

Gold Country Travelers

<http://www.goldcountrytravelers.com>

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Mt. St. Helens



New Format for our newsletter

Welcome to our new e-Newsletter. This new format will save time and expense printing and mailing the paper – US Mail version. Continue to send your article to Bessie Smith. Bessie will compile info for the National magazine and then forward the articles to me (John) for the e-newletter.

This is the first version and hopefully all can access it without trouble. Please let me know if there any issues in reading and printing.

Message from the President

From the President...

Ho Ho Ho! 'Tis the season to be jolly. Another year has passed for Gold country Travelers and as we enter into our 9th year, I am very proud of our club, our members and the love and friendship that all of the members of our club seem to show to one another.

I for one, during my little "spell" in 2007 was overwhelmed at the outpouring of encouragement and love shown by all of you. By Jiminy, this club just keeps getting better and better.

We have a very nice situation that a few of you have talked to me about so I have a proposal. We have a flush bank account (treasure's report will be given at the January's outing) for our club. Since we only have one party a year (the Christmas/Holiday party), why don't we use a reasonable amount of the treasury to pay for a nice appetizer at "cocktail time" and for mementos of the evening. At this year's party we were all given bookmarks made by Shirley Watkins. Names were drawn for poinsettias and chocolates. A reasonable amount of wine could also be provided. A dollar limit could be established and the organizers(s) of the dinner could determine how to spend it. This would be a nice end to a great year of camping. Please think about it and if you have any other suggestions, please let Marsha and I know. Remember the majority of the club would have to OK how the money is spent.

Hope all of you have Happy Holidays and a great 2008! Marsha and I send our love.

Dave

Bodega Trip Highlights – April 2007



Boat races at the Bay

Twelve rigs showed up for the outing with some arriving early on Thursday and some leaving late on Monday. Unfortunately the Ratliff's had engine problems in Petaluma and had to abort and leave their rig parked with a friendly farmer. Thursday night started with a great seafood dinner at the Sand Piper (which sits exactly on top of the San Andreas Fault). Friday night was clam chowder and taco soup (a big hit) with meatballs and pot luck on Saturday.

Weather was beautiful on Thursday and Friday but turned ugly by noon on Saturday much to the chagrin of the vendors at the Fisherman's Festival and then cleared by Sunday morning. Whale watching was exciting on Bodega Head as pods of gray whales and their young cruised a few hundred yards off shore. The Fisherman's Festival featured a boat building contest and race. Contestants were given two sheets of plywood, 2 x 2's and some duct tape and had 3 hours to build a vessel. They then raced them with crews of 2-4 people. Sunday was the Blessing of the Fleet and boat parade.

Next year the club has reserved July 25-27 (2008) which will be our tenth anniversary at Bodega RV Park. Scott and Christi Nyland will be Wagon Masters.

Many thanks to those who helped with the weekend especially John and Shirley Watkins.

Ed & Joan Fernandez, Wagon Masters

49er RV Ranch – May 2007



Enjoying good times at Colombia

The Gold Country Travelers May outing was to the 49er RV Ranch in Columbia. It was scheduled for May 18, 19, and 20 with 10 rigs signed up. 9 of those rigs arrived a day early in Thursday the 17th even though there were no activities scheduled. Friday evening the group had dinner at the Lick Skillet Café in Columbia then walked a few blocks to the ice cream parlor for desert. Following desert we attended the musical production at the Fallon Theater of the Best Little Whorehouse in Texas. Saturday morning we all met in town for a docent led walking tour of Columbia State Park. In the afternoon Bill (the RV park owner) regaled us with stories of the old west, followed by the potluck dinner featuring barbecued tri tip and chicken breasts. Our cook was John Saylor and the meal turned into a feast. We all dressed up in surgical caps and masks for cake in honor of Jane's retirement even though she was not able to attend the weekend. We all missed her very much especially myself.

Jelly Stone Park June 2007

June signals the start of our summer season and we have learned over the years to schedule our summer campouts either in the mountains or at the ocean to escape the valley heat.

In June we did not go out of state nor to a big city, just to a place called Cobb Valley and between the mountains and tall trees is a new campground called Jelly Stone Park, complete with Yogi and Boo Boo. What a great place for old and young alike. Our June outing was held here under the guidance of Wagon Masters Bryce and Bessie Smith. A total of eleven Sunnybrook trailers took part in the campout with five arriving on Thursday and the rest on Friday.

Everyone in camp on Thursday night traveled to a small family owned restaurant to enjoy an outstanding Mexican dinner followed by a pleasant evening sitting around the fire back at camp. Friday and Saturday were leisure days and Friday night was "bring your meat" to BBQ and everyone enjoyed the fire pit and talked about some of their past RV trips and future plans.

