

# Welcome to the 2017 East Coast HDT Rally

April 22-29, 2017

**W**ELCOME to the 2017 East Coast HDT Rally. This rally is the biggest yet, and approximately triple its size just three years ago. We hope you enjoy your visit, make new friends, reconnect with old ones, learn some new things, and eat enough good food to think about dieting for a while afterwards.

Whether you're new to this rally, or come every year, please take a few minutes to look over this information. If you have any questions, the easiest way to get an answer is to send an e-mail to [RALLYINFO@EASTCOASTHDTALLY.COM](mailto:RALLYINFO@EASTCOASTHDTALLY.COM). It's distributed to several of the rally organizers, and should get you a quick response.

## I. ARRIVAL

From I-40 at exit 322, head north on Peavine Road approximately two miles. Look for the green Deer Run sign as you approach Peavine Firetower Road, and turn left. The turn is right at the start of a construction project widening Peavine Road. Continue on Peavine Firetower Road approximately 4 miles.

When you approach Deer Run RV Resort on Peavine Firetower Road, drive past the entrance gates and general store, following signs for big rigs. Turn left and double back into the parking area, and head into the general store/office, as shown in figure 1.

1) *Checking In:* Kim and her staff at Deer Run will check you into your site and collect payment for your stay. Pay attention to site assignments, as some have changed to accommodate various arrival and departure dates.

**This year, there will be a table set up in the general store with name tags and T-shirt orders. It'll be self-service—simply pick up your bag.**

Kim will issue a key card for getting in the main gate. Make sure you return the key card to get your deposit back, and make sure when entering that other vehicles don't follow you through without their own card. Head on in, either continuing around toward the back loop, or turning right if you're on the east side of the dam.

2) *Parking:* Paul Gillenwater will be helping with parking. If you'd like help getting to, or getting into your site, let Kim know when you check in at the front desk.

### A. Name Tags

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAGS when you're out and about in the park, or attending rally events. In addition to helping get to know each other, wearing your name tag helps in making sure everyone present is part of the rally. Should you lose your name tag during the rally, we'll make you a replacement.



Fig. 1. Check-in Parking



Fig. 2. Pavilion Location

### B. The Pavilion

It's a fancy name for the event tent, which will be across from the bathhouse at the west edge of the park, as shown in the map in figure 3. Almost all events will be in this tent, as indicated on the schedule, starting with the first happy hour.

### C. Saturday Night Happy Hour and Welcome

At 5:00 on Saturday, April 23, bring a drink for yourself and a snack to share over to the pavilion. Fix a plate and grab a seat for a few introductory remarks.

## II. TRUCK PHOTOS

As weather permits, we'll make an effort to get a picture of each truck with its owners. They'll go up on the rally website

afterwards, and help everyone in matching faces with rigs, and drivers with the right co-pilots.

Sonda Kahanamoku and Donna Wagner will be taking pictures. If you see them out with a camera, do them a favor by getting the picture out of the way.

### III. SOCIAL EVENTS

The included schedule lists all of the seminars for the week, along with planned social events. Technical presentations are shown in green, group social events in white, and events targeting ladies in red.

#### A. Pot Luck Dinners

With the size of this year's group, we're going to split the potluck dinners. If your last name begins with A-L, bring an entree and side dish on Sunday, and a dessert on Wednesday. If your last name begins with M-Z, bring a dessert on Sunday, and an entree and side dish on Wednesday. Plates, silverware, napkins, soft drinks and water will be provided at both dinners.

#### B. Spirits Tasting

The idea behind the "Spirits Tasting" Tuesday evening is to get an opportunity to try unique beverages we've encountered in our travels. Bring something to share, either with or without alcohol (no other substances please). Understand this is only a tasting not a frat party so those that do not imbibe please do not shy away.

#### C. Chinese Bingo

If you'd like to participate in Wednesday night's Chinese Bingo, bring a wrapped prize valued at around \$20. Only one prize *per couple* required. Just realize not everyone will win.

#### D. Ladies' Events

Check the schedule for a variety of craft/social get-togethers, including a shopping day in Crossville. Contact Donna in site 330 if you have any questions.

1) *Lunch and Shopping*: The ladies' lunch will be at Homestead Harvest Restaurant at Cumberland Mountain State Park, leaving Deer Run at 10:30. After lunch, the group will head into downtown Crossville for an afternoon of shopping.

