## Tents for Troops



Enjoy life, away from the field



National Association of RV Parks & Campgrounds

## Winter Forum 2018

PHOENIX, AZ

#### MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission at **Tents for Troops** is to make it as easy as possible for you, our troops and their family, to enjoy the unique and memorable experiences that only an RV vacation can bring.

### **About Tents for Troops**

▶ Tents for Troops is a nationwide program that connects active members of the military with RV parks and campgrounds. Nearly 300 participating parks in 47 states provide a welcome opportunity for active military members to tent or RV at some of the finest parks in the US for a minimum of two nights, complementary upon making advance reservations and presenting Military ID at check-in.





**One Military** family vacationing with five Non-Military families in tow, nice benefit of the **T4T** program is that Non-Military family and friends pay rack rates.





## Tents for Troops

▶ The Tents for Troops program is for Active Duty Military and their families. The majority of users are young families with one or two children. Approximately 70% camp in RVs and 30% camp in tents. "They are great guests. In fact, they build extraordinarily positive word of mouth for the park and the program as they share their T4T experience with other campers". The goodwill benefits associated with this gesture far outweigh any site revenue lost.



T4T is all about you...

#### **Using Tents for Troops**

Participating **Tents for Troops** parks are delighted to host active military personnel and their immediate families, sharing their special brand of outdoor hospitality. Reservations are always required. You can find the park's phone number on our park page. Please call the RV park or campground directly to arrange your stay. Troops will be required to present a Military I.D. at the time of check in. The program is exclusively for active military camping with members of their immediate family.

It's important to note that parks may be full or may have dates when they do not participate in the program. They're not obligated to provide free sites in this instance. Please be courteous to our member parks. They want you to





**T4T Ambassadors Ed and Catie Ketel flipping** burgers for the **Troops and their** families at **Coast Guard Air** Base.( Astoria, **OR, Sept. 2017)** 

T4T RV Park and Campground Locations across the country



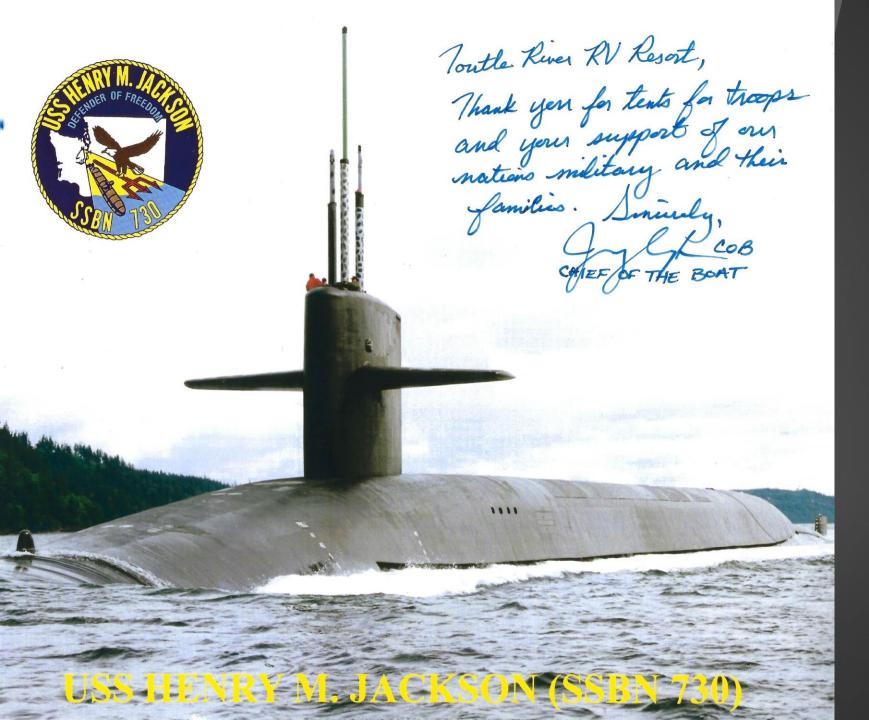
#### How to Become a Tent for Troops Park



To become a participating park member of **Tents for Troops** all we ask is that you commit to providing two sites for two nights when an active member of the military requests a reservation. You are under no obligation by joining Tents for Troops. There is no contract for a required amount of time in the program, no fees or hidden costs. You may black out holidays and special event or festival dates as you wish. If you want to dedicate more Tents for Troops sites or additional nights of camping, you may. For example, you may choose to include 10 sites in the program and up to one week of camping. Some parks even include cabins or rentals for those that do not have their own unit but want to experience family camping. You, the park operator, choose exactly to what extent you want to participate. Perhaps you want every space in the RV park or campground to be open to active military for a full week! Or maybe you'd prefer to begin with two sites for two nights. Your call.

Tents for Troops has only **two requirements** for participating parks: 1) offer at least two sites for two nights when an active member of the military and their immediate family want to stay at your park provided you have vacant sites and 2) you may not exclude or black out weekends other than holiday weekends.





# USS Henry M. Jackson

Both crews of the Henry M. Jackson are frequent guests at Toutle River RV Resort, Castle Rock, WA

#### Want to Host A T4T Trailer?

RV Park must provide a one year round or seasonal RV site and care for our RV as if it were your own.

Parks get a \$35 fee for each military guest, this fee will help offset parks cost.

Parks may black out Holiday weekends and special events. Host Park may rent RV on these dates and keep all proceeds. There is an additional profit share program available. (see policy manual)





# Enjoying life away from the field.

Military Family on vacation breaking in their new Jay Flight.

