



THE HYPERION

It's Rally Time!

By Andy Patterson

The 2017 ROG National Redwood Rally is quickly approaching and it is almost time to enter 1105 S Van Buren Street, Shipshewana, IN, 46565 into the GPS, hitch up the coach and start those wagons rolling from all across Canada and the United States.

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You haven't registered yet for this great annual event ???!!! No problem, as we still have a few spots available. We can guarantee space, subject to campground availability, for any new registrations submitted on, or before June 30th. After that, we have to confirm with the campground, Redwood, caterer, etc, so any registrations received in July will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Select "Redwood 2017 Rally Info" from the left menu sidebar to register, or select this URL - https://www.redwoodrvowners.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=319&Itemid=422

Please don't forget that registration is a 2-step process; (1) registering on the ROG website to confirm number of attendees and (2) confirming a campsite with the campground. On arrival Shipshewana, we will have a registration window for a couple of hours per day, to pick up your rally package. Lisa will post times on the website.

The theme this year is meet and mingle, with the Rally Coordinator developing a more relaxed schedule, providing additional opportunities to actually meet other owners. Every morning, bring your tea or coffee over to the tent and enjoy some sweet treats and the company of your fellow owners. Previous rallies have seen a hectic seminar schedule, even over-lapping and multiple presentations, but this year you will find a more sedate pace. Starting after the AM meet & greet, we have scheduled 2 presentations in the AM & a further 2 after lunch.

Each seminar will provide additional time for Q&A, meeting the presenter and a short gap between presentations, to prevent them running continuously.

Check the website for the latest presentation schedule.

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Special points of interest:

- Board of Directors Voting
- 2017 ROG Rally
- Amazon ROG Affiliate
- New Features: Hobbies and Pet Corner
- Contact Editor at: news-letter@redwoodrvowners.com

Amazon Affiliate Program

In addition to our new reduced and affordable membership rates, I am pleased to announce a new program where you can support your owners group, at no additional cost, when purchasing products at Amazon.

We have noted many members on the forum make reference to products at Amazon.com, even providing helpful links. Researching Amazon, we found that they have a couple of programs that support a variety of organizations, such as ROG.

The Amazon Affiliate program requires that we create a link from our website to their website. While some affiliates have advertising icons throughout the site, we have elected a very understated link, located in the Main Menu, currently located at the top of the left sidebar. You will not find any additional references to Amazon, or adverts on the website or forum.

Continued to Pg 2: Support your ROG



President's Update

Submitted by Andy Patterson (Oriana), ROG President

The 6th annual National Redwood Rally, which is the second rally entirely planned and hosted by volunteers from your owner's group, is rapidly approaching. Last year, Jay & Linda worked countless hours, presenting an exceptional Rally, which set the bar high for those following in their footsteps. Thanks to Vaughan & Tracy for accepting the challenge this year, and I can guarantee they are working hard to set a new standard for this and future rallies. If you haven't signed up for the 2017 Rally, we still have some spots available, but suggest not waiting to the last minute, as we have a limit on the number of coaches that can attend.

As a separate business entity from Redwood RV, the ROG is required to schedule an Annual General Meeting, to conduct business. The 2017 AGM will again be scheduled during the National Rally, as this is the largest annual gathering of Redwood owners. This year, the business will include:

- Reviewing Board of Director reports, which will also be available on the website
- Financial report
- Member Q&A
- Board of Director's election
- Discussion & voting on proposed Constitution & By-Law changes

All Charter & Regular ROG members, in good standing, are entitled to one vote per membership number. Unfortunately, not all members can attend the rally, so this year we are implementing an online voting option. At least one month prior to the AGM, an online voting form will be available for all Charter & Regular members. Online votes should be submitted at least 24 hrs before the AGM. The supporting documents presented at the AGM will also be available online. If you are unable to attend the Rally/AGM, please consider reviewing the documents and submitting your vote. Submitting an online vote does not preclude you from attending the AGM, as we will simply cancel the online vote, if you are subsequently able to attend the AGM.

Your owner's group is entirely managed and operated by your fellow Redwood owning volunteers. These great people expend many hours providing these opportunities for Redwood owners. Without the ROG, there would be no rally and the associated technical service, presentations and fellowship opportunities, etc. If you have skills, qualifications or previous experience, please consider volunteering to assist. You can review our volunteer opportunities on the website – "Volunteer to Help" is the 5th item on the Main Menu located on the website's home page. We will also be conducting a volunteer recruitment drive at the AGM.

Support your ROG—at no Cost!

