



GOLD COUNTRY TRAVELERS

e-newsletter

July 2008

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Enjoying an
afternoon by the
river

President's Message



DW – David W. Lee – Dad – just a few names to talk about my father. Dad died Friday, June 13, 2008. Even though Dad was over 90 years old and was on a “death watch” for a couple of months, the end was still hard to take. He was my Dad! Anyway, he led a good life, had a good family and enjoyed 30 years of retirement. All this leads me to my message. Bless all of you and thanks to all of you for your thoughts, cards and prayers for me and my family during this sad time. It never ceases to amaze me how this group of people supports and reassures anyone of the club who needs help. Again, thanks gang and God bless every one of you.

Dave Lee

April on the Sacramento River at Woodson Bridge R.V. Park

April found the Gold Country Travelers on a quest to find a new campground that we had not been to before. It was hosted by Richard and Virginia Lee and was on the banks of the Sacramento River at Woodson Bridge R.V. Park. We arrived to a beautiful sunny afternoon on Thursday and found that we were not the first arrivals. Marsha and David Lee and Dick LaLergne were already setting up their rigs. Six rigs arrived on Thursday with the rest arriving on Friday afternoon. Everyone thought the riverfront sites were Great!

David was busy finding out what there was to do around the park and came and gave us an update. There was a Wild Animal Park in Durham to go see and a riverboat ride to take. Also right along side the park was a “wild natural park that you could take your dogs to run without a leash. We also saw on our way by the “Rolling Hills Casino” that on Thursday night they had “seniors night” so we decided to go and check it out. Four couples went to try the cuisine of the evening and found it was very good, especially at 14.95 a couple. Where can you get an evening meal for two at that price!

Friday morning we just sat back and watched the river flow by and relaxed. By 3 PM the rest of the bunch arrived and we all went to the casino for the “seafood buffet” which was very good but considerably more expensive. But I think we all got our moneys worth. I can't say as much about the gambling though.



Trying to win
quarters for 31



Knock! Knock!

May Outing



The Thursday group



El Jardin Restaurant



June Outing



Saturday morning some of the troops decided to go check out the wild animal rescue park and they all came back exclaiming what a worthwhile place it was. It was for retired zoo animals, circus animals or animals that had been injured in the wild. They were so impressed that the club decided to give them a donation of \$100. for use for what every they needed at the time. The park is run on donations only and the revenue that they get from visitors.

That evening we all got together in the clubhouse and had a great ham dinner with all the good things that our club is known for. We never fail to have the best dinners around. The ladies outdid themselves again and the next morning the ham that was left over from the dinner the night before came in handy for ham and eggs and biscuits and gravy make by Cindy. The biscuits and gravy were really good and everyone that had to go home, left well satisfied.

Sunday afternoon, those that were left at the park enjoyed a sunny visit around the picnic tables. Six of the people that were left at the park decided to take a boat ride on the jet boat and when they came back they all said that it was well worth the money. They saw an Osprey nest and also a bald eagle nest and the male bringing home the food for the chicks. We had some of the dessert that was leftover from the dinner the night before and then decided that we were all tired and took naps. That evening we got together to pool all our leftovers and decided that was a good way to end a great weekend. I think everyone enjoyed themselves and all wanted to come back to the park again next year.

Gold Country Travelers May Trip to Columbia

Dick and Carol Bilhiemer, Wagon Master



There's a Parade in Town

The May 1st-4th Gold Country RV Trip was held at the 49er RV Ranch in Columbia, California. There were nine SunnyBrook rigs plus one SOB. A majority of the group arrived Thursday. All ten rigs had arrived by late Friday afternoon.

The group enjoyed a Mexican meal at El Jardin Restaurant. Then all of us wandered down the street to the Fallon House Theatre where most enjoyed a nice cool ice cream dessert. Then it was into the theatre to see a performance about the late great Hank William in a production called "Hank William: Lost Highway" by the Sierra Repertory Theatre Group.

