



GOLD COUNTRY TRAVELERS

e-newsletter

2007 final

<http://www/goldcountrytravelers.com>

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This issue of the newsletter is the final for the year. This issue should be viewable directly in the body your email. If you are having trouble viewing click here for the [web pdf version](#). If you wish to print out the newsletter the pdf file will provide a better printing.

October In Coloma



Dave at Christmas
Dinner

The weekend of the October 12th through the 14th found the Gold Country Travelers safely ensconced on the banks of the American River, in the heart of the Gold Country. We were right across the river from Marshall State Park, at Coloma Resort. Six of the ten rigs (9 members and 1 guest) attending arrived on Thursday, making for a nice, large group for early in the campout. We all enjoyed getting caught up and sharing our adventures since the last time we had been together. Everyone was on their own for dinner Thursday night. Later we had a nice, warm campfire to sit around and share companionship.

Have a Happy New
Year



Roasting Marsh
mellows at Dillon
Beach

On Friday, the remainder of our troop arrived and got situated, with lots of advice and kibitzing from those already there. We were also joined by four guests. Those that wanted to visit the surrounding country side left early and made a day of it. Although it was a wee bit wet, a good time was had by all. Friday night we had baked potatoes with all the trimmings, each one a meal unto itself. After dinner Cindy's Casino was set up, some played cards, while others enjoyed sitting and talking around the fire.



Relaxing in Tahoe

Saturday arrived bright and full of sunshine, a truly glorious day. Across the river, at Marshall State Park, there was an old fashioned tent city and Rendez-vous happening. People in character and costume of the mid 1800's were set up, sharing their knowledge and love of the era. We had a good time strolling through and watching the goings on. Saturday night brought a roasted chicken potluck with everyone bringing a delicious dish to share. Special thanks go out to John Saylor for his help in cutting up all that chicken. Cricket and I would also like to thank Janice, Christy and Carmen for all their help getting dinner together. Dinner was followed by a White Elephant gift exchange that produced some imaginative gifts and barrels of



Enjoying Root Beer
Floats at Delta Bay



Having fun in
Columbia



Setting up at the
Vineyard

laughter. Afterwards a rousing game of 31 was played and all shared in the warmth and companionship of the campfire.

Sunday morning we shared a continental breakfast and had a brief meeting before saying our goodbyes to those that had to leave. Several of us stayed and enjoyed a trip to Apple Hill later in the day. It was a wonderful weekend and we've already reserved Coloma Resort for next year.

Ken & Cricket Couser, Wagon Masters

November Outing @ Petaluma KOA

Nine SunnyBrook rigs and one "SOB" (some other brand) gathered at the Petaluma KOA for the November outing of the Gold Country Travelers. Wagon Masters Brian and Carol Roberts planned and organized the activities for the weekend. We welcomed new members Jim and Judy McGrew with their 31BWKS.

Some of the highlights included Friday night dinner at Dinucci's in Valley Ford, a great potluck Saturday night in the clubhouse, a craft fair in Petaluma and walks along the beach at Bodega Head. We also celebrated 2 November birthdays (Jack Isola and Jane Poynter) with cake and ice cream Friday and Saturday night. Cindy hosted her "Casino" Saturday night with the infamous favorite "31".

As this was a holiday weekend, about half the group took advantage of the extra day and stayed through Monday. We all gathered for dinner at Fresh Choice Sunday evening following a day of outlet shopping, site seeing, and beach walking.

Thanks Brian and Carol for a great weekend.

Minutes from Dillon Beach

In the absence of President Dave Lee, the meeting was conducted by VP Chuck Rogers. Chuck, Arlys and Dick Lavergne had stepped in to act as wagon masters when Dave was unable to make it, due to unexpected heart surgery. Chuck thanked Dick for picking up all the equipment from Dave and Marsha. Guests were welcomed, including Ed and Chris who came with the Fernandez, Gary Moore, guest of Dick, Arlys sister Darlene

Cookson, and Kim Stabinbil with Kale and Kayla, daughter and grandchildren of Aaron and Carmen Harris.