Continued from Pg. 1

When purchasing products at Amazon, you can now support the ROG, at no additional cost. Rather than navigating directly to Amazon, if you access the ROG site, select the "Amazon" tab and use the search bar to locate the product, Amazon will pay a small commission to ROG.

Summary - to purchase Amazon products and support ROG

- Access the ROG website
- Select the "Amazon" link in the Main Menu, currently at top of left sidebar
- Enter the product(s) to purchase in the search bar**
- You will pay the same price, but ROG will receive a small commission
- You can purchase **any** product available on Amazon, using the ROG Amazon page search bar.

Note – If you do not see the search bar on our Amazon page, you will have to temporarily disable your Ad Blocker software, then *refresh the page*.

If you intend on making purchases from Amazon, please consider supporting the ROG and using our website link. All revenue received from this program will be used to reduce the membership fees and/or provide enhanced membership services.

Tailgating Food Safety!

There is nothing like RV tailgating - whether it's football, car races or a weekend at a county fair outdoor cooking and entertaining is at its best. Take the time to be educated on food safety, to insure your RV tailgating experience is a real winner.

Keep your hungry crew safe, by following these food preparation safety tips.

Bring plenty of water, if none will be available on site,

- A supply of soap, paper towels, wet disposables and sanitizers for cleaning hands and other surfaces,
- If a cooler is used to store raw meats (beef, poultry, etc.), wrap each type of meat securely, in separate wrappers, to prevent cross contamination. Use multi layers of ice, to maintain a constant temperature of 40 degrees F. or lower.
- Use a food thermometer, to avoiding over or under cooked meats. Keeping everyone safe from harmful bacteria is the key objective.
- Never partially cook meats, to finish cooking at a later time. Cooking to an unsafe temperature allows harmful bacteria to survive and multiply. Remedy this issue by cooking to at least 160 degrees F. and holding for at least 3 minutes. Choose higher temperatures for more desired doneness.
- In hot weather (90 degrees F or higher), never let foods sit unrefrigerated for more than one hour. In cooler weather, no more than two hours is acceptable. Toss any leftovers should these time guidelines be broken. It is better to be safe than sorry.



Whether choosing make-a-head recipes served out of the refrigerator, or a feast straight off the grill... kick off your tailgate party with pizzazz.

2017 National Rally

Continued from Pg 1:

Redwood have again confirmed, what many believe is the rally's best feature – the 15 minute tech visit and 2 minor repairs. Randy and his technicians were amazing last year, just spectacular customer and technical service. I look forward to hearing more positive comments from the attendees this year, regarding Randy and his techs. If you are looking to justifying the drive to Shipshewana, this one should be high on the list. We drive 3,000 miles each way and the tech service is one of the primary reasons.

All 2017 rally attendees, if you haven't already signed up for the 15 minute tech visit and minor repairs, please visit the website at your earliest convenience.

Meals, who wants to be stuck in the coach in 30C/90F weather preparing dinner, when you could be sipping a fine wine or craft ale, and enjoying the company of fellow owners? Arrangements have been made for catered meals on most evenings – Wednesday, Thursday & Friday are all catered. On Saturday, we have the potluck, which we are still developing, so check the website for further details. We have contracted with the same caterer as last year, so we expect to receive some excellent meals.

ROG Annual General Meeting, unfortunately business always interferes with having a great time, but we must take care of the statutory obligations of running an owner's club. Please join us and participate in approving new Board members and some proposed changes to the By-laws.

The official dates are July 19th to 23rd when we have many activities planned, but the surrounding area has many attractions, so why not arrive early and/or stay for a few days after the rally?

5 Minute Fix! Submitted by: Patti Brown Cleaning your Corian Sink

Many of us with older models have a Corian sink in our units. Over the years of use they have developed a slight color change or maybe some staining from coffee, red sauces, tea, or worse yet red wine! Or even the occasional meat label that leached onto the surface and left an ugly stain. Now try and get that out! For stubborn stains like the above mentioned, the below listed method works every time!

1. Fill sink with 1-2 gallons of hot water.
2. Add 1 scoop of Oxi Clean detergent
3. Leave to soak for approximately 1 hr. or more for stubborn stains.
4. Drain and rinse thoroughly.

Presto! A clean, un-stained sink that will having you thinking it is brand new.

For weekly maintenance of your sink, DuPont recommends the following process to keep your sink in its best condition:

Once or twice a week, give your sink a beauty treatment: Remove all the fat and oil residues of normal food preparation from the sink, using a detergent or a hard-surface cleaner. Use a spray with 3/4 of liquid household bleach and 1/4 water to spray the sink and leave a few hours or overnight. The exposure time should be limited to 16hrs. In the morning, rinse or clean with a damp cloth. The sink should then be beautifully clean, with very little effort.

