



# HORIZON HERALD

Vol. 6, No. 1 or 2

New Horizons Owners Newsletter

April 2004

## New Horizons Owners Rally

# 2004

### Ready, Set, GO!

**E**xcitement Mounts!  
We are less than one month from the date of the 2004 New Horizons Rally. We hope to see you there!

The Rally begins on Wednesday afternoon, April 28, with an informal happy hour get-together and dinner at a local restaurant. Rally sessions and socializing continue through Sunday, May 2. The 2004 rally will be held at the Fredericksburg RV Park in Fredericksburg, TX. At the time of this publication, there were over 40 owners registered for the rally.

This year, the rally committee has planned an exciting, but laid-back schedule, with enough time for exchanging ideas, touring rigs and sightseeing around the beautiful Hill Country of Texas. Most formal rally sessions will be held in the morning, with rig tours and local activities saved for the afternoons.

Phil Brokenicky will be joining us on Thursday to share the exciting new changes that Horizons is making to its units. Joe Green will conduct a session on suspension systems and brakes and a session on things to consider when selecting a tow vehicle. We hope to have a session about the latest in wireless internet.


Joe Thompson and Chips Kessler will share their stories of their recent trek through Mexico and the beautiful Copper Canyon. Roger Bell will show photos of interesting places in the southwest and ask you to share about your favorite travel destination. AND there will be lots of time for everyone to ask questions about any topic and to share their experiences.

If you haven't sent in your registration form, you can still attend. The cost of this year's rally is \$25 for singles and \$40 for couples, which covers rally expenses and one catered meal.

If you haven't registered but want to come, contact Joe Thompson as soon as possible. You can email him at [w4crh@hotmail.com](mailto:w4crh@hotmail.com) or call him at (813) 220-6111 and work out the details with him. Remember if you plan to arrive before April 28 or leave after May 3, you will need to contact the RV park directly to make your reservation for those days outside of the rally days. (You can call them at 866-324-7275 to make those extra days' reservations.)

Contact Roger and Sue Bell if you want to participate in a rally session (email [rogbell@earthlink.net](mailto:rogbell@earthlink.net) or call us at 714-330-7350). We look forward to seeing you in Fredericksburg!

### Pot of Gold

 We have been full-timing for four years, two years in a 28-foot straight-hitch Brand 'X' trailer and now two much more enjoyable RV-lifestyle years in a New Horizons 5th-wheel. We picked up our NH34RKSSS on January 23, 2002, and while we were getting moved in and having a few add-ons done, Junction City was hit by a big snowstorm. We were stranded at the factory until the roads cleared. The temperature got down to 7 degrees, but we were very comfortable and tested everything on our new home except the air conditioner.

Our trailer is #524 and I think that it is the first NH with the MOR/ryde Suspension System. While at the Escapees Spring Escapade in March 2002 we had the trailer and our medium-duty truck weighed by RVSEE (A'Veigh We Go), and all weighed out perfect. We are pleased with the MOR/ryde, we have not had any problems with a rear kitchen as many RVers warned. In fact, we are pleased to report that we have not had any problems with our NH.

—Vance & Joanne Smith

## What's To Become Of The Herald?

*This is my last issue as editor of the Horizon Herald. Thanks to everyone who has written in saying nice things about my efforts, and to all who have gone ahead and sent in their subscription fees as a vote of confidence for the new editor, whoever he or she may be. Following are a few pertinent comments and suggestions concerning the future of the newsletter, sent in by alert readers.*

Nancy: Roger and I want to thank you for your service as the editor, writer, publisher, etc. of the *Horizon Herald*. I'm sure that sitting down to a blank sheet of paper every other month to fill it with interesting articles can seem like

an unwanted chore on occasion. ...[effective compliments edited for modesty's sake -- ed.]... We are sorry that personal reasons have necessitated your resigning. When the *Horizon Herald* arrives, Roger and I always fight over who gets to read it first. We will miss your cheerful prose. Perhaps you would agree to write a periodic column in upcoming issues. ...

We would like to comment to anyone considering volunteering for this job that they do not need to fill your shoes — that might seem like an impossibility that could stop someone from volunteering. We all understand and expect the

— continued on page two —

# Who You Gonna Call?

Many years ago, a number of owners of New Horizons recreational vehicles expressed a desire to get to know each other and share experiences. The New Horizons Owners Group was formed as an informal association of New Horizons owners, separate from the manufacturer, Horizons, Inc. and "staffed" by interested owner volunteers.