## Tents for Troops Needs Your New or Used RVs

Tents for Troops is starting to loan out RVs to our Troops as well. If upgrading please consider donating your current RV to Tents for Troops. RV donations of any type and any age are always welcome, OEM's RV Dealers and private parties please contact T4T.
 This will help us provide RVs for our Troops and a major tax benefit

may be available to you – we are a 501c3.





## T4T Board Member Trevor Wilson and his family He, his wife, and daughters are full time RVrs

# Share the Tents for Troops Message



- Troops: Tell your friends and family about us!
- Help promote the growth of Tents For Troops by word-of-

mouth. Recommend the site to any active military

members you know, share it on Facebook, ask non-

participating parks to join.



**Vice Admiral &** Commander US Navy 3d Fleet Kenneth Floyd (in center) now retired "Pink" is a full-time RV'er and Tents for **Troops Board** Member

(Speaking Today)





**Ambassadors** on the road doing a BBQ for "The Hole in the Wall Gang" at U.S. Coast **Guard Station** Depot Bay

Ed and Catie Ketel (left)



### Trevor Wilson (2nd from left)

U.S. Navy SEAL 2006-2016, Tents for Troops Board Member

#### Below is a letter from Trevor Wilson

"MY NAME IS TREVOR WILSON. TENTS FOR TROOPS IS NEAR AND DEAR TO MY HEART, ESPECIALLY AFTER 6 COMBAT DEPLOYMENTS TO THE MIDDLE EAST. IN 100% HONESTY, THESE DEPLOYMENTS CHANGED ME, AS A PERSON, AS A MAN, AND AS AN AMERICAN. I'LL NEVER BE THE SAME KID THAT LEFT THE FARM IN OHIO AT 17 YEARS OLD. WAR IS UGLY, WAR IS BRUTAL, AND WAR CHANGES YOU. ON ALL MY DEPLOYMENTS, I WAS TAKEN CARE OF BY COMPLETE STRANGERS, PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS, CHURCHES, CHILDREN, AND PEOPLE THAT DIDN'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING EXCEPT "MAKING IT BETTER". WHEN I DID MY TIME, FINISHED MY CONTRACT, AND SAID GOODBYE TO EVERYTHING THAT HAD BECOME A NORMALITY, I KNEW THAT IN WHATEVER WAY POSSIBLE, I NEEDED TO GIVE BACK. CHARLIE CURRY FOUND ME, ALMOST RIGHT AWAY WHEN I MOVED UP TO WASHINGTON STATE FROM SAN DIEGO. WE MET, WE TALKED, AND INSTANTLY WE WERE ON THE SAME PAGE. IN A CHEESY, EMOTIONAL WAY, IT WAS MY CALLING, AND MY TURN. IN MY DREAMS I'D LOVE TO MAKE TENTS FOR TROOPS A HOUSEHOLD NAME AMONG ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY.

WHEN SOMEONE RETURNS FROM MONTHS, EVEN YEARS OVERSEAS THE TRANSITION BACK INTO THE "FAMILY LIFE" OR THE CIVILIAN WORLD CAN BE JUST AS TOUGH AS THE DEPLOYMENT. THEY COME BACK HOME "DIFFERENT". IN MANY CASES, THEY MUST REKINDLE A RELATIONSHIP WITH A SIGNIFICANT OTHER, GET TO KNOW THEIR CHILDREN AGAIN (OR MEET THEM FOR THE FIRST TIME) AND TRANSITION BACK INTO A STATESIDE ROUTINE. BY GIVING THESE FAMILIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO LOAD UP AND GO ON A FREE CAMPING TRIP, IT LIGHTENS THE STRESS LOAD AND GIVES THESE VETERANS A LITTLE TIME TO FOCUS ON WHAT MATTERS MOST.

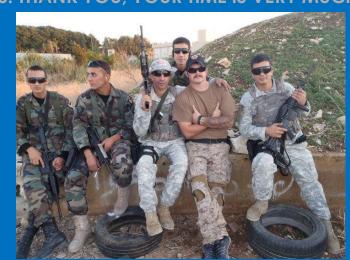
THE PROGRAM SURVIVES ON VOLUNTEERED TIME AND VARIOUS DONATIONS. THIS ISN'T A PLEA FOR HELP BUT MORE OF A REACHING OUT TO YOUR COMPANY TO SEE IF THERE IS ANY WAY YOU MIGHT CONSIDER DONATIONS OF ANY SIZE, EITHER IN CASH OR IN-KIND DONATIONS TO HELP US IN OUR EFFORTS TO MAKE AN RV VACATION AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO HAVE OUR BACKS. THANK YOU, YOUR TIME IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED."



RESPECTIVELY,
TREVOR WILSON 619-288-0868
TWILLY5326@GMAIL.COM







### Contact Tents for Troops

www.tentsfrotroops.org

www.facebook.com/T4Troops

tentsfortroops@aol.com

150 Happy Trails, Castle Rock, Washington 98611

Phone: 503-425-9105 Fax: 360-274-5390

#### **Tents for Troops Board of Directors**



**Evane Schmarder** 

Gorin+Cohen, Woodalls Campground Management - RV Cooking Show Full Time RVer.





National Radio Broadcaster.





**Jeff Sims** 

SR Director of State Relations & Program Advocacy ARVC Family RV Park Campground



Trevor Wilson (U.S. Navy SEAL 2006+-2016)

Full time RVer and T4T Volunteer.



#### Vice Admiral, Kenneth Floyd (Pink)

Is self proclaimed Tents for Troops Biggest Fan. Pink and his wife Debbie call their 45' Tiffin Allergro Bus Home.







#### **Christine Preston**

**T4T Office Manager and** general go to person





USMC retired. Enthusiastic RV traveler. 36' Cougar













Paul Bambei

Justin Humphreys

Bob Wheeler



Ted Davis



**Bob Martin**