OREGON RIVER RAMBLERS
APRIL 2026 RALLY AT SUTHERLIN/UMPQUA VALLEY KOA

Another rally is in the books! Kathy and Gary Greenwell and Gail and Emory Ball were our hosts at this lovely park in Sutherlin. Keith and Cathy Bender, Jim and Nancy Ogborn and Elmer Ogborn and Sue Akre made a week of it by arriving on Sunday or Monday, and the rest of us came in on Wednesday: The Balls, Dick and Janice Burke, George and Sally Doersch, the Greenwells, and Ed Stutz. Rich and Eileen Sanders and Richard Torres and Faye Carter all paid the rally fee and drove in each day to join us for most of the clubhouse meals and games.

Since this park became part of the KOA system, many improvements have been made, and the clubhouse was clean and cute with a 50's theme. Each site had a little fenced area with a bistro table and chairs as well.

On Thursday evening we headed down Central Avenue to Yummy House for a nice Chinese meal. On Friday morning we had donuts and muffins in the clubhouse. Friday was a nice sunny day, and folks enjoyed venturing to town, visiting or playing Five Crowns. For dinner we had pulled pork sandwiches, side dishes and desserts. Ed called card bingo for us, and Emory was the $12 winner.

On Saturday morning Keith cooked pancakes and Sue Akre made a breakfast casserole which we enjoyed along with sausage, bacon and juice. Some of us played Five Crowns again after enjoying visiting outside in the beautiful sunshine. We headed back down Central Avenue to Cancun Mexican Restaurant for dinner, followed by ice cream sandwiches and visiting in the clubhouse.

On Sunday morning we enjoyed breakfast burritos with scrambled eggs (Gail), potatoes (Ed), cheese, salsa and sour cream. We had a little excitement before breakfast when we heard a huge crash and Kathy Greenwell's cheesy potatoes ended up all over the floor as the ladies were moving them. It was truly a heartbreaking scene! The park's main man came in to assist with the quick cleanup. We were also tickled to receive new coasters Keith had done on his 3-D printer to commemorate the rally, this time with a drive-in movie theme that matched his new light fixture.

Sunday was another good day for visiting outside. Elmer and Sue brought a jigsaw puzzle over to the clubhouse, and a handful of us helped them work on it, but alas, it was a difficult, dark one and did not get finished!

Sunday's dinner was hamburgers and salads along with several desserts and a nice birthday cake (and card) celebrating Jim Ogborn's 90th birthday coming up the following week. Since a game of Left/Right/Center was not going to work on the separate tables that the park asked us not to rearrange, and since we all had our $3 to play with anyway, Ed called three rounds of card bingo at $1 per round per person. The three $16 pots were won by Ed, Jim and George. (Janice played their table's extra hand for Ed.)

Monday was continental breakfast day with a variety of NEW Costco pastries, hard-boiled eggs, yogurt, fruit and juice. Cathy B. had sold 50/50 tickets, and the $50 pot was won by Rich Torres. Everyone pitched in to clean up, and four of us (Burke, Doersch, Greenwell and Stutz) headed next to Ko-Kwel in Coos Bay for the planning meeting for the Northwest Area Rally in June. By the way, we saw more elk at the Dean Creek viewing area than we've EVER seen before—at least three groups totaling maybe 200.

Thanks to the Balls and Greenwells for planning this nice rally, and special thanks to Ed for a weekend of cooking and calling our bingo games. I think we all expected a pretty rainy weekend, and instead it was surprisingly nice!

Janice Burke, Newsletter Person