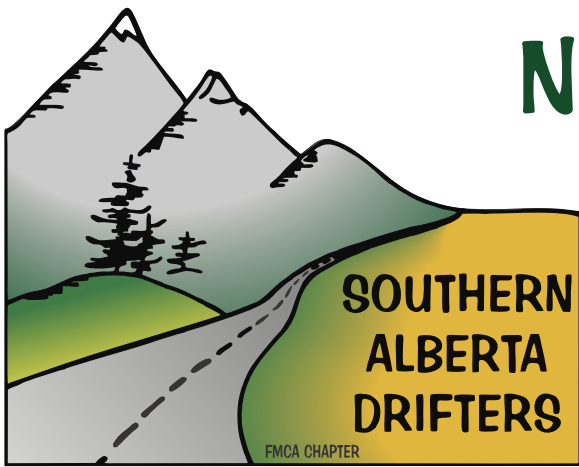




NEWS DRIFTS

December 2023
Volume 21, Issue #5



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Officers and Directors 2024

President, Gerrit Nel
gerrit1nel@gmail.com • 403-921-7963
Vice President, vacant

Secretary, Stephen Pick
scamp.mobile@gmail.com • 403-422-0091
Treasurer, Carr McLeod
carr.mcleod@gmail.com • 587-329-0060

National Director
Stephen Pick
Alternate National Director
Lane Kellam
Newsletter, Stephen & Anne Pick
scamp.mobile@gmail.com • 403-422-0091
Membership, Everyone !!

General Info

Southern Alberta Drifters is a registered chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association. Membership is open to any FMCA member in good standing.

All cheques, registration, and sign-up forms, should be sent by e-transfer to southernalbertadrifters@gmail.com or mail to our Treasurer:

Carr McLeod 35 Ranch Estates Drive NW
Calgary, AB T3G 1J9

Official mailing address is:
Gerrit Nel 25 Sleigh Drive
Redwood Meadows, AB T3Z 1A1

Website : www.southernalbertadrifters.ca

Stephen's Ramblings

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year !

It is that time of year again. Member rigs are either parked for the winter, or packed for a run to warmer latitudes (if not already there!). Safe drives to all heading south and on their return north, and for those staying here, may your batteries hold their charge and the mice stay out of your parked unit.

Our winter will be spent at home. We have various minor maintenance plans for the Class A (hopefully the overheat issue is now solved!). For the travel trailer, some suspension upgrades and interior organization fixes to prepare for our return trip to the Yukon and Tuktoyaktuk in August (nice to have a heated indoor workspace for these winter projects!).

We purchased an EcoFlow Pro Lithium Ion battery unit and solar panels that we can move back and forth between the two RVs. It has a 30 amp outlet that you can directly plug the RV into, and a 12 volt outlet that you can alternatively tie in to the rig. Far simpler than trying to retrofit a lithium power bank into our 2001 Class A (so much needed to be upgraded), and it covers both units so is more cost effective. For comparison, it will over triple the dry camping power available for the trailer, and give us 120v power in it if needed (great for making that morning coffee). Will let you all know how it works out!



Name	_____
Hometown	_____
Position	_____

We will be doing a print run of new member and position badges early in the new year. If you need a fix or an info change on your name badge, let me know asap as we only do these in batches to keep the cost down.

email Stephen at scampmobile@gmail.com

The 2024 Rally Schedule is included in this issue with some minor updates from the previous newsletter. Keep an eye on our website for any other changes that may crop up.

May dates are locked in with the campground for 8 to 10 rigs. A sign up sheet will be sent out in March.

For those interested in joining the 2024 Caravan in July, you must advise Carr McLeod asap (carr.mcleod@gmail.com) as he has to book the sites now. A quick overview of locations and the route is included in this issue. You can check out the News Drifts issues on our website for 2022 and 2023 to see how the two previous caravans went. Both were a lot of fun!