If you want to contact the manufacturer, call Horizons, Inc. at (800) 235-3140, go their website at [www.Horizonsrv.com](http://www.Horizonsrv.com), or email them at [horizons@horizonsrv.com](mailto:horizons@horizonsrv.com).

The New Horizons Owners' Group website is maintained on a volunteer basis by Fred Folkers. You can visit the website at [www.nhog.org](http://www.nhog.org), or email Fred at [ffolkers@nhog.org](mailto:ffolkers@nhog.org) with ideas or questions. As a convenience to New Horizons owners, you can ask Fred to post information on the website about private sales of New Horizons rigs, but the co-ordination of the sale is entirely the responsibility of the owner.

The New Horizons Rally is an informal gathering of New Horizons owners with a primary purpose of sharing information and experiences. Each rally

## WHAT WAS IT?

Sadly, nobody won the contest by recognizing this photo from the Horizons, Inc. factory. It's a bunch of freshly varnished little wood plugs for covering sunken screw-heads. (Owners of older rigs with living room slides often find them underfoot.) Oh, and I forgot to mention the prize would have been a brand-new NH Summit. Too bad....



is organized by a group of volunteers. Provided there is enough interest among owners, we hope to hold a rally/rendezvous every few years.

The co-chairs for the 2004 rally are: Joe Thompson, [w4cth@hotmail.com](mailto:w4cth@hotmail.com) or (813) 220-6111; and Sue and Roger Bell, [rogbell@earthlink.net](mailto:rogbell@earthlink.net) or (714) 330-7350. The other members of the 2004 rally committee are: Charlie and Annette Barker; Linda and Mel Collart; Jim Diehl and Anita Hickman; Kirk and Gen Griffith; Kevin and Pat Murphy; and Ralph Schinnerer.

The rallies are funded by the modest fees paid by rally participants and rally sessions are conducted by owner volunteers or selected vendors. (In 2004, Horizons, Inc. is making a generous contribution toward the cost of a catered dinner.) The money from the rally fees is deposited into a bank account maintained by the treasurer, Joe Thompson, and rally expenses are paid or reimbursed from that account. If you would like information about the account, contact Joe.

If you would like to receive mailings, etc. about activities, rallies, etc. for the Horizons owners group, please make sure that we have your up-to-date contact information. You can contact either Ralph Schinnerer [[ralphs@pcisys.net](mailto:ralphs@pcisys.net) or (719) 226-0145] or Sue Bell [[suebell2@earthlink.net](mailto:suebell2@earthlink.net) or (714) 330-7350] with this information.

The Horizon Herald is written and published periodically by a volunteer. We are looking for a new editor to take over this task. You can contact Roger or Sue Bell or Joe Thompson about any interest you may have in working on the Horizon Herald.

## What's To Become Of The Herald?

— continued from front page —

next editor to bring his/her own style. As you noted, the newsletter does not need to be as full as you have made it — one or two pages is fine. After all, the Herald depends on the contributions of the owners, and if there are none, the newsletter will reflect that. In addition, the newsletter does not need to be published so frequently. We think that a schedule of quarterly (or even semi-annual) publications would be fine.

We hope that our owners will think creatively about this task — if someone wanted to do the writing, there would probably be another owner who would be willing to do the publishing and mailing. Perhaps there might be a team of owners who rotate the task among themselves, sharing the responsibility throughout the year. We hope that there is an owner or owners out there who are willing to give it a try. It would be a shame to have all the prior efforts to start and develop this publication be lost.

—Sue & Roger Bell

If we can't get an editor, I am going to recommend that Fred be asked to take on the responsibility of posting interesting news. So, it will be up to the membership.

—Joe Thompson

I'd like to suggest that the *Horizon Herald* be published from now on in electronic form — either as an adjunct to the website or to be emailed. (My preference would be the website, because those with slow connections could access it at will and not be presented with a long email whenever it happens to be published.) I'm guessing that in this day and time, the vast majority of the subscribers have access to the internet. My idea is that the newsletter would be no cost to those who provide an email address for notification purposes. For those few who simply cannot access the internet, we could charge the \$12 or whatever per year and then they would get only a snail-mailed printout of the web pages. This would also allow us to email-notify others we might choose to, such as select employees of Horizons, Mor-Ryde, RV Consumer Group, etc.

