



# NEWS DRIFTS



**FAMILYRV**  
ASSOCIATION

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## Hand Hills High Country Rally



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New Members!  
Thanks!

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### 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 dues, rally registration fees, and other payments, should be sent by e-transfer to  
[southernalbertadrifters@gmail.com](mailto:southernalbertadrifters@gmail.com)

Rally sign up details should be sent by email to the host as per that events registration form.

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

Website : [www.southernalbertadrifters.ca](http://www.southernalbertadrifters.ca)

Participants arrived on Thursday afternoon on a rainy and windy day. Although the campground is very nice, it didn't suit all the bigger rigs too well. Some corners are tight, and the spots, while nice and private, are a little tight. Other than these issues, the campground was excellent, and many said they would return.



Due to the rain and wind, we were able to meet in a cookhouse that the owners had closed off from the wind. This was our first meeting to discuss the deployment of the AED. We noted where our AED was, whether there was another AED in the campground, who had at least some CPR training, and what the emergency address for the campground was. This information was stored on a small whiteboard and displayed in Gerrit's front window. We recommend following this procedure for all rallies and caravan stops.

Thursday evening continued miserable weather-wise, so people ate dinner in their rigs. Emery and Jeanette invited people to their tent, attached to their RV, which was sheltered and heated. A few hardy participants came out.

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# Hand Hills High Country Rally

.... cont'd from pg 1



Friday morning dawned foggy after significant overnight rain. Gerrit, Elsabé and Bob provided a very welcome hot breakfast and coffee. A rousing game of card bingo was held with several participants taking home varying pots. The afternoon had been scheduled to be a visit to a coal mine or the Royal Tyrell in Drumheller. In checking with the coal mine, they let us know they had a group of over 100 school kids in attendance and recommended we might try to find another day. With that information, people were left to choose their afternoon activities, with some heading into Drumheller.



Happy Hour led into another great Potluck supper with plenty of food for everyone. During supper, our phones alerted us to a tornado warning for our county. A quick radar check identified the culprit thunderstorm about 30 km north of us and heading east. Close, but we were safe. We dodged other thunderstorms after supper, and met for a fireside event outdoors this time. Marilyn brought songbooks, and with her leading, we managed some old classics grandly.





# Hand Hills High Country Rally

.... cont'd from pg 2



Saturday dawned nicer than the previous days, and again the trio of Bob, Elsabé and Gerrit provided another hot breakfast. This was followed by a game of LCR dice, which John professed he didn't understand, but managed to win two out of three rounds. The afternoon was consumed with a mini-golf game. Few had seen concrete fairways and greens before, and some holes were indeed challenging. The campground admitted the course needs upgrades, but they provided clubs and balls for no charge. Prizes were awarded at Happy Hour with Gerrit, Jeanette, Ernie and Lane taking home mementos.



Bob, with help from Gerrit and Elsabé, led a campground-style dinner of hamburgers (with an amazing assortment of toppings) and salads. Undeterred, we met for another campfire and sing-along. This time, Ernie brought his mandolin, and Marilyn's song books made another appearance. Some believed the singing improved in proportion to the wine consumed.





## 2025 Events

July 10 - 20

**Caravan 2025 — NE Alberta/NW Saskatchewan Loop**

- Camrose, Lloydminster, Meadow Lake PP, Battleford, Pike Lake PP

**Organizer:**  
**Carr McLeod**

August 21 - 24

**Black Sheep Camp, Rocky Mountain House, Alberta  
Salmon Fest #3**

- dump, hiking, Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site, Saturday Farmers' Market
- Annual Business Meeting, and elections for President and Treasurer

**Organizers / Hosts:**  
**TBD**

September 11 - 14

**Lions Nesting Place Campground, Rimbey, Alberta**

- 30 amp power, water, dump
- Smithson International Truck Museum, Hawktaill Brewery

**Organizers / Hosts:**  
**Dave & Marilyn Johnston**

*The above events are subject to change. Watch for upcoming event dates and details as they become available!*

## 2025 Diamond Valley Rally

.... cont'd from pg 3



Sunday was met with a welcome continental breakfast, and hugs and farewells as people headed off for home, some to enjoy the remainder of Father's Day.

All in all, despite the challenges of the weather and some campground issues, the rally was enjoyable. Thanks to Emery and Jeanette Leraand of the Wild Rose FVRA Chapter for attending as guests. They have since joined the Drifters, and we look forward to seeing them at future rallies.

## New Members !



**Tom & Carol Hyatt**  
Okotoks, AB  
**Emery & Jeanette Leraand**  
Calgary, AB  
**Greg & Karen Samson**  
Okotoks, AB

## Thanks !

Thanks to Bob Bishop for being photographer and collecting pics from others, and getting them to us. Thanks to Carr McLeod for the verbage to go with the pics!  
There couldn't have been able to be an issue without you ...