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Annual Dues

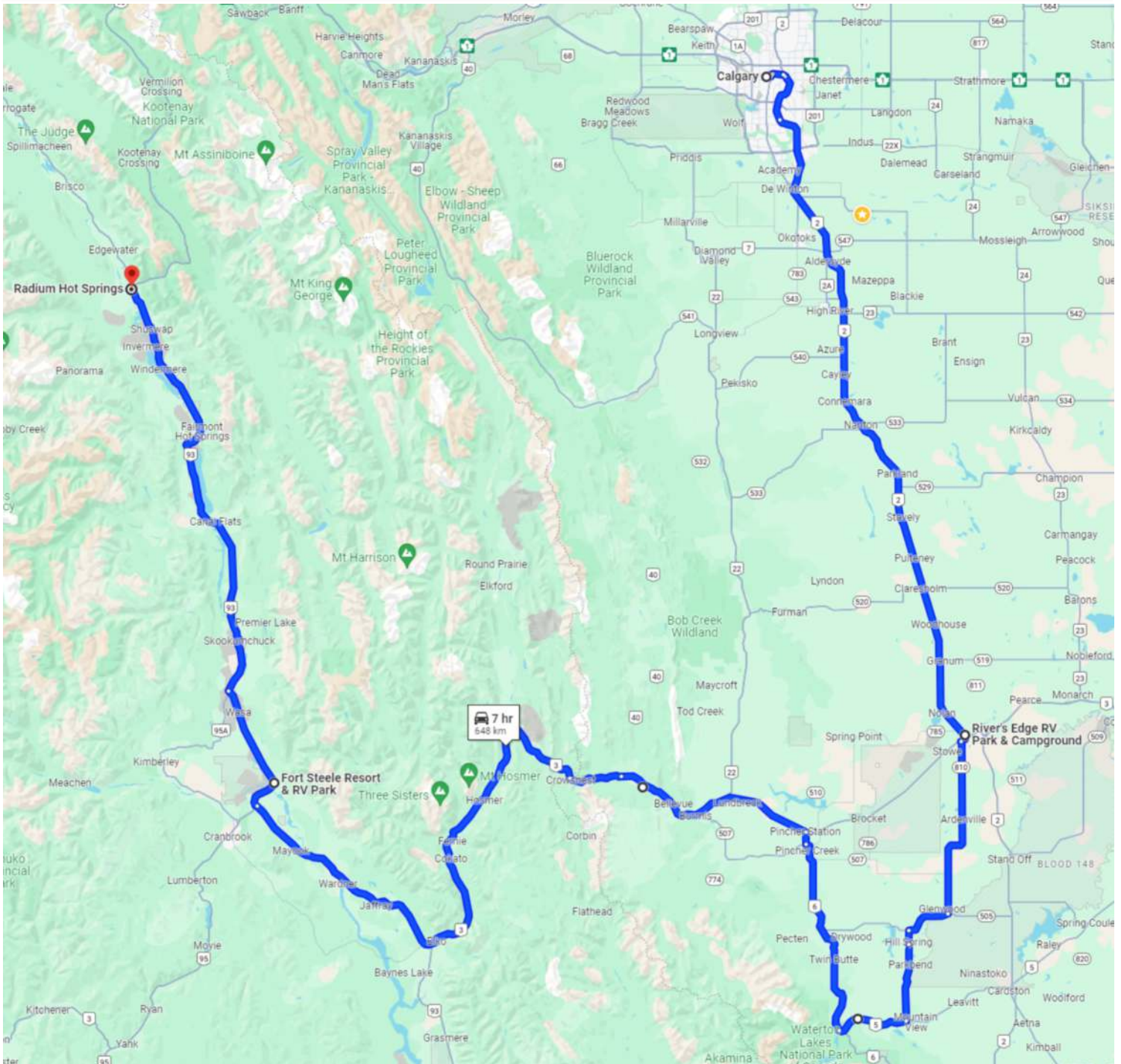
Have you paid your 2024 dues?