Saturday was a busy day. Many of us returned to Columbia State Historic Park to watch the Fireman's Muster that started with a parade at 10:00. It was fun to watch all the old fire trucks as the parade passed by. After the parade the competition began first between the children then followed by the various visiting fire companies.

We all gathered in the old barn for appetizers while Dick was busy barbecuing the beef tri-tips from the Swingle Meat Company in Jackson. The appetizers, salads, beans, potatoes, bread, and desserts wee so delicious. Needless to

Wine & Cheese with
Aaron & Carmen



The Train Gang



Scott's got that
winning grin!

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

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say we didn't lack for food. Our thanks go to all the cooks for the wonderful food they prepared for us.

After dinner the card players stayed in the barn for Cindy's Casino. Carol was the lucky winner for the night.

We were up early for a free continental breakfast provided by the 49er RV Ranch and members of Gold Country Travelers. We ended our visit with a short meeting. Everyone enjoyed the area and the 49er RV Ranch. Great company, perfect weather, and fun activities made for a great weekend!

June Outing at Clio's River's Edge RV Park

June 26-29, 2008

This was the week of the big fires all over California, 1000+. It was smoky as we left home not knowing what the air would be like for the weekend. We headed out on Wednesday and as we drove over Donner Summit the smoke was at its worst. As we turned onto Hwy 89 and headed north the air began to clear. By the time we pulled into the RV park it was more clear than at home. John and Karen Puthuff were already there. Shortly Ken and Yvonne arrived.

By Thursday evening we had nine rigs in camp with one more due in Friday. Scott and Christie were having trouble with Big Dog and will also come on Friday but without their rig. Thursday evening, Aaron and Carmen served us an array of wine and cheese at their rig. We had a great time catching up on all of our activities and watching the fish, beavers and other wildlife along the river.

Friday everyone enjoyed activities on their own during the day. Some went for a drive to nearby towns, some explored around Clio and camp and some went to the railroad museum in Portola where Dave and Marsha drove a locomotive!

We had our in camp dinner Friday night this time since the club house was needed by a long time resident of the park who was celebrating his 90th birthday.

John Saylor, with the help of Bob Kuhlman barbequed chicken with the rest of the meal being the traditional potluck. After dinner the '31' game got under way. Scott was the big winner tonight. Others sat around outside and visited but we could not have a campfire due to the extreme fire danger.

Saturday turned out to be another nice day with more local exploring. Ken and Cricket brought a portable screen room that Ken and John set up for the evening since we didn't have the clubhouse. Saturday evening was a delicious dinner at the Grizzly Grill in Blairsden. The '31' game began in the gazebo shortly after dinner. Tonight's game lasted way into the late evening hours with Scott again claiming all those quarters. Scott must be practicing in his retirement. Maybe we need a handicap system for those frequent winners!

Sunday Morning we had our breakfast meeting, discussing upcoming events. Half of the group hitched up to head home while the other half (5 rigs) stayed over til Monday. Guests this weekend were Dick LaVergne's friend Marilyn, and John and Janice Saylor's Daughter and Son-in-Law, Lori and Jesse.

(Officer's Cont'd)

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Outing Calendar

August 21-24
Lawson's landing

September 18-21
Coloma

October 10-12
Redding

November 14-16
Duck Island

December 6
Christmas Party

2009

January - Poynters,
Wagon Masters

February 12-14, 10th
Anniversary

March 26-28
Bodega Bay,
Puthuff's

April - Leard's,
Wagon Masters

Sunday evening the Saylor's, Couser's and Harris's drove to Plumas Pines Golf resort for dinner at Longboard's Bar & Grill. The food was excellent as well as the view. We will have to consider this as an option next time we are in the area. Returning to camp we were joined by the Collins' and Puthuff's as we sat around at the Couser rig and enjoyed the evening.

John and Janice Saylor, Wagon Masters.

