

# GOLD COUNTRY TRAVELERS

e-newsletter

June 2009

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## [In This Issue](#)

(Click on an item to jump to it)

### [President's Message](#)

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### [Website Info](#)

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### ***Recent Outing Stories***

#### [March at Bodega Bay](#)

#### [April on the River](#)

#### [May in the Delta](#)

#### [June at Blue Lakes](#)

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#### [Upcoming Outings](#)

#### [July 13-17 - Olema](#)

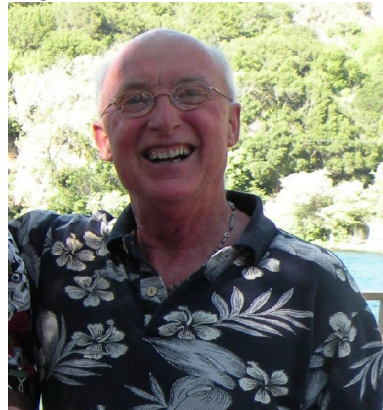
***Scott & Christy Nyland  
Wagon Masters***

**[August 20-23 – Dillon  
Beach](#)**

**Dave & Marsha Lee  
Wagon Masters**

## **President's Message**

This president's message is to acquaint everyone with two of the best RV service organizations that I have found. Both of these RV specialists know SunnyBrook and all other brands of RV's.



First is Allied Trailer Supply Service Department which is located at 1050 El Camino Avenue in Sacramento with a zip code of 95815. Their phone number is (916) 922-3440. Their e-mail address is [AlliedTrailerSupply@yahoo.com](mailto:AlliedTrailerSupply@yahoo.com). Talk with Kerry, the service manager, who was also the lead service manager for Pan Pacific for many years. He has lots of experience with RV's, RV service contracts and is an all around great guy. He knows a lot of the people at the SunnyBrook factory.

Second is the one and only RV Doctor George. He is located at 1142 Dixieanne Ave in Sacramento. The zip code is 95815. The phone number is (916) 927-7837 and his web site can be found at [www.rvdoctorgeorge.com](http://www.rvdoctorgeorge.com). Doctor George has forgotten more about RV parts and service than most people know.

Both of these men, in my opinion are honest and fair and I count them both as friends and RV advisors. If you have any questions about them, give me a call.

Dave

## **March Outing – Bodega Bay**

Wagon Masters, John and Karen Puthuff, welcomed 15 rigs to the Bodega Bay RV Park on March 26, 27, 28, and 29. It was a beautiful sunny weekend with occasional blustery winds. As usual, the group had lots of fun and plenty to eat. Swiss Chicken was served on Friday night, out to dinner at Brisas del Mar on Saturday, and Chili/Egg Puff casserole for Sunday morning. At "Cindy's Casino", the big 31 winners were Murl Poynter on Friday and Howard Hitt on Saturday. They



September 24-27- Cisco Grove

**Coopers & Watkins, Wagon Masters**



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Recipes

**Recent Outing Photos**

**Bogeda Bay**



**April Woodson Bridge**



paid for Saturday night's dinner (their own!). Bryce's fire pit kept us nice and warm while we exchanged stories of old. A few brave souls, led by Dick LaVergne, sailed the ocean blue to go whale watching on some pretty rough waters. They had a whale of a time even though the big mammals were not to be seen. Others in the group did some sightseeing and hiking on the Bodega Head. Of course we all sampled the local food including the Spud Point Clam Chowder—best in the West! The big surprise and grand finale of the weekend was when Jack and Betty Isola walked in unannounced to the Sunday morning breakfast. They were not able to make the outing due to Betty's illness and hospitalization. We were very glad to see them and to see that Betty was on the mend. After the Sunday morning meeting, most of the group saddled up for departure while a few stayed behind to enjoy an extended stay.

[Return to top](#)

**April on the River**

Woodson Bridge RV Park – April 2009, Greg & Jennifer Leard, Wagon Masters

We had six rigs on this outing along with Cindy Gore joining us. For a majority of the weekend the weather was mild and beautiful, only one day did we have a chilly wind.

Friday most of the group hung around the campsite visiting. We sat along the riverbank watching the river flow by and looked for the fish to jump or the river otters and beavers to swim by. We also saw some beautiful birds that probably came from the nearby wildlife preserve. Judy McGrew kept herself busy crocheting potholders.



For dinner Friday night we drove over to the local Rolling Hills Indian casino and enjoyed dinner at the buffet. They had a great variety of food and flavorful as well. After dinner there

were some in the group who couldn't resist the temptation to try their luck in the casino. We heard Jack left quite a contribution and blamed it on Cindy, stating that she was ten minutes late of telling him it was time to go. But I understand he recouped his contribution on Saturday and even left on the winning side!