Saturday night the Wagon Masters BBQ'ed Tri Tip and served baked beans along with the many items brought by the other members. Everyone was stuffed but was still able to enjoy desert provided by David and Marsha Lee and their two grandchildren. After dinner we again gathered around the fire and watched the grandchildren make smores. As we grandparents know, it is hard to resist when a little child offers you a burnt marshmallow.

Bryce & Bessie Smith, Wagon Masters



Bryce gets the BBQing going



Good food In Tahoe

Tahoe Valley Campout – July 2007

The outing was held at the Tahoe Valley Campground this last weekend and included eight rigs. The weather was perfect and we had no forest fires! Some of the folks did visit the site of the last fire to see first hand the devastation. On Friday night we walked/drove to Passaretti's for a great Italian dinner. There were 20 for dinner including Cindy Gore, friends of Isola's, and Brian and Carol Robert's daughter. On Saturday, some folks took the gondola to the top of the mountain, some went on a hike, some took advantage of the pool, and others paid their dues at the Stateline. That evening we had a potluck under the stars with delicious food. The main course was poppy seed chicken over rice and a gourmet macaroni and cheese with ham. After dinner we enjoyed a campfire and some music. Sunday morning we enjoyed breakfast together and had a few announcements about upcoming events. Most departed that day but several stayed behind to enjoy a couple of more days.

John and Karen, Wagon Masters

Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Marsha Lee | Oct 12 |
| Bessie Smith | Oct 28 |
| Jane Poynter | Nov 7 |
| Jack Isola | Nov 10 |
| Ken Collins | Nov 20 |
| Shirley Watkins | Nov 22 |
| Arlys Rogers | Nov 24 |

Anniversaries

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Ed & Joan Fernandez | Oct 4 |
| Greg & Jennifer Laird | Oct 26 |
| Chuck & Arlys Rogers | Nov 8 |
| Bryce & Bessie Smith | Nov 28 |

Upcoming Events

Check out the upcoming events and contact the Wagon Masters to sign up

Jan 24-27 Almond Tree RV Park – Chico

Larry & Roberta Cooper - [Details](#)

Feb 15-17 Delta Bay - Dave & Marsha Lee

March 7-9 Casa deFruita – Ken & Yvonne Collins

Check our website for more future outings

<http://www.goldcountrytravelers.com/>

Camp Out at Dillon Beach – August 2007

By the sea, by the sea, by the beautiful sea..... That could have been the anthem for the eleven rigs that enjoyed the Dillon Beach outing in August. The Gold Country Travelers gathered under beautiful skies, ocean breezes and cool, sunny weather.

This outing had more than its share of surprises. First, were Dave, our president, and Marsha Lee's, who had to cancel their attendance and role as Wagonmaster for this trip. Dave had an elective stress EKG performed and in 48 hours, on Friday the 17th, underwent a successful 5 way heart bypass. He is now home, with a stronger than ever heart, and is recovering nicely with the support of family and friends.

Dave, ever mindful of his Gold Country devotion, recruited new member Dick LaVergne and Chuck Rogers as co-wagonmasters to fill in. Dick and new Sunnybrook owner and guest, Garry Moore, arrived early Thursday to claim the last large spot in the Lawson's Landing meadows. Filling in the wagon wheel set-up over the outing were Ed & Joan Fernandez and their friends; Ken & Cricket Couser; Carmen & Aaron Harris and their daughter and two grandchildren, Kale and Kayla; Howard and Judy Hitt; Scott & Cristy Nyland; Chuck & Arlys and Arlys' sister, Darlene, from Oklahoma; John & Janice Saylor; and Bryce & Bessie Smith.

Friday evening we gathered at the Dillon Beach café for good food and great service, followed by a "Bryce built" campfire and good conversation.

Perhaps this weekend could also be described as the "tinkerers' trip." It seemed that a number of minor operating glitches, no doubt caused by sea sprites, affected the trailers. Garry's slide wouldn't work due to a sheared bolt, Chuck experienced electrical problems that were fixed with locating that almost invisible junction box circuit breaker button, Bryce had a couple of issues, including water heater problems and then there was Dick's battery problems which were self-inflicted when he mixed a few wires hooking up new batteries. Shocking....

The weekend included another fantastic spaghetti feed with a gourmet happy hour, hosted by Chuck, Arlys & Darlene, several successfully launched kites supported by the constant breezes, hikes along the bay and to the dock, shopping trips to nearby gift stores and another great campfire Saturday evening, including s'mores for the kids.

Finally, Scott & Christy announced that the "Big Dog" symbol and club were respectfully retired in a flash of flame at the campfire. Scott was quoted, with teary eyes and quivering lip that, "It was time....and besides no one else would take it."

Dick LaVergne, "Sub" Wagon Master