OREGON RIVER RAMBLERS
NORTHWEST FRVA RALLY AT KO-KWEL CASINO RESORT, COOS BAY
JUNE 17-20, 2026

The Oregon River Ramblers were over-represented among the volunteer ranks at this Northwest rally. George Doersch was in charge of seminars; Ed Stutz was in charge of vendors; Kathy Greenwell was captain for the Greeters; and Janice Burke was once again in charge of Chapter Fair. Spouses Sally, Gary and Dick were there to help. Jerry Yoder was there, as usual, with the parking crew. Robin and Lavonne Hamilton, Ron and Cindy Hoff, Lyle and Linda Palmer, and Karen Purvis helped out with the greeting duties. Jerry and Jackie Brooks provided moral support, and we were so happy to see Jerry thriving after his cancer surgery.

Some of us paid for an extra night to come in early on Monday, and most of the rest arrived by Tuesday. Rally duties started on Wednesday when the greeters braved horrible, chilly winds to sit outside and wave at rigs as they arrived. Greeters were originally told they would be in charge of handing out will call packets to arrivals since NO packets were sent out ahead of time, but it turned out the parking crew handled that. To say this rally was a bit disorganized would be an understatement.

Kathy Greenwell had also volunteered to help with the 50/50 drawing, and she enlisted Karen to pound the pavement inside the RV park and among the dry campers for hours on Saturday afternoon, selling over $700 worth of tickets. Half went to a local food bank, and the other half was divided among three winners. Of all things, Kathy was one of the winners! Because the group had to be so careful about not doing ANY such "gambling" within the casino, that whole operation had to be conducted outside and was low-key.

Janice gave her Harvest Hosts/Boondockers Welcome seminar, and she and Kathy did a lighted bottle craft seminar which went over well. All of the vendors, meals and chapter fair were in the Salmon Room, including morning hospitality, the hot dog bash, the ice cream social and a catered dinner on Saturday night. A "yard sale" was held in front of individual rigs on Saturday, which turned out to be about the only day nice enough to hold something like that. The first days were just terribly windy. Entertainment after dinner on Saturday was provided by a local band, Timberwolf, which kept folks staying and dancing longer than anyone probably expected. They were very good. Of course Sunday, the day we left, was the nicest, sunniest of all. Figures.

Lindsey Hargett, whom many of us know from his days at Guarantee in Junction City, is now with Beaver in Bend and brought about a half dozen rigs, mostly used Newmars, to display; he spends a lot of time at Winchester Bay with his coaches and moved them all by himself.

Different bunches of us shared some dinners out together at either the casino's bar or other venues in town. It's nice to attend this Northwest rally and mingle with members of other Northwest chapters as well as quite a few folks who were attending their first NW rally. Attendance was approximately 130, which makes it hard to attract vendors, but I think most of us enjoyed ourselves.

Janice Burke, Newsletter Person