



## Mountaindale Sun Times Reporter Phil Reports on SunFest

SunFest was August 3 -5, 2018 at Mountaindale Sun Resort (MSR) The theme this year was the circus. The weather was excellent, and over 100 people enjoyed the festivities. The RV sites, tent sites, and cabins were near capacity. Our community can spot a good time when they see one.

Circus snacks of popcorn and candy apples and refreshing drinks were plentiful. 4 meals were served over the course of the weekend prepared by MSR membership. The wine tasting that preceded the first dinner did seem to start a little earlier than planned and run a little later into dinner, but no one seemed to mind.

When the circus comes to town there is a parade, and this was one of the best. Lead by our clown, the children and some of the adults of MSR paraded around the grounds to a cheering crowd. Wild oversize stuffed animals were carefully decorated by the children and adults, who provided the music on drums and kazoos. If you want to just relax, be slightly silly and laugh, this parade is for you. And I should note no stuffed animals were actually harmed in making of this parade.

No circus is complete without a clown. But have you ever seen a clown wearing a funny hat, funny shoes, and nothing else? It's a perfectly normal way to be entertained. He had the children all smiling and laughing using one of those huge oversized parachutes you sometimes see in preschools.

Continuing the Circus theme, there were jugglers who gave performances as well as teaching juggling to anyone who wanted to run away with the circus. The clinics were informal. We stood around in a circle on the grass barefoot, practicing our little drills doing ever more complex maneuvers with the juggling pins.

If that was not enough we even had our own personal light show trucked up the hill and parked next to the clubhouse, just like you would see at a real carnival or circus grounds. On the midway (clubhouse lawn) there were artisans displaying their wares and collections for sale. I enjoyed an informal demonstration about how to spin yarn.

Of course, there are multiple other things to do. Live music 2 nights in a row gave ample opportunity to dance the night away. One of the bands even had a least one musician sans clothes on this hot summer night. Way to go and identify with your audience!

Of course, there was the usual other lawn games, hot tub and swimming pool, and classic nudist resort competitions of shuffle board, raft races, and pickle ball to name a few. The woods were the host of 2 new events this year. Disc golf and hiking through the woods to find pre-planted cards to make the best poker hand. Tickets were given for participating which then was used for raffle prizes. A silent auction was also simultaneously taking place. I really should have bought that sombrero. Those seeking a less active day scheduled a massage.

Naked yoga was planned for one morning but by popular demand we did yoga a second morning as well. The setting: Warm sun, cool breeze, blue sky, green trees, wisp of a cloud, visible moon, and bald eagles soaring over the deck of the clubhouse. A dozen or so people from first time doing yoga to those very experienced leading the class all done to soothing music. Felt great to stretch ones' muscles without fighting binding clothes.

Even with all the planned events, it is often unplanned spontaneous moments that are special.



### Mountindale Sun Times Reporter Phil Reports on SunFest

Three times musical performances broke out on club house lawn. I've been serenading by a violin duet playing classical music, and another playing Over the Rainbow. Where else can you find people sitting about teaching each other how to play a didgeridoo.

Morning walks up the creek were tranquil, giving me time to ponder and examine the deer, small snake, frog, blue jay, and slug I saw along the way. Trickily water down the stream and dabbled sunlight on the ferns through the trees makes a perfect Pacific Northwest experience.

As my usual after a hike a go sit by the pool. As usual I started reading a heavy philosophy /self-help book. But soon I'm relieved to find myself in the pool meeting new people and hearing their stories, and why they are at SunFest.

As is typical for me I've strayed from who, what, where, and when of SunFest and got all into the good feelings MSR generates that make this place so unique.

Come find out for yourself, and for sure put SunFest on your calendar for next year.