Hard water can be a problem in many areas, and can build up over time. If you live in a hard water area, and are experiencing problems with stain removal, apply "Viakal" gel over the area, leave for 2-4 minutes, then remove with a damp microfiber cloth. Using a second clean microfiber cloth, rinse the area thoroughly with water. Use a damp microfiber cloth and a mild abrasive cleaning product.

Happy Cleaning!

Online Voting – Board of Directors & Constitution Changes

The Board of Directors (BoD) is pleased to announce that online voting for the 2017 Redwood Owners Group (ROG) Annual General Meeting (AGM), is now available. All Charter and Regular members, in good standing, if not attending the 2017 Rally, are encouraged to submit an online vote. You have 2 options to locate the link to the online voting page:

ROG Home Page – scroll down below the welcome messages to the blue link, “To submit your vote online click here”, or

In the “Our Forum” menu, select “Index”. Scroll down and select “ROG Updates”. Select the thread “ROG 2017 Annual General Meeting Online Voting” and at the end of the first post, select the link, “Submit your online vote here”

Either of the above links will take you to the online voting page, which includes a short bio for each the BoD candidates and voting options for each of the 3 votes.

Board of Directors

This year we have 5 positions up for renewal and the Nominations Committee have submitted the following candidates:

Secretary: Patti Brown (1000Islander)
Treasurer: Lisa Price (Loving Life) - incumbent
Director at Large: Web Platform: Brad Paul (bradpajax)
Director at Large: Technical: Shane Wood (Shane Wood)
Director at large: Paul Bridges (Iceman1777)

Welcome from the Redwood RV National Sales Manager

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our current and potential Redwood owners. The newly redesigned Redwood is underway and should be hitting your local dealer’s lot very soon. Our major manufacturer “Open House” took place this past month where hundreds of dealers walked through the new product. With the assistance of our current owners and focus on the current market, the Redwood was very well received. The positive feedback on the upgraded suspension, pin box and axles is a direct result from our ROG forum and consumer requests. Many dealers found it hard to leave the living room with the enlarged 55” curved Samsung TV and new Tru-Sit theater seating. Those that moved out of the living room found themselves in awe of the new gas cooktop and largest rv oven available. We wouldn’t have been able to make these changes without the feedback from our current owners. Thank you! The focus of the new Redwood was to rechannel the dollars spent on items that matter most to our owners - all the while keeping luxury at the forefront. Removing items such as the outside TV allowed us to spend more money on the foundation of the unit. However, we proudly maintain focus on the needs of full-timers, therefore, we are happy to provide you with the ability to customize your outdoor TV preferences. You will now find the garage storage prepped with cable as well as a multi zone audio/video sound bar from the living room TV. We felt that this would allow the buyer an opportunity to purchase any size TV rather than limiting you to the 32” on previous models. Our goal was to be able to provide features that would be harder for our full-timers to modify after the purchase such as the axles, suspension and pin box. Fortunately the Redwood product already has solid floor plans that are very well received and simply needed the new features added. Our engineers are currently working on new floor plans with the current full-timers in mind and we hope to release these toward the first of the year. Winter shows are upon us and we expect many of you will be in attendance to check out these new changes. Our Regional Sales Representatives will be in attendance at several of these shows. If you get the opportunity, please find one and provide them with your feedback on these new changes. We always look forward to hearing our owner’s comments. . . your feedback is valuable to us.

Sincerely, Tim Cress

National Sales Manager

Schwintek Slide-Out System Operation Tips

By Terry Cooper

The Schwintek Slide Out system has become one of the most popular mechanisms, we are seeing on today's RV slide outs. This system consists of exterior mounted aluminum rails driven by dual 12 volt dc motors and managed by a power controller that talks to the motors.

Here are 3 things you can do to help your Schwintek slide out system operate more trouble free.

Have maximum battery power when operating the two 12 volt DC drive motors. You can boost your on board house battery(s) by having your RV's power cord plugged into the pedestal (shore power) or have your 7-pin connector power cord hooked up to your tow vehicle, if you have a travel trailer or 5th wheel.

1. Operate the Schwintek system only when the RV is level. You will need to level your RV before running your slides out. On departure, bring the slides in before raising your leveling legs.
2. Let the Schwintek controller decide when to stop the slide movement. We have been trained, on all the other types of slide out systems, to release the in/out switch when we see the room complete its movement. If you continue pressing the in/out button and allow the controller to be in full control, it will determine when to stop the room. This will allow the controller to count the motor rotations of the two electric motors and self-align the slide position.

