign up for Fall Brigade with your credit card securely on the web. Simply navigate to <http://teardroptrailers.org/fall-brigade-sign-up.html> or click [here](#). In addition we are offering a \$5.00 discount if you sign up before September first. Event fees are refundable* through 9/15 and camping fees are refundable*.

Friday night there will be 8 can Taco Soup and an Appetizer Pot Luck, followed by good times in the lovely lodge. Remember, you might get pranked with faux Strip-Bo courtesy of our Canadian friends.

Saturday Teardrops Northwest will be having an open house and we will be able to tour their facility. There is also antiquing in the city of Aurora as well as the nearby Oregon Gardens. Dinner will be a Pot Luck followed by a Dutch Raffle.

There will be breakfast on Sunday, and since we may have the kitchen this year, as well as the lodge, we may be able to con Matt into some **REAL** cooking.

What is a Dutch Raffle you ask? Aside from it being a great way to get rid of decent stuff you don't want anymore (remember if no one wins it YOU have to take it home) it is a fun way to "bid" for things with your raffle tickets. You get raffle tickets for:

- Showing up
- Paying early
- Making your bed if the raffle team notices
- Being nice to the Fall Brigade Team
- Telling a good joke

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- Telling a bad joke
- I think you get the idea

Everyone brings at least one thing that someone might want (again someone has to take it or YOU take it home) in front of each item is a bag. The raffle tickets go in the bag, want something badly? More tickets. Don't want something don't put any tickets in that items' bag. On Saturday night we will go through the bags and pull out a ticket for each item. It is fast and fun.

Contact: the Fall Brigade Team FallBrigade@teardroptrailers.org
[Registration](#)

Need a gift for a Teardropper or a Glamper?

Think about soap: <http://shop.bubblucious.com/>

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2014 Event Calendar

*ROVT Event: please see <http://www.rovt.org/events.htm> for more information

DATE	EVENT	INFO	HOST
Aug 29-31, 2014 Tacoma, Washington	<u>LeMay</u>	An annual event on the grounds of the LeMay Museum	Pat and Jan Estes registration form: www.teardroptrailers.org/LeMayRegistration.PDF Contact Information opasgang@yahoo.com , jln4deafkids@hotmail.com
September 4-8, 2014 Flagstaff, ARIZONA	<u>Arizona Chapter TearJerkers Green Retreat Gathering</u>	Pine Grove Campgrounds, 19 mi. south of Flagstaff, AZ	http://www.recreation.gov/camping/Pineg
Sept 5-7 Mt Baker, Washington	<u>Mt Baker Vintage Trailer Rally</u>	The Pacific Northwest's largest vintage trailer rally Come as early as the 2 nd	Brian Morrow 253-431-9709 or maxandchip@aol.com
*Sept 12-14, 2014	<u>4th Annual South Beach Rally</u>	Relaxed event at South Beach State Park, Newport OR	http://www.rovt.org/events.htm
September 17-21, 2014 (TENTATIVE) Mountain Center, CALIFORNIA	<u>Fifth Annual Summer Event Mountain Get-Away Teardrop & Vintage Trailer Rally</u>	At Hurkey Creek Park	carrosel43@yahoo.com , or call 951-929-2891. Website: http://teardroptime.weebly.com/hurkey-creek.html
September 18-21, 2014 near Austin, NEVADA	<u>TearJerkers' Reunion at the Glyphs Jefferson State</u>	at the Glyphs at the Hickeson Petroglyphs Campground, 25 miles east of historic Austin, NV	kayperkay@msn.com http://www.tearjerkers.net/new_forum/viewforum.php?f=10&sid=2a39133dd3a42c176cb8993e59482e54

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September 19-21, 2014 Union Gap , Washington	<u>TNT(teardrops and tractors), the sequel</u>	Return to the Central Washington Agriculture Museum	Contact Doug Clark mailto:sealark2@juno.com or 509- 972-8771
Sept 26-28, 2014 Mulino , Oregon	<u>Fall Brigade</u>	Held at the Oregon City Elks Park	Marrienne Byrd Fallbrigade@teardroptrailers.org Registration Form
*Oct 3-5, 2014	<u>2nd Champoeg Park Rally</u>		Contact Ralph or Sherry Hall http://www.rovt.org/events.htm
October 10-13, 2014 Ocean Cove , CALIFORNIA	<u>C5XVIII - Cam's 18th Cool Coastal Cliffside Campout</u>	Ocean Cove Campgrounds in Ocean Cove, CA,	d.ave.2006@hotmail.com
October 17-19, 2014 Banning , CALIFORNIA	<u>Spooky Mountain Campout Halloween Haunt</u>	One-and-only time Halloween vintage trailer and teardrop campout at Silent Valley Campground	carrosel43@yahoo.com , or call 951-929- 2891. Website: http://teardroptime.weebly.com/spooky- mountain-camp-out.html Silent Valley Campground: www.silentvalleyclub.com