Cumberland Mountain State Park is located on US127. Head south on Peavine Road, crossing I-40, through a 4-way stop, and turn left at the following traffic light. Bear right at the junction with TN-68 to stay on US127, and turn right into the park. The restaurant will be on your left after crossing the dam.

Return to downtown Crossville following US127 north.

2) *RDBE Meeting*: This one is ladies only. Introductions, and very informal discussion of issues involved with "Rigs Driven by Estrogen".

#### E. Technical Seminars

1) *Introduction for New/Prospective HDT Owners*: This seminar attempts to answer the question: "Why an HDT?". It will also introduce a few of the topics that a prospective HDT owner will need or want to consider—things like licensing, insurance, parking, use as a daily driver, etc.

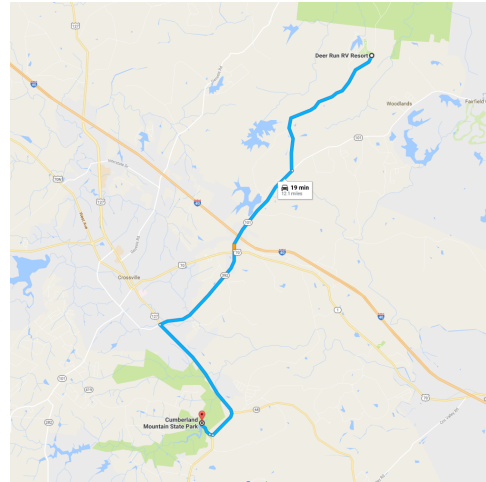


Fig. 3. Ladies' Lunch Location

2) *Locating, Researching, and Inspecting your RV Hauler Candidate Truck*: Gregg's seminar covers information and strategy for locating the right truck for conversion to an RV hauler on the used truck market. Places to search, things to look for, and recommended pre-purchase checks are all covered.

3) *Buying a NEW HDT for Conversion to an RV Hauler*: "The Daves" will go over the process of buying a brand-new truck for use as an RV hauler. They'll talk about experiences with both Volvo and Kenworth trucks, and how to navigate the process.

4) *New Options on a New Volvo Truck*: This short seminar will briefly introduce some newly available options on Volvo trucks that may be of interest to someone considering ordering a new truck.

5) *How do I convert my own RV Hauler?*: This seminar goes over the process of converting a truck for use hauling an RV. It will include preventive maintenance and reconditioning recommended for used trucks, and cover the process of deciding on a bed design, the motorhome conversion, etc.

6) *Lighting on Your RV Hauler*: This seminar will do a "virtual" walk-around, covering what needs added as part of the conversion of a truck tractor to an RV hauler, and will also cover some recommended lighting upgrades on other areas of the truck.

7) *Interfacing Truck and Trailer Lighting Systems*: This seminar expands on the "what" from the previous one, and gets into the "how". Discussion of how computer-controlled lighting systems work, how to properly interface with them, and handouts with resources for parts and information.

8) *Hitch Design, Weight, and Balance*: Henry Szmyt discusses general principles of hitch design and placement, along with important information about stability as a function of weight distribution.

9) *Air Cell Technology for RV Hitches*: Rick Olson will discuss air cell technology, which does not require an external air supply, and how it can be used in an RV hitch.

10) *Brake Controllers for HDTs*: An overview of some of the options for brake controllers and their operation in HDTs.

11) *Lithium Batteries and New RV Tech*: An update on the low-cost lithium battery system David has been running for about a year and a half now, along with some information on other new RV technology.

12) *How to be Safe while RVing*: A seminar on personal safety while out on the road.

13) *Ladies Only!*: Gregg moderates an informational question-and-answer discussion session for the ladies only—an opportunity to ask questions about big trucks away from the scrutiny of your significant other.

14) *Project Day*: This year's project will be the garbage disposal macerator, which uses an ordinary garbage disposal to pump waste tanks to a sewer connection. Even if you've already used a garbage disposal for this purpose, we'll be including the use of a timer circuit to prevent the disposal from running dry.

#### IV. UPDATES, QUESTIONS, ETC.

Daily event schedules, along with any last-minute changes or cancellations will be posted on the rally website:

[HTTP://EASTCOASTHDTRALLY.COM](http://EASTCOASTHDTRALLY.COM)

If you have any questions, or need help with something, send an e-mail to [RALLYINFO@EASTCOASTHDTRALLY.COM](mailto:RALLYINFO@EASTCOASTHDTRALLY.COM) or see Carl in site 330.