Meeting Minutes
Woodson Bridge
April 6, 2008

Meeting called to order at 9:35 by President Dave Lee. Thanks expressed to Richard and Virginia Lee for the great weekend. Reminder to pay Richard for camping fees. Also a reminder that club dues, if you have not paid them, are now overdue.
Future outings discussed

May 2-4 Columbia - Wagon masters are Dick and Carol Bilheimer. Fallon Theater on Friday night. Fireman's Muster on Saturday. See web site for details.

June 26-29 Graeagle - Wagon masters John and Janice Saylor. Deposit needed by May 21. Two week cancellation notice required by park. Grizzly Grill on Friday night. Will set up for 3 or 4 meal choices. Great golfing, hiking and nature watching available. Can drive your own train at the Train Museum in Portola, but must get reservations in ASAP.

July 3-7 Bodega Bay - Wagon masters Scott and Christy Nyland. Bodega Bay RV Park, \$45 per night. Friday night dinner at Mexican Restaurant at park entrance. Fireworks displays in several places, they are thinking of Doran Beach.

Christmas Dinner - December 6 at Logan's Road House. Cindy has secured a closed room with 2 waiters, separate checks, a Christmas Tree and fireplace. We don't have to pre order and they will serve our cake. The room will be set up with round tables, most seating 2 couples.

Tenth Anniversary Celebration February 12-14, Plymouth - Wagon masters Bryce and Bessie Smith. Twenty spaces have been reserved, plus there are loft cottages available for those who no longer have a rig. Everybody, including former members, are invited. Hoping for a large turnout. Have the large club house Friday and Saturday. Tri tip and chicken will be served Saturday night. Dave will set up a winery tour for

Saturday.

Cindy reported that there is \$2,346 in the club treasury.

Dave reported that there is a new sub-group in the club.....the 3 slide diesel group. Anyone wanting new danglies for this must order them from Cindy. Dave also reported checking out jet boat rides for this afternoon. Four people needed, for \$25 per person. This park has been reserved for April of 2009. Dave thanked John for putting e mail newsletter on line.

A group went to the Wildlife Refuge yesterday and were impressed with the wonderful care given to the animals. Jane made a motion to donate \$100 to the refuge, and was seconded Dave.

January and March of 2009 need wagon masters. Jane Poynter volunteered for January.

Virginia thanked Cindy and Bessie for all their help this weekend.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Saylor, Secretary

Meeting Minutes
Gold Country Travelers
Graeagle June 29,2008

Meeting called to order 9:19am by President Dave Lee. Dave thanked us for the weekend. I thanked everybody for the good food. Dave acknowledged Dick Laverne's guest Marilyn. Our daughter and husband, Jesse and Lori Schlunegger also came for the weekend.

Future outings discussed.

July 3-7 Bodega Bay - Wagon masters Scott and Christy Nyland. Everything is set up. John and Karen Puthuff will be going directly there on Monday, so if Scott and Christy have not got the Big Dog fixed yet, John and Karen will be "in charge"

August 22-24 Dillon's Beach - Wagon masters David and Marsha Lee. Dinner Friday night at the restaurant on the hill. Saturday, community spaghetti. Bring enough sauce for yourselves, it will be combined and

cooked all day. Also green salad for yourselves, to be combined with others. Appetizers, bread and desserts are needed. Activities are the Bocce Ball tournament and chipping contest.

September 19-21 Coloma - Wagon masters Aaron and Carmen Harris. Check web site for details.

November 14-16 Duck Island - Wagon masters Bob and Jo-Ann Kuhlman. Full hook ups. Grassy sites right on the river. No children under 18, park policy.

Some 2009 vacant months were filled in and verified.

2009

March - Bodega Bay, John and Karen Puthuff

September - John and Shirley Watkins

October - Lone Pine Cowboy Film Festival, Aaron and Carmen Harris

November - Howard and Judy Hitt.

Dave passed out some danglies and reminded us that Cindy is the one to contact to order them. John Saylor reminded us to check out Murl and Jane's blog on their trip to Alaska. He also asked for tech tips, pictures and recipes (like Howard's bean recipe and Crickets method of keeping the bears away.)

Jo-Ann reported that Betty Isola had been badly bruised by a fall, but is getting better and will be at Bodega Bay.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Saylor, Secretary.

