

# 2019 HDT Rally Seminars

**Beginners Guide to HDTs and the HDT Lifestyle** – Jack Mayer... This presentation is oriented towards those that are considering the use of an HDT in recreational service. It provides basic information on HDTs, the pros, the cons, things to look for, things to avoid. Information on how HDTs fit into the camping lifestyle, service on the road and other lifestyle issues are considered. It is stressed this is basic information. This is not a “pitch” to convince you to use an HDT - it is information that can help you to form your own conclusions.

At the end of the presentation the attendee should have a better understanding of how an HDT might work for them, and understand the available features and functions of an HDT.

**Traveling with Pets**... Cec Burton, a Veterinary Tech for over 25 years, talks about health and safety issues of your pets while on the road.

**Suspension Hitches** - Henry Szmyt... When pulling an RV or other recreational trailers with an HDT it is usually advised to use a suspension hitch of some type instead of the commercial plate. This presentation covers the characteristics of suspension hitches that protect your trailer frame and contents, and the reasons to consider using a suspension hitch. It discusses the three major suspension hitches on the market: the ET, the Comfort Ride, and the Trailersaver. We cover the pin weight ranges of each product, the technical characteristics, and factors to consider to make an appropriate selection. At the end of the presentation the attendee should understand why a suspension hitch may be needed, selection factors in evaluating a purchase, and what hitches are available.

**Trailer Brakes Information** - Mark Bruss... RV braking systems including electric, hydraulic, air, etc.

**Lighting Requirements when Converting a Truck to an RV Hauler** – David Dixon... Are you compliant? Know the lighting requirements when converting RV Hauler.

**Interfacing Truck and Trailer Lighting Systems-** David Dixon... 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.

**Weight & Balance** – Henry Szmyt... Weight and Balance considerations when designing a bed for your HDT and the dynamics of weight distribution in your trailer.

**Ride Control & Tire Life...** We will go over several time tested proven products to increase tire life and improve ride control. Topics included will be Centramatic Wheel Balancers, Crossfire Gauges, PressurePro Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems and Tru-Balance Wheel Centering Products.

**CPR & Handling Medical Emergencies on the Road –**

Steven Tiefel (Firefighter & Paramedic) & Lynda Tiefel (ER Nurse)...

Recognizing and Reacting to Medical Emergencies: Chest pain/heart attack, stroke & diabetic issues, Difficulty breathing, choking & allergic reactions, Using an epinephrine pen, Severe bleeding, shock & burns, Control bleeding and bandaging, Calling 911 for help – where am I, Adult CPR with hands on practice, Using an AED during CPR

**Connecting to the Internet While Travelling** - Jack Mayer.... We all depend on an Internet connection for our daily activities. Internet access is no longer a "nice to have" capability, but a necessity for everyday life. How do we connect most effectively when away from home? Do we use our phones? Do we use dedicated hotspots provided by a cellular company? Do we use local wifi that may be available in campgrounds or through local businesses? What is most effective, and how do we manage all these sources of connectivity. How much does all this cost, and what do I buy first?

At the end of this presentation, the attendee should have some ideas about which offerings and capabilities best meet their requirements. They should have enough information to further evaluate various products from a multitude of providers.

Jack has been a full-time RVer for over nineteen years - available connectivity has changed a LOT during that time. He has installed WIFI in many campgrounds professionally, has contributed to several books on the topic, and has a background in networking and computers.

**Truck Air & Airbrake Systems** – Mike Parker... A discussion of HDT air systems with a working mockup of an actual truck airbrake system with all working components.

**Lithium Battery Systems; Overview of Commercial Products & DIY Solutions** – David Dixon

**Open Q&A Session About Your Truck** - Mike Parker... An open discussion about your truck, systems, safety, spare parts or anything you can think of.

**HDT Bed Building** – Marc Jones & Jack Mayer... This presentation focuses on the pragmatics of building a bed for your HDT. It covers framing methods, DIY building, materials, and function. The focus is on feature identification and how to implement those features. Discussion of bed attachment methods, hitch placement, tie-downs, smart car beds and painting/coating will be covered.

**Ladies Craft / Social** - Alicia White... Various craft projects to choose from. Come and create something fun or just socialize.

**What If... Are You Prepared?** - Dale Bruss... Planning for unexpected situations in life.

**Modern Cooking Techniques in your Camper** – David Dixon...

**Things to Consider when Building a Custom Trailer** - Greg Wallman & Wyatt Trautman... What you should consider if you plan to custom build a new trailer.

**Domicile and other issues affecting full time HDTers** – David Dixon

**For Women Only, Open questions and discussions about your Truck and RV.** – Danielle & Jack Mayer... This session, started by Jack and Danielle Mayer at the 2013 Rally, allows women to ask any question in an inviting and non-judgmental format/forum. Only women may attend. Ask all your questions about Full-time RVing, workamping, use of HDTs, driving questions, camping questions, or anything about the HDT “Lifestyle”. Without your “significant other” present.

**Ham Radio for Safer Traveling** - Why Ham Radio can make your travels safer.

**Fire Safety** - Jack Mayer... This presentation covers fire safety specifically oriented to the RV environment. Fire safety equipment, evacuation procedures, specific extinguishers, RV refrigerator issues, and use of extinguishers will be covered. An actual extinguisher demonstration will be done at the end of the presentation.

**The Week in Review...** Bring your Unanswered Questions for Open Discussion