#### V. OTHER INFORMATION

There will be a bulletin board in the pavilion, with information, requests for help, etc. If you're having a problem with your truck (or anything else), and you're looking for help, post a note there.

Mailing Address (UPS, FedEx, USPS):  
 3609 Peavine Firetower Road  
 Crossville, TN 38571-7958  
 (877) 337-8678

# 2017 East Coast HDT Rally Schedule

Sat	<b>Arrivals.</b> Check in to campground at general store.			5:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Happy Hour</b> – Please bring a snack to share with the group. Introductory remarks and welcome.				
Sun	9:30-10:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Intro for New/Prospective HDT Owners</b> <i>Shields/Dixon/Wagner</i> <i>TBD</i>	10:00-11:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Locating, Researching, and Inspecting your RV Hauler Candidate Truck</b> <i>Gregg Shields</i>	11:15-12:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Buying a New HDT for Conversion to an RV Hauler</b> <i>Henegar,</i> <i>Kahanamoku</i>	12:00-12:30 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>New Options on a New Volvo Truck</b> <i>Gregg Shields</i>	1:30-3:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Ladies Craft/Social</b>	5:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Pot Luck Dinner</b> – Please bring an entrée and side or dessert to share with the group. Plates, silverware, napkins, soft drinks, and water will be provided.	6:30 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Not-so-Newlywed Game</b>	
Mon	9:00-10:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>How do I Convert my own RV Hauler</b> <i>Gregg Shields</i>	10:00-10:30 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Lighting on your RV Hauler</b> <i>David Dixon</i>	10:45-11:15 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Interfacing Truck and Trailer Lighting Systems</b> <i>David Dixon</i>	11:15-12:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Hitch Design, Weight and Balance</b> <i>Henry Szmyt</i>	1:00-1:45 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Air Cell Technology for RV Hitches</b> <i>Rick Olson</i>	1:45-2:30 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Brake Contrtollers for HDTs</b> <i>DirectLink</i>	2:45 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>RD BE meeting Ladies only.</b> Introductions and Issues Involved with “Rigs Driven by Estrogen” <i>Davena Szmyt</i>	5:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Happy Hour</b> Snacks to share.
Tues	9:30-10:45 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Lithium Batteries and New RV Tech</b> – <i>David Dixon</i>		11:00-12:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>How to be Safe while RVing</b> <i>David Henegar</i>	2:30-4:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Ladies Craft/Social</b>		4:30 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Spirits Night</b> Bring your favorite “spirit” or “non-spirited” drink to share, along with a snack..	6:30 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>ECR Trivia Contest</b> – Prizes for the winning team; everyone can participate.	
Wed	9:30-11:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Ladies Only!</b> Open discussion about your truck and RV. <i>Gregg Shields</i>	11:00-12:30 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Project Day.</b> Discussion and Demo of Disposal-Macerator Project <i>David Dixon</i>	1:30-3:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Ladies Craft/Social</b>			5:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Pot Luck Dinner</b>	6:30 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Chinese Bingo</b> Bring one bagged or wrapped gift (so as not to be seen)valued at ~\$20 for prizes.	
Thur	10:00 <i>Site 330</i> <b>Ladies' Lunch and Shopping Day.</b> Meet at site 330 to leave no later than 10:30 for a day in Crossville					5:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>Happy Hour</b> Snacks to share.		
Fri	10:00 <i>Site 330</i> <b>Rally Summation Round Table Discussion</b> Bring any lingering questions for group discussion. <i>Carl Wagner</i>			Need help with a project? Post on white board at site 330.		5:00 <i>Pavilion</i> <b>BBQ Dinner</b> provided by Deer Run RV Resort	7:30 <i>Cumberland County Playhouse</i> – <b>The Million Quartet</b> Purchase tickets in advance— <a href="http://tickets.ccplayhouse.com">http://tickets.ccplayhouse.com</a>	
Sat	Departures. Thanks for joining us!							

Walking (each day) – You’re invited to join a group for a walk around the campground. We’ll gather at site 330 each morning at 8:30.

Pot Luck Dinners (Sunday, Wednesday) – Please bring an entrée and side or dessert to share with the group. Plates, silverware, napkins, soft drinks, and water will be provided.

Happy Hours (Tuesday, Thursday)– Bring your own drink, and a snack to share.