Tech Tips

Check Those Tires

By Ed Fernandez

On a recent return from a 1600 mile trip to Oregon we had a stressful and dangerous experience when our left rear trailer tire blew out at 60 MPH about 20 miles north of Sacramento on I-5. Fortunately we had plenty of shoulder room to pull over and change tires. It could easily have happened on the Bay Bridge or a blind curve coming out of Yosemite! Our tires being approximately 5 years old we had heard that trailer tires should be replaced every 4 years regardless of usage. However, our tire dealer said our Sunnybrook had come equipped with truck tires good for six years. The tire had not failed but had picked up a nail and simply gone flat. In the process it overheated and eventually blew out. The lesson is to be sure to check all tires every time you stop. A pressure check would be ideal to see if one is out of line with the others. You can also use a laser type temperature detector as recommended by Charlie Cross. Cost about \$100. A more costly but more secure system is to install pressure/temp sensors on all wheels which transmit to a receiver in the tow vehicle. The receiver will show status of all wheels and sound an alarm if one tire drops a certain percentage in pressure. Cost about \$400-500.

Plastic Trim Turns Yellow

By John Saylor

As many of you know the plastic trim around the side door window, the stove vent and the refrigerator outside cover usually turn yellow. There is a paint by Krylon called Fusion in White that can be sprayed on to make the yellowed plastic match our rigs white. This tip was in the newsletter several years ago but some of our newer members may not know about it. Its a simple matter to mask off the trim or remove the covers and spray with the Fusion white to make them like new again. I did mine several years ago and it has held up with no indication of the spray coming off or turning yellow.

Don't miss out on the fun! Sign up for an upcoming outing

The July Outing - Bodega Bay, July 3-7. Since it was the weekend following the June outing, it will be history as you read this edition of the newsletter.

August 21-24, Lawson's Landing (Dillon's Beach)

Our annual dry camp weekend. Bocce Ball, Spaghetti and fun. Contact Dave & Marsha Lee for details. 916-967-9179.

September 18-21, Coloma RV Park

We have sites that back up to the American River. Explore the Gold Country and much more. Contact Aaron and Carmen Harris for details. 916-543-0752 .

Reserve the Date - February 12-14, 2009

Bessie and Bryce have reserved the 49er Rv Park in Plymouth where we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Gold Country Travelers. You won't want to miss this one. Look for more information in the coming months.

Lemon Poke Cake by Janice Saylor

1 pkg. yellow cake mix
 1 small pkg lemon jello
 3/4 cup water
 3/4 cup oil
 4 eggs

Mix all together and beat 4 minutes. Pour into an ungreased glass baking dish 13" x 9". Bake approximately 35 minutes at 350 degrees.

The Topping

2 cups powered sugar
 1/2 cup lemon juice
 grated lemon rind
 Mix until blended

While the cake is still hot, poke holes all over the top with an ice pick or large tined fork. Spoon the topping over the cake, let cool. Cut and serve right from the pan.

Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary	
Aaron Harris	April 4	Carnus & Sheila Ratliff	April 6
Carnus Ratliff	April 6	Ken & Yvonne Collins	May 9
Joan Fernandez	April 24	Jack & Betty Isola	June 1
Greg Leard	May 9	Jim & Judy McGrew	June 22
Murl Poynter	May 24		
John Watkins	June 3		
Dick LaVergne	June 4		
Dick Bilheimer	June 6		
Sheila Ratliff	June 6		
Yvonne Collins	June 16		
Bryce Smith	June 18		
Larry Cooper	June 18		
Jennifer Leard	June 23		
Howard Stohlman	June 23		
Judy Hitt	June 25		

Website - New Feature

We have a new feature on our website. "Member Blogs and Travel Sites." Its in the lower left of the home page. If you have an RV related website for your travels and pictures send the link to John Saylor. Presently the Poynter's are on their Alaska trip and you can follow their adventures here.

Continue to send outing pictures and tech tips to share with the club.