It's just \$20 per year ... consider paying for more than one year to make things easier!

Send your e-transfer payment now to SouthernAlbertaDrifters@gmail.com to ensure you get newsletters, rally sign-ups, and all other info during the year.

Or mail your cheque to: Carr McLeod, Treasurer, Southern Alberta Drifters
35 Ranch Estates Drive NW, Calgary AB T3G 1J9

July 2024 Caravan - Current Plans



Caravan 2024 — July 2nd to 12th

2 nights at each location

Location	Campground	Area Activities
1) Fort Macleod	Rivers Edge RV Park	Head Smashed In Buffalo Jump, NWMP Museum
2) Waterton Park	Crooked Creek Campground	Waterton Park
3) Blairmore	Lost Lemon Campground	Frank Slide, Lumberck Falls
4) Fort Steele, BC	Fort Steele Resort and RV Park	Heritage town and gold panning
5) Radium, BC	TBD	

2024 Events

May 9 - 12	Lions Campground, Black Diamond <ul style="list-style-type: none"> power/water/sewer & dump station 	<i>Organizers / Hosts: Picks</i>
June 13-16	High Eagle RV Park, Rosebud <ul style="list-style-type: none"> power/water & dump station 	<i>Organizers / Hosts: Nels</i>
July 2-12	Caravan through SW Alberta and into BC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Macleod, Waterton Park, Blairmore, Fort Steele, Radium 	<i>Organizers / Hosts: C McLeods</i>
August 22-25	'Annual Salmon Fest' Three Hills Campground <ul style="list-style-type: none"> power/water/sewer & dump station 	<i>Organizers / Hosts: TBD</i>
September TBA	'Another Year in the Books' Joint Rally with other AB Chapters, Location TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> power/water & dump station TBD annual kite event, putt/putt golf, horseshoes, ladder golf AGM, Elections for Vice President & Secretary discussion/planning for 2025 	<i>Organizers / Hosts: Klondikers / Wild Rose</i>

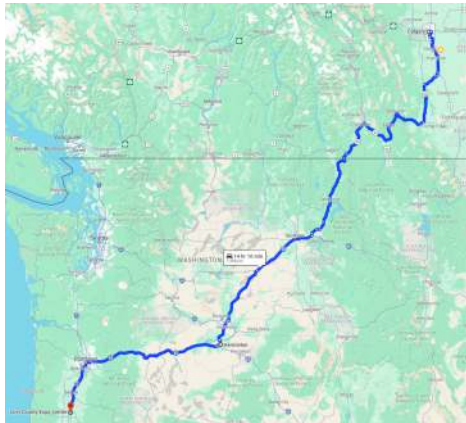
Stephen's Ramblings

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There are a few "nearby" FMCA events you can consider attending in 2024.

The 109th FMCA International Convention will be held in Redmond Oregon, **August 14th through 17th**. Going forward, this is likely the closest location that the Convention will be held at. Sign up information will be online (www.FMCA.com), and in the magazine in the next month or so. Two of our Chapter members are considering attending, so perhaps join up with them and camp together on the grounds.

For anyone interested in the behind-the-scenes workings, there will be two FMCA Northwest Area planning meetings ... **April 23rd - 25th**, and **September 24th - 26th**, both in Albany Oregon. The earlier one will be focussed on planning and organizing volunteers for the International Convention (*so if you go, be ready to sign up or sit on your hands!*). The fall meeting will be focussed on planning for 2025.



Well that's it from your newsletter team for 2023. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Enjoyable New Year !!

Looking forward to catching up with all of you in May in Diamond Valley, for good times and trading of stories of winter events, and plans for summer 2024 adventures in your RV.

Info & Recruiting

We will be putting together and updating our various information and recruiting materials for 2024. We will incorporate this QR code for an easy link to our webpage. And we will provide handouts and window signs to rally attendees in the spring/summer 2024.

As we go into the 2024 Rally season, consider inviting your RV friends to join us for a rally.

