

Welcome to the 2018 East Coast HDT Rally

April 14-20, 2018

WELCOME to the 2018 East Coast HDT Rally. This rally is the biggest yet, and approximately four times its size just four 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. 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.



Fig. 1. Check-in Parking

A. 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.

There will be a table set up in the general store beginning on Saturday, April 14, with name tags and T-shirt orders. It'll be self-service—simply pick up your bag.

Kim and her staff 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.

B. 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.



Fig. 2. Tent Location

C. 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.

D. The Tent

The main event tent will be near 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.

E. 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 tent. Fix a plate and grab a seat for a few introductory remarks. Sign up for the pot luck dinner afterwards.

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. SCHEDULED 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. This year, a few events will be held outside, weather permitting, and are shown in blue.

A. Social Events

1) *Pizza & Subs*: Courtesy of SDI, Inc. and Dave Henegar, we've added a group dinner in the tent on Sunday night.

2) *Pot Luck Dinner*: In an attempt to manage the amount of food this year, there will be a sign-up sheet for Wednesday's Pot Luck Dinner available after the introductory remarks on Saturday evening. Plates, silverware, napkins, soft drinks and water will be provided at both dinners.

3) *Craft Beer & Sodas Night*: The idea behind the happy hour 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.

4) *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.

5) *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.

6) *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.

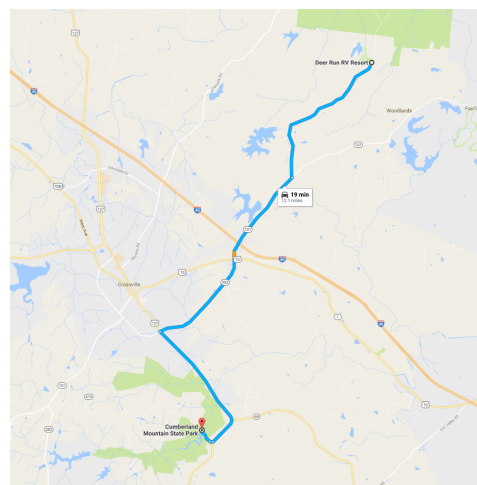


Fig. 3. Ladies' Lunch Location

B. 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.

2) *How do I Convert my own RV Hauler? Costs?*: Carl Wagner and Sondra Kahanamoku will cover the process of and the costs of converting to an RV hauler. Design questions, possible vendors, etc., are discussed, particularly regarding hiring out some of the work.

3) *Low Budget and DIY Bed Builds*: Randy Agee and Charlie Lord will discuss ways to build inexpensive beds, and how to do it yourself.

4) *Budgeting for RVing – All You Need to Know*: Sondra Kahanamoku attacks the process of figuring out finances for full-time RVing. As someone who tracks EVERYTHING down to the penny, she can tell you exactly what gets spent on everything from a brand-new Volvo to a 44oz. Diet Coke.

5) *What to Look For in and Older Truck*: Randy and Charlie will start with discussion in the tent on things to look for in purchasing an older truck, then walk over to Randy's truck for some hands-on show-and-tell.

6) *Considerations when Ordering a New Truck from the Factory*: David Henegar and David Kahanamoku will present information on ordering a new truck from the factory. Discussion of equipment specifications, options, etc.

7) *Purchasing a New HDT—Personal Experiences*: "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.

8) *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.

9) *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.

10) *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.

11) *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.

12) *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 (or repurposed) RV technology.

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

14) *Establishing Domicile when Full-Timing*: Sondra Kahanamoku will discuss some of the ins-and-outs of picking a location to establish domicile, or legal residence, and its implications on the HDT RVing lifestyle.

15) *Ladies Only!*: David Dixon and Sondra K. moderate 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.

16) *Tools, Gizmos, and Gadgets for RVers*: Randy and Charlie will lead discussion of various tools RVers might find useful.

17) *Project Day – Repairing "Truck Cancer"*: This seminar will meet in the tent before heading over to Randy Agee's truck, where he will show repair of rusting door bottoms, common to older Volvo trucks.

C. ECR Flea Market

Join us on Friday in setting out items you want to give away/sell at your site, and wander the campground looking for those things you can't leave without.

IV. UPDATES, QUESTIONS, ETC.

Daily event schedules, along with any last-minute changes or cancellations will be posted on the rally website, [HTTP://EASTCOASTHDTALLY.COM](http://EASTCOASTHDTALLY.COM) and the EAST COAST HDT RALLY Facebook page.

If you have any questions, or need help with something, send an e-mail to RALLYINFO@EASTCOASTHDTALLY.COM or see Carl in site 330.

V. OTHER INFORMATION

A. Announcements

There will be a bulletin board in the tent, 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.

B. Shipping/Mailing Address

Packages/mail are delivered to the campground office/store at the main gate, and can be picked up during business hours.
3609 Peavine Firetower Road
Crossville, TN 38571-7958
(877) 337-8678



Fig. 4. Follow the East Coast HDT Rally on Facebook, and share your own photos with the rest of the crowd!