Finally, if nobody else volunteers and provided the previous suggestion is adopted, I will volunteer to maintain the newsletter upon Nancy's departure. I'm sure I won't demonstrate the elegance that she and the McNally's before her did, but I'll keep it going until we can find a true journalist.

—Fred A. Folkers  
[ffolkers@nhog.org](mailto:ffolkers@nhog.org)



## SOUTH OF THE BORDER



We wanted to let you know about our Mexican experiences this winter.

We entered Mexico On January 2 at the Nogales, AZ crossing. Two years in a row we signed up for a Copper Canyon Caravan and two years in a row that first caravan of the year was cancelled, so we just went by ourselves. Each place we stopped we met wonderful RVers, who often joined us for the next few days or for our next adventure.

We spent three days in the pretty little seaside town of San Carlos. Then we moved on to the old silver mining center of Alamos. We enjoyed exploring the colonial architecture and meeting some fascinating characters, both Mexican and Gringo.

Moving on to El Fuerte, another former silver center, we spent six days exploring the town and then taking the Copper Canyon train to Divisadero for a

night and two days. The train ride is amazing. Spectacular scenery; spotlessly clean train with reclining seats, loads of leg room, a nice bar car and a lovely and reasonably priced dining car. Don't let anyone talk you into taking the private train car that is sometimes offered. It is not nearly as nice as the regular first-class train.

We spent our night on the canyon rim with a Mexican family who spoke NO English. Our English-Spanish dictionary got lots of use.

El Fuerte has one of the prettiest central plazas and government buildings we have seen, and several beautiful hotels and restaurants. We visited the old Spanish-built fort that has been restored and watched folks canoeing down th El Fuerte River.

The next two and a half months we spent in Mazatlan. We had intended to

spend some time going further south, but Kirk decided to have some pretty extensive dental work done where the cost is about one quarter of what it would be at home and that required frequent office visits. The dentist was great and had better equipment than our dentist at home and everything was PAINLESS, according to Kirk.

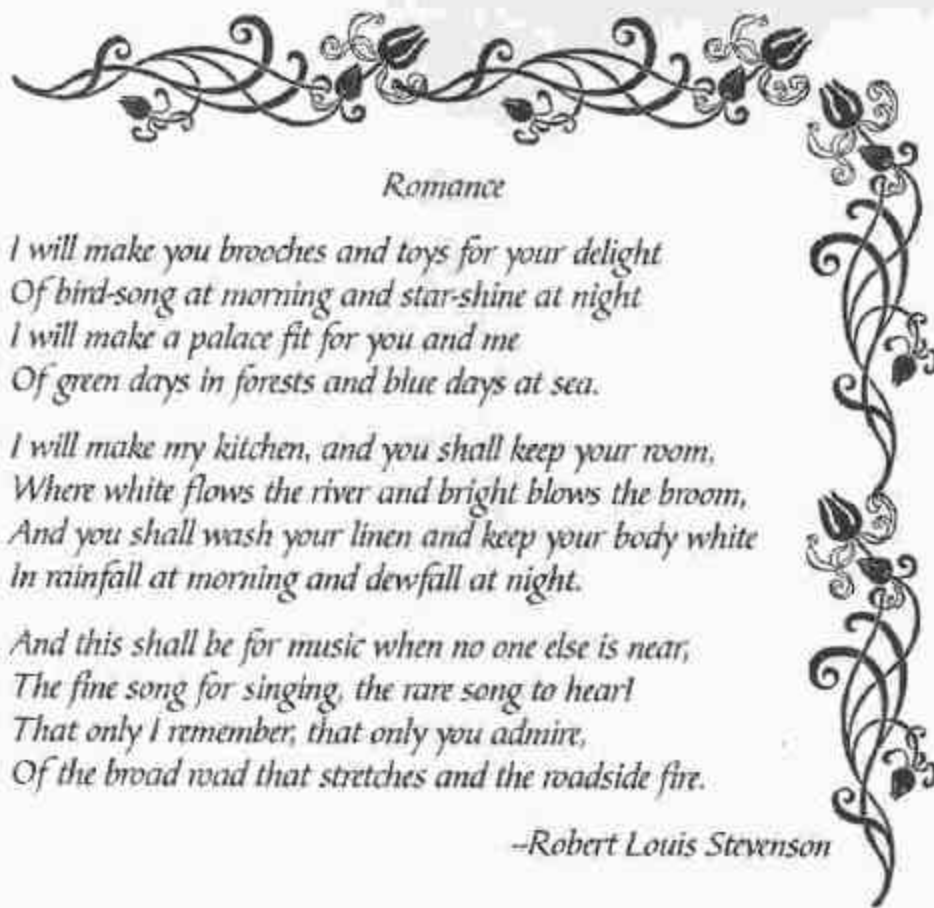
On January 20, the front of our "classic" 2000 New Horizon fifth-wheel was pictured on the front page of *Noroeste*, one of Mazatlan's two daily papers. The article was telling about the expected arrival of the 2004 caravans of "casas rodantes" (rolling houses). Horizons now has international exposure!