Dick reported on the latest call from Marsha. Dave had gotten an EKG because he felt it was time. Even though it showed nothing wrong, Dave asked for a cardiac stress test. He failed the test and was told he needed a by pass right now, as the main artery to his heart was seriously blocked. Doctors performed a 5 way by pass on him Friday night. Everything went well, Dave sat up for dinner on Saturday night. Marsha said no phone calls yet, but that cards could be sent to the house.

Upcoming trips were discussed.

September 18-21, Mt. St Helens, WA. Chuck and Arlys Rogers. Details have been sent out in several letters to the club. Also, check the web site. Chuck and Arlys will be on an Alaska cruise just prior to the campout.

October 12-14, Coloma Rv Park. Ken and Cricket Couser. Park is on Murphy Road, just across the narrow bridge at the Coloma gold discovery site. Our sites will be along the river, with water and electric, no sewer. The 49er Discovery Fair is taking place in Coloma that weekend. Lots to do.

November 8-11, Petaluma KOA. Brian and Carol Roberts. More details to come.

December 1, Christmas Dinner. Chuck and Arlys Rogers and John and Shirley Watkins.

The Bilheimers and the Rogers went to the SunnyBrook National Rally in Indiana this year. They said there were activities from morning till night and 436 rigs present. Next year will be July 21, 2008 in Amana Iowa.

Chuck will contact Jay in Eureka after Labor Day regarding becoming out club sponsor. One of the discussions at the National was about not expecting an arm and a leg from the sponsor in the form of freebies and dinners.

John Saylor requested pictures of the DC Circuit Breaker in your trailer to do an article on Tech Tips. Apparently, they are located in different places in different trailers and it is important to know where yours is.

No more business, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Janice Saylor, Secretary.

Meeting minutes, Mt. St. Helens, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2007

Chuck Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:15PM. He had just talked to Dave earlier, and reported that his recovery is progressing very rapidly and that he is quite bored.

Chuck also reported that Jay in Eureka has agreed to be our sponsor. He said that he and Dave will work out the details, and that Jay would probably come down to an outing. Jack Isola said to be sure and tell him to bring a pig, to which Betty Isola responded that there will already be one there. :-) (smile)

Chuck went on to tell us about the week they spent at the International SunnyBrook rally in Elkhart, Indiana. He said there were 436 rigs in attendance, and there was way too many things to do to take it all in. The factory reps on site made safety repairs only. The Elkhart dealer had every model currently available on display. Chuck says there is no change in the new model of his floor plan, except a better stereo. SunnyBrook will now only manufacture 5th wheels in all lines.

Chuck asked that we leave a donation for the young man that went fishing that day specifically to catch fresh salmon for our dinner. Chuck said he didn't even like salmon. (But I'll bet he likes to fish!)

Upcoming events:

October 12-14 Coloma with wagon masters Ken and Cricket Couser. Most of our sites back right up to the American River, and those, by law, have no sewer hook up. There are a few other spots available with full hook ups. Forty niners days will be going on that weekend in Coloma. Jane cannot come, somebody suggested he could bring Cindy.

November 9-11 Petaluma KOA with wagon masters Brian and Carol Roberts. Details are on the club web site.

December 1 Christmas Dinner at the Hungry Hunter in Sacramento. Hosted by Chuck and Arlys Rogers. See web site for details.

No further business, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Janice Saylor, Secretary.

Meeting Minutes, Coloma, October 14, 2207

An informal meeting was held, as neither the president nor the vice president was in attendance.

Thanks were made to Ken and Cricket for the wonderful weekend, the potato bar dinner they provided on Friday night, and the great chicken and mashed potatoes main dish on Saturday.

Petaluma KOA Nov. 9-11. Wagon masters Brian and Carol Roberts. Details on the web site.

Christmas Dinner, Dec 1 at the Hungry Hunter in Sacramento. Hosted by Chuck and Arlys Rogers. Reservations are being taken by John and Shirley Watkins.

January, wagon masters Larry and Roberta Cooper at the Almond Grove R. V. Park. Check the website for details.

February is still open.