Saturday's excursion took us down the road to a small community called Vina for a wine tasting and tour. Tucked away in this middle of this olive orchard community is the New Clairvaux Winery and Monastery. Two Trappist Monks, who served us a variety of wines produced from their own Cistercian vineyards, greeted us, then led our group on a tour of the Sacred Stones.

The wine tasting took place in the historical winery building that was once owned by Leland Stanford who started a vineyard on the property back in 1881. We were also taken back to where the wines are stored in oak barrels and sampled wine directly from them. It was way cool!

After sampling the wines we were escorted over to another building to see the

**May @ Rio Viento**



**June @ Blue Lakes**



Scared Stones. In 1931 William Randolph Hearst purchased the old Spanish monastery and had the stones shipped to California to use in his own home. But, instead the stones were given to the city of San Francisco for a tax debt. Eventually these 800-year-old Scared Stones made their way to this Monastery and now are being used to rebuild the Chapter House. It is a fascinating place and full of history.

It is a very interesting winery and definitely a must see, even if you don't like wine. A special thanks to David Lee for setting up the tour.

Our Saturday concluded with a great barbeque outside on the deck. The food was excellent, thanks again to everyone. Bessie's granddaughter drove over from Chico to join us; she even sang us a short county western ditty. She has a beautiful voice – who knows maybe we'll see her on American Idol someday!!

We concluded Sunday morning with breakfast and discussed the upcoming outings.

[Return to top](#)

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**May in the Delta**

**Rio Viento – May 15 – 17<sup>th</sup> Outing**



May found, Judy and Jim McGrew, virgin Wagon Masters, leading the Gold Country Travelers on a first time visit to Rio Viento in the California Delta. The campground is privately owned by Tony and Gail Demittei. Along with Sugar their Doberman, they oversee that everyone is having a wonderful time. Their pride of ownership accounted for the excellent condition of the grounds and cleanliness of facilities. Parking pads are wide and deep accommodating even the largest

rigs. Tent like structures for functions are spaced appropriately throughout the grounds. Very comfortable wicker furniture, fire pits, barbeque equipment and propane heaters provide a very comfortable environment. Located on the Sacramento River it is an ideal place for boating, windsurfing, kayaking and fishing from its private dock.

The Delta Breeze in all its glory greeted early arrivers. Great for windsurfing and kite flying but hard on barbeque feeds. Fortunately, Fridays pot luck day, the winds softened – still high enough for kite flying and windsurfing but quiet enough to keep the barbeque lit.

Six Sunnybrook rigs and two quest rigs provided an ample number of people for Friday's potluck, lots of good food enjoyed by all.

Saturday dinner out was held at Foster's Bighorn, which was a truly amazing experience. While enjoying our meal we were surrounded by the world's most remarkable collections of wild game trophies with over 300 wild animals, birds and fish. The two most impressive were the African elephant, one of the few in

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Check out our website for all the pictures and upcoming outing details.

[goldcountrytravelers.com](http://goldcountrytravelers.com)

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Submit articles for the National Magazine to Bessie Smith  
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Click here for [Archived newsletters](#)

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**2009 Outing  
Calendar**

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**July 13-July 17 – Olema  
Ranch Nyland's, Wagon  
Masters**

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**Aug 20-23 - Dillon Beach  
Dave & Marsha Lee, Wagon  
Masters**

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**Sept 10-14 - Cisco Grove–  
Watkins & Cooper's  
Wagon Masters**

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**Oct 10-12 - Cowboy Film  
Festival, Lone Pine –  
Harris', Wagon Masters**

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**Nov 12-15– JGW-Redding  
Hitt's, Wagon Masters**

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**Dec - Christmas Party,  
Cindy Gore**

**Jan 20-27, 2010  
Yuma, Az  
Rogers, Wagon Masters**

existence and the giraffe head which is extremely rare.

By Sunday morning the wind was calm and the temperature was on the rise. We enjoyed our morning breakfast together and discussed future outings and dates. Another great outing with family and friends!