We experienced "Carnival" for the first time. Mazatlan has the world's third largest, after Rio and New Orleans. We had a great time!

This was our fifth trip to Mazatlan, but it was the first time that we drove all the way from Maryland to get there. We always flew before. We enjoyed meeting and exploring with other RVers, as well as renewing friendships with couples we see every year at the hotels. Several New Horizons or New Horizon owners passed through our campground, including Joe and Mary Thompson and Nancy and Geof Justiss.

We arrived back in the states on March 21. Can't wait to return to Mexico next winter!

--Gen & Kirk Griffith



### Romance


*I will make you brooches and toys for your delight  
Of bird-song at morning and star-shine at night  
I will make a palace fit for you and me  
Of green drcys in forests and blue days at sea.*

*I will make my kitchen, and you shall keep your room,  
Where white flows the river and bright blows the broom,  
And you shall wash your linen and keep your body white  
In rainfall at morning and dewfall at night.*

*And this shall be for music when no one else is near,  
The fine song for singing, the rare song to hear!  
That only I remember, that only you admire,  
Of the broad wad that stretches and the roadside fire.*

--Robert Louis Stevenson

### Pot of Gold

 We spent the summer in our NH 5th-wheel "Doing the West." Had a wonderful time, we must go there again as there is so much to see. We had a small problem with our bedroom slideout, but an RV dealer was able to fix it for us after calling the factory who makes the slide motor and ordering one for us.

--Sam & Avis Tice



# Helpful Hints

*Follow That Wire!*

I have a tip which might be helpful to some other owners. My trailer was built in '99. Some 12-volt plugs are thicker than others. Recently when I pulled out one of these plugs from the outlet under and to the side of the refrigerator and on the wall of the furnace, the entire outlet pulled out of the wall. I pulled the fuse on the "TV Booster & 12-Volt Outlets" and repaired the outlet.

After replacing the fuse, I found that the outlet was still dead and I noticed that

the "Propane Safe Alert" was also not working. I started tracing the wires and found that the wires to the outlet and "Safe Alert" came from the furnace, so I checked that fuse and found it burned out. I changed it, and everything worked. I don't know if every trailer has the 12-volt outlet near the furnace wired to it or to the TV Booster as the fuse box claims, but mine is. I also found a lamp fuse on the "Safe Alert" that I was previously unaware of.

—Charles Yaker



**Potluck Recipe**

### *Apple Crisp*

- 1 1/2 cups sugar  
(plus an extra 1/4 cup to sprinkle on top of apples)
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 1/2 cubes softened butter, i.e. about 3/4 cup  
(plus 1/2 to 3/4 additional cube butter to butter casserole dish and place on top of apples)
- 6 to 8 Granny Smith apples (tart cooking apples)
- Cinnamon (optional)

Mix sugar, flour and butter in a bowl until crumbly. Butter shallow casserole dish (a 4-quart dish works well). Slice apples. Place sliced and cut-up apples in bottom of casserole dish. Place extra butter and sprinkle extra sugar over apples. Sprinkle cinnamon on top of apples, if desired. Spread crumbly mixture over apples. Bake in 325- or 350-degree oven for about 50 to 60 minutes until nicely browned.

—Sue & Roger Bell



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**HORIZON HERALD**

Bringing together  
New Horizons owners  
for sharing and fellowship

Published bi-monthly  
by and for New Horizons owners

Subscriptions:  
\$9 per calendar year

VS.1 of 2    April 2004

Year Fred!

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