Little things can make a big difference in enjoyment of your RV.

Terry Cooper is a RVDA/ RVIA Master Certified Technician. NRVIA Certified RV Inspector and Professional Instructor. He is known as "The Texas RV Professor" and for his Mobile RV Academy seminars.

Check Terry's website at: mobilervacademy.com



Hobbies On the Go!

By Debbie Biggs

When we were getting ready to change to a Full-Time RV lifestyle, one of my concerns were my hobbies. I did not want to give them up. Genealogy and Family History is a great love of mine, and I had over 30 notebooks filled with notes, documentation, photos and family stories. How on earth was I going to do this? There was certainly not space in the Redwood for all of the papers and physical paraphernalia that I had been using for several years.

Digitization became one of my best friends! I am still scanning documents and photos..... Now my access to each record, photo or story is easily found on my laptop and is backed up monthly. It took trial and error to decide upon a system that would work for me, that made sense to me. I continue to keep certified or original documents in a file that will one day be passed on to family, as well as some original photographs. I make daily use of online genealogy sites like FamilySearch, Ancestry and FindMyPast as well as location based sites. The challenge with this is internet availability and cell phone access. (Something we all seem to struggle with at one time or another.) I also keep a family tree updated in a software program on my laptop that does not need to have internet access so I am not needlessly tied to the internet.

One of the most wonderful aspects of doing genealogy while living this lifestyle is the mobility! Bob and I have been able to visit towns and counties where our ancestors lived and died! We visit the courthouses, the libraries, the archives, the cemeteries and sometimes we even have a street address where a grandparent might have lived! A couple of years ago we had the opportunity to go to the town where my paternal grandmother was born. This was my first visit there. This was where 3 generations had lived and died. We found little bits of information about my family in all areas of the county. We had a such a good time at the Courthouse perusing the records and learning of the family's whereabouts through the deed records. We found gravestones at the cemeteries.....we were able to add visuals to the stories that I have heard all through my life. But the highlight of the trip was meeting a couple of my distant cousins for the first time and spending the evening with them!

I have found that being mobile has enhanced my genealogy work in ways that I could not have imagined. I find that I love having ALL of my "paperwork" and documentation with me at all times to share with family that we visit along the way. Just last night I had the pleasure of showing my sweet 95 year old mother in law some of her family history on the laptop, and as we were talking and looking at the photos, she was able to share stories and details about the photos that I annotated right then and there.

What is YOUR hobby? Are you your Family's Historian? A quilter? A woodworker? How about underwater photography? Or maybe you are a techie? We would enjoy hearing about your hobbies and how they work for you while you are on the road!

Pet Corner

By Debbie Biggs

Hi, my name is Gracie. I am 2 years old and I am a rescue. My mom and dad learned about me last June and I came to live with them in July of 2016. I had 2 or 3 other homes before my forever home. I guess that I had too much energy and excitement for some families.



I get to live in a great doghouse called a Redwood RV with dad and mom. We get to wake up in new places a lot. I like that. There are new smells and sounds and sights at every new place we go to. I get really excited to see new squirrels and dogs. I don't know why they all don't want to play with me. Sometimes I get to meet new dog friends and we get to romp and chomp and have a great time. I like to meet new people too. I don't understand why I am not supposed to jump up and let them know how happy I am to see them. Dad and Mom say that I am one of the happiest puppies that they have ever known. They call me Gracie Joy sometimes. I like to play hide and seek with Dad and Mom in our house. I also like to play tug of war with Dad. I try not to be too rough with him. One of my favorite things to do is to stalk mysterious objects, it makes my Dad laugh when we walk. I am interested in other animals that we see when we walk, like deer, wild turkeys, prairie dogs, frogs, squirrels (one of my favorites) and even birds. Dad and Mom say that I am very alert and very smart, I don't know, I am just me.

A note from Mom: we had the gift of rescuing Gracie last summer. She is full of fun and joy...and much energy and excitement. We are still working on her excitability level, but she learns more each day. From what we can discern from the rescue home and the shelter, Gracie had been tied out most of her life and was not socialized with other dogs. She was found wandering with a broken guy-wire around her neck. When she came to us, she was completely untrained, did not even know how to sit or to catch a ball! She thinks that every person and dog must certainly be coming to see her and to play with her. She has brought the whole family so much joy and we feel quite blessed to belong to her. 😊 She travels beautifully and adapts to each new place so easily

Do you have a pet that travels with you? Dog? Cat? Bird? Reptile (yikes)? Do they like traveling?