**June at Blue Lakes****Betty & Jack Isola, Wagon Masters**

The June outing was held at Pine Acres in Blue Lakes, California. The theme was Beach Party, and that it was. We had 13 rigs and 30 people in attendance. The clubhouse was decorated with beach balls, sunglasses, swimming rings and the swim noodles. Judy Hitt modeled her "T shirt Bikini". I hope it was as much fun for you as it was for us putting it together. The lake was blue as its name implies. There was a beach area and a fishing dock. The park is small and not much to do. So some went to the Casino, or just out sight seeing, antique shopping in the quaint little town of Upper Lake. Some drove all the way around beautiful Clearlake. There was a couple that went fishing, looking for trout but caught

nothing. Friday was the Pot Luck. We started off with some great Margaritas, and then the food. Main course was hamburgers and hot dogs cooked by my son Wayne.. After dinner a drawing was held to give away two free nights here at Blue Lakes. Scott and Christy were the big winners. Later in the evening a fun game of 31 got under way. Honored for their birthdays were John Watkins, Yvonne Collins, Bryce Smith, Larry Cooper and Willie Mae



Saylor. Dave and Marsha Lee celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Saturday we had dinner in the garden of the restored Blue Wing Saloon and Cafe in Upper Lake. Right next-door is the refurbished Tallman Hotel that was once a stagecoach stop established in 1866. The owner, Bernie, was gracious enough to give us a tour and the history of the hotel. A thank you note was sent out. Our evenings were spent either at the fire pit or playing cards. Our next outing is in Olema. Hope to see you there.

**Newsletter Deadlines** – For this year I plan on starting the newsletter during the second week of the 3<sup>rd</sup> month of each quarter. So for the first quarter please have all articles for publication to me by March 6, the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter by June 8, third quarter by September 7 and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter by December 7.

**Wagon Masters** - Please send the stories of your campout soon after its over to John Saylor for this newsletter and also to Bessie Smith for inclusion in the National Magazine.

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[Return to top](#)

## Upcoming Outings and Events

Check the [Outings](#) page on the website for more details

### **July 13-17 - Olema**

Scott & Christy Nyland, Wagon Masters. Olema RV Ranch, Pt. Reyes National Seashore. \$25.00 per night. Let's go to the coast and cool off! Contact Scott or Christy at 916-351-0629 to see if there is still space available.

### **August 20-23 – Dillon Beach**

Dave & Marsha Lee, Wagon Masters, invite you to join them at the annual Dillon Beach campout and spaghetti feed. Contact Dave or Marsha at 916-967-9179 to reserve your space.

### **September 24-27- Cisco Grove**

This is a new place for us. The Watkins and the Coopers have joined forces to host this campout at Cisco Grove RV Park in the Sierras near Truckee. Larry will be handling the sign ups at 707-425-0423.

### **October 9-12, Lone Pine Film Festival**

Aaron and Carmen Harris have planned a fun trip to the place where all those cowboy movies of yester-year were filmed. We will be dry camping at Lake Diaz, and cooking on a campfire in Dutch Ovens. Reserve your spot call 916-543-0752.

## Start planning for next year:

### January 2010 - Yuma, AZ - Winter Trip

Chuck & Arlys Rogers have teamed up with Murl & Jane Poynter to plan our winter trip to Yuma, Arizona. Dates are January 20-27, 2010. Reservations have been made at Arizona Sands RV Park. Watch for emails or check the website for more details. Contact Chuck at 707-446-1010 to sign up.

### **Wanted: Wagon Masters – No experience needed**

We still have openings for 2010. February and November need wagon Masters. Contact David Lee and 916-967-9179 to sign up.

[Return to top](#)

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## Recipes

### Turtle Cake by Shirley Watkins

- 1 German Chocolate cake mix
- 1 1/2 cups chopped pecans
- 1 1/2 cups real chocolate chips
- 1/4 cup canned milk
- 1 stick of margarine
- 1 pound of Kraft caramels

Mix cake per package directions, pour 1/2 cake batter into 9x13 greased and floured pan. bake 15 minutes @ 350. remove from oven and sprinkle 1 cup each pecans and chocolate chips. Melt margarine with milk and caramels. pour over the nuts and chips. next pour in the rest of the batter and sprinkle with the balance of nuts and chips. Bake for another 20-25 minutes at 350. Let cool before cutting.

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Harris, Aaron                      4-Apr

Fernandez, Joan                      24-Apr

Irwin, Eula                              29-Apr

Leard, Greg                              9-May

Poynter, Murl                              24-May

Watkins, John                              3-Jun

LaVergne, Dick                              4-Jun

Bilheimer, Dick                              6-Jun

Collins, Yvonne                              16-Jun

Smith, Bryce                              18-Jun

Cooper, Larry                              18-Jun

Leard, Jennifer                              23-Jun

Collins, Ken & Yvonne                      9-May

Isola, Jack & Betty                              1-Jun

McGrew, Jim & Judy                              22-Jun

Website Update

Thanks to those that send pictures of the outings. Remember to send me details or a flyer on your upcoming campouts to add to the website.

I have not heard from anyone on your favorite campsites away from our local area yet

[Return to top](#)