



BOCI Paddles on Lake Coeur d'Alene!

## **Bigfoot Owners Club International**

**2017 Annual Rally & Business Meeting**

**Blackwell Island RV Park, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho**

**September 10–15, 2017**

*BOCI's 14th Annual Rally Report*

### **Lifetime Membership Award**

A BOCI Lifetime membership was awarded to **Louise and Jack Throne** in recognition of their contributions, from the founding of the club and through its continued success. Over the years they volunteered their time and expertise at the 12 rallies they attended and for Louise's work on the Membership committee.

### **General**

- **Attendance** was great this year with 128 participants, representing 65 memberships; everyone had a fantastic time! We had attendees from across the US (Alaska to Delaware, and even Hawaii) and from across Canada (British Columbia to Ontario)!
- Always a tremendous hit was the **Serendipity Potluck** dinner where members shared their favorite dishes. A hearty thanks to **Grant, Rob, and Garry** from Bigfoot Industries for hosting cocktail hour!
- **Rig Tours:** A great chance to visit various makes and models of Bigfoots. The challenge this year was getting around to the rigs scattered throughout the campground.
- **Quilt Raffle:** Thanks to our fantastic and creative Fabric Artists, another gorgeous handmade quilt was raffled off. The *2017 Coeur d'Alene* quilt was won by **Roxann Henley**. Congratulations!
- **2018 Rally Gift Certificate:** Continuing the new tradition started last year, there was a special raffle to win a certificate good for one "5-night RV site and rally package" to the *Oasis Las Vegas RV Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada*, September 9–14, 2018. And the lucky winners were **Margaret & Rick Meyer from British Columbia, Canada!**
- **Other Raffles:** Many wonderful raffle items were donated by several of our vendors. Also, a favorite, are the unique raffle items that BOCI members bring from home. What fun!
- **Free Time:** Off on one's own adventure! A few people went for a tour of the Buck Knife Factory, while some looked for treasures in Thrift shops. Many attended a no-host dinner at the Coeur d'Alene Resort.

### **Annual Business Meeting**

Following a review of the 2016 financial report, last year's minutes, and committee reports, elections were held for two open board positions. *Norm Rector* was re-elected for a 2-year term. Also, *Jay Rutherford* was elected to a 2-year term. Many thanks to *Bonnie Carruthers* who served as our Treasurer for the past 6 years!

## Events

- **Boat Tour!** A narrated-tour around scenic Lake Coeur d'Alene aboard the *Osprey* provided not only a scenic view of the lake area, but a great opportunity to relax and visit with fellow Bigfooters.
- **Special Event:** And for more fun... Many of the ladies had a tremendous time decorating their BOCI hats in the first-ever '**Hat Bling**' event led by *Carol Arndt*.
- **Game night:** A fantastic evening of socializing. Besides Scrabble and Mah Jong, a large boisterous group played 'Left, Right, and Center'. Not sure who won, but all had a hilarious time!

## Seminars/Presentations

- Historian **Robert Singletary** from the Museum of North Idaho riveted us with some tales of Idaho history, first by portraying *General William Carlin*, who served as the Commander of Fort Sherman (1886-1893), and then telling stories as *Peter Sorensen*, Steamboat Captain and boatbuilder (1879-1892).
- "**Powwow Sweat**" – a lively presentation and demonstration was made by **LoVina Louie** and **Bobbie White** of the Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe. Not only did they explain that this program was developed to promote fitness through traditional tribal dance, but these ladies had us up and moving! They described the purpose of the various dances and explained the importance and significance of their beautiful powwow regalia.
- **Grant Bilodeau** from **Bigfoot Industries**, along with **Rob Ferroux** and **Garry Grochowich**, were kind enough to take time to meet with the Bigfoot owners and sponsor the happy hour. At the seminar, Grant detailed his personal history with Bigfoot Industries explaining that he came up through the ranks and knows every step in the fabrication process. The Rob-and-Garry team spent a huge amount of time helping owners with concerns and issues with their rigs. Thanks guys!
- **Torklift** representatives, **Kyle Bonita** and **Trey Jackson**, attended the rally at the request of Torklift, a longtime supporter of BOCI. Kyle and Trey presented a seminar focusing on Torklift suspension products. Torklift even offered a 40% discount on any orders taken that day.
- **Steve Gritman**, **Lafayette Auto Body & RV Repair** is a longtime supporter of the BOCI rallies. Steve kindly steps up and presents his annual "stump Steve" RV101 seminar. Additionally, he spent many hours helping owners with solving their issues with their RV's. Many thanks Steve and Jill!