Voting: Continued from Pg.4

A huge thank you to our 4 outgoing board members for their passion and hard work in continuing to develop and grow the fledgling ROG.

Constitution & By-Laws

The Constitution & By-Laws is the document that guides the BoD in managing your Club, and any changes, additions or deletions must be approved by the voting members. The Board of Directors has identified a number of changes, which are presented in 2 packages:

Housekeeping – numerous minor changes, which we believe can be addressed with a single vote.

Membership – this is a proposed change to the current membership categories.

We encourage all members to review the document and for all Charter and Regular members, in good standing, to submit an online vote, if unable to attend the Rally. If you vote online and subsequently attend the AGM, your online vote will be eliminated.

Please take the time to read the information and submit an informed vote to ensure the ROG continues to work effectively for you.

Redwood Owners Group

Redwood Owners Group, Inc
5753 Highway 85 North #3057
Crestview, FL 32536

newsletter@redwoodrvowners.com

The mission of the Redwood Owners Group (ROG) is to bring together Redwood Residential RV Enthusiasts; owners, Redwood employees and dealers. To foster an environment for sharing knowledge, expertise and ideas to enhance the Redwood lifestyle and support its family of owners in having a more meaningful experience with their recreational vehicle. To facilitate opportunities for owners to meet, travel and socialize amongst themselves.

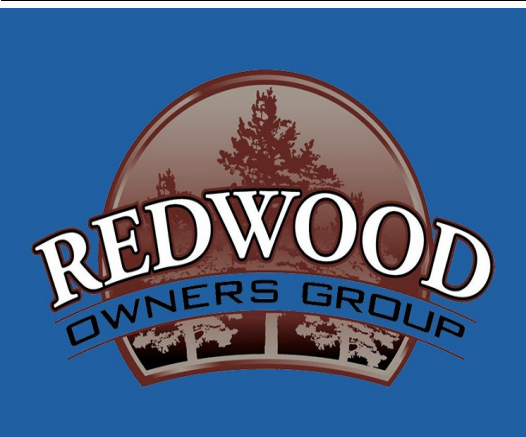
The "Hyperion" is the name of a coastal Redwood in northern California, which is the world's largest known living tree.

We're on the Web!

www.redwoodrvowners.com

Working together to

share knowledge and fellowship!



Disclaimer:

The Hyperion newsletter articles were developed and submitted by your fellow Redwood owners and are compiled and published by the Redwood Owners Group as a service to the members. The Redwood Owners Group makes no representations or warranties of any kind and is not responsible for, and expressly disclaims any liability for any damages arising from the use of, reference to or reliance on any of the information or solutions provided in any article. While we endeavor to ensure the information provided by others is accurate, the Redwood Owners Group provides no guarantee that the information is accurate, complete, up to date, or is relevant to any reader. Redwood Owners Group may provide links to other websites and content on the internet, we are not responsible for the accuracy of said links, nor the content of said sites. These links are again provided to readers as a service and Redwood Owners Group does not endorse any of the sites, their content, products or services.

Letter from your Editor



Can you believe that it is June already! I know I keep saying that, but it's true! Time sure flies and it is that time of year that we all start thinking about all the wonderful excursions we are going to take in our beautiful RV's. But first let's all stop and make sure that every thing has been checked for safety before that first trip out this season. Don't forget to check out the technical library on the forum for all your questions and how to's! It is invaluable! And speaking of safety, while we are all having fun out there with our RV's, don't forget it is the season for extreme weather. Keep your eye on the sky and don't forget your weather radios! It may save your life and property, well worth a small investment.

I hope everyone is planning to attend the 2017 National Rally in Shippshewana, IN on July 19th-23rd. The experiences and new friends will certainly last a lifetime! Get your reservations in now to guarantee a great experience and tons of fun. Don't forget to check out the special activities that are being held during the rally. I know I am looking forward to being there and I certainly hope to see you all there!

I hope you have enjoyed this latest edition of your newsletter. The team has been hard at work trying to bring informative, fun articles and features for your enjoyment. I hope you found our new feature articles on Hobbies and our beloved pets that travel with us. We'd love to hear about the many hobbies and your pet experiences you've had. I know when we had a pet, she provided many hours of silly entertainment!

As always, we are looking for new information, contributing editorialists and features that make this newsletter something to be proud of and fun to read. If you have a desire to express yourself or content ideas, please drop us a line at: newsletter@redwoodrvowners.com. We'd love to hear from you!

See you soon in Shippshewana!

Patti