

Oregon RV Women – Toppenish, WA May 30 – June 3, 2013

38 ladies in 26 rigs wended their way north to the Yakima Nation RV Resort in Toppenish, Washington. Those ladies who wanted to split their journey over two days met at the Wilsonville rest stop and boon docked overnight in the back rest area which was very peaceful – a good place to stop when on a long journey.

We began our rally a day early because we were there for the “Mural in a Day” painting in Toppenish. This activity has been going on for a number of years. Artists submit an idea for a mural early in the year and the winner is chosen by committee. Then, on the first weekend in June, many artists join together to paint the mural in one day. The town is covered in murals with one being added or restored each year.



On Friday, we took a tour of the town and visited many of the murals in a horse drawn wagon. The horses, Frank and Jessie (as in James) know the route very well which allowed the driver to regale us with stories about the various murals. Later in the day we traveled

over by the park where the mural painting was to be done. They paint on large 4x8 boards now and then move them to the building instead of painting directly on the building.



The mural was all sketched out on Friday and we could see a small painting of the finished



product. This year they were recreating an earlier mural. Work began early on Saturday and in spite of the fact that there were many people working on it, with different styles of personal art, the mural came together as if done by one person. The bare sketch reminded me a bit of a paint by number canvas only giant sized. By the end of the day Saturday, it was indeed done.

Other weekend activities included touring the Hops museum, the only one in the United States, touring the museum on the Indian



reservation, our usual potlucks in the evenings followed by games and then, on Sunday we went over to the home of members Karen Stiles and Cathy Hardison in Yakima where we partook of pizza, beverages and pie for dessert. Cathy and Karen have a beautiful home and we enjoyed sitting in their garden and visiting as well as learning more about their lives in Yakima.



Sunday found us gathering for breakfast and saying our goodbyes until the next time we meet down the road.