Thanks to Ken Couser and Betty Isola for the great pictures they send. Bessie reported that 300K resolution is what is needed in order to send a picture to the national magazine. Stories for the national magazine should be 300-400 words. Our next club newsletter will be sent in email format rather than paper format. This will save on paper, postage and ink. If anyone has not got computer access, they can still receive a copy in the mail.

Next summer the International Rally will be held in Amana, Iowa the week of July 21st. A reminder was made that if you belong to the local club Sunny Travelers, you must also belong to the National Club.

Jay in Eureka is going through the paper work to become purr sponsor.

Dick LaVergne updated us on Dave, that he has gone back to work and plans on coming to Petaluma.

Everybody was warned that when they leave here they need to make a wide turn to avoid bottoming out.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Janice Saylor, Secretary

2008 Roster

We will be starting on the 2008 roster soon. Please check your information and send me any updates to email address, phone numbers and emergency contacts. Our target is to have it ready by the Delta bay Outing.

John and Janice

Birthdays This Month

Bob Kuhlman -- Dec 10

Carmen Harris - Dec 16

December Anniversaries

Hitt, Howard & Judy-----Dec 10

Cooper, Larry & Roberta---Dec 12

Poynter, Murl & Jane-----Dec 20

Bilheimer, Dick & Carol-----Dec 21

Couser, Ken & Cricket-----Dec 31

Digital TV Conversion

Last April Ed Fernandez sent an email to us about the upcoming elimination of the Analog TV channels and complete conversion to Digital. That will happen on February 17, 2009. Since I do not have cable or dish type TV service and rely entirely on my roof top antenna, both at home and on the road, I have been researching this issue in more detail both for home and the RV. Besides our analog TV's that will cease to work, I also realized the analog VCR's will no longer be able to receive TV. So, if you have a decent analog only (NTSC tuner only) and record off the air on your VCR a converter might make more sense. I have been experimenting with off the air digital TV. Back in July, wanting to put the VHS tapes of our daughter Lori's wedding on DVD, I purchased a DVD recorder with a Digital (ATSC) tuner built in. I can now record programs off the air in digital on to a DVD RAM disk and also feed the digital off the air signal to my analog TV. The RAM disk can be recorded to and recorded over and over just like a VHS Tape. In the 5th wheel I plan on getting a converter for now since we already have a nice 20 inch LCD TV but with no ATSC (digital) tuner. I have found digital converters by top name brands for as low as \$60 on line.

Ed also mentioned the sub channels. The main digital channels are numbered 3.1, 10.1, 13.1 etc. Most stations have one sub channel, 3.2, 10.2 13.2, etc that carries 24 hour weather, local and national. One local Sacramento station, KSPX, (ION Network) has four sub channels. 29.1 thru 29.4. with varied programming including food network, kubo cartoon network, religious and info-mercials. I have found that channels that are a bit snowy on analog come in bright and clear on digital but a bad snowy picture will not show at all on digital. The digital signal seems to work with my present antenna both on the house and the crank up one on the 5th wheel. I plan on taking a converter with me the next time we take the 5th to a place that does not have cable hook up to see how it works away from the house. Below are some online sources for the upcoming analog elimination and digital information.

Consumer Electronics Association – Information for the consumer about the conversion: <http://www.ce.org/> Click on the HDTV Icon on llower right.

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/> Information on the \$40 coupons to buy a converter. Also <http://www.mydtv2009.gov> More details on the coupon Program.

Link to Ed's original article. http://www.goldcountrytravelers.com/news/eds_dtv_letter.pdf

John Saylor

2008 Outings

January 24-27 Almond tree RV Park, Chico. Contact John or Shirley Watkins - 707-422-6018
jlw-saw@sbcglobal.net

February 15-17 Delta Bay RV Park. Contact Dave or Marsha Lee - (916) 967-9179

March 7-9 Casa de Fruta, Contact Ken and Yvonne Collins - ((510) 351-1979

Web site updates: Thanks to those who send in pictures for the website. Besure to check the 2008 calendar to update any information for the upcoming outings. If you have a tech tip that you would like to share, send me the details a I will add to our tech tip page.

Is there anything else anyone would want to add to the web site let me know. John Saylor

