



GOLD COUNTRY TRAVELERS

e-newsletter

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President's Message



You win some and you lose some. It's an old saying, but really true. Recently many things have reminded me of this saying. We have members who have gotten really sick and we have others whose perseverance have overcome illnesses and have become healthier and more positive than ever before.

We have all learned that we are all in God's hands and we need to accept his version of our lives. I try not to be too Biblical, but recent things that have happened to members of our club have really opened my eyes to what we must have faith in.

OK, that's heavy enough, but you all know what I am talking about. Let's all look towards 2008 as another year to renew our friendships and adventures in RV'ing and whatever makes us happy. We have our 10th year Anniversary party next year and want to make sure we can make it the best event in our club's existence.

To a great 2008!

Click on a photo to see a larger image [Dave Lee](#)

Christmas



2007 Christmas Party at the Hungry Hunter

Chucky and Arlys Rogers and John and Shirley Watkins Hosts

We had our annual Christmas dinner at the Hungry Hunter restaurant in Sacramento on December 1. We had a great turnout and the food was outstanding. The hosts provided table decorations of individual poinsettias and candy. Shirley also made bookmarks for each couple. Each bookmark had a picture of the couple from a past outing. The poinsettias and candy were given to those at the dinner by drawing tickets. All present had a great time and the dinner was a great start to the holiday season. Thanks to the Rogers and Watkins for a great time and for the "favors" and especially the bookmarks.



For a change of pace, the Christmas dinner for 2008 will be at Logan's Roadhouse on Truxel Avenue. See you there!

Almond Tree RV Park, Chico, CA

Wagon Masters – Larry and Roberta Cooper / John and Shirley Watkins



January @ Chico



On Friday the Pointers and the Nylands arrived and for the first time in my experience I realized that we had more trailers (3) in attendance than fifth-wheels (2). Friday night the Watkins, Pointers, and Nylands had a wonderful dinner at Logan's Road house.

Afterwards everyone joined in a game of 31. Saturday everyone was on their own to tour the city, and surrounding area. We had a great potluck on Saturday evening.

(click on the photo to see them all)

The tables were decorated with old toys, a Yo-Yo, harmonicas, Wheel-os, and others. In keeping with the theme started by the Coopers everyone brought a dish from their childhood and shared their memories. Each couple shared memories of their first meeting and first date. We really enjoyed visiting. Much to my surprise I found out that Scott Nyland and I graduated from the same High School. I am still trying to find



my yearbook to look up his older brother. Scott had an announcement – He has retired!! We finished the evening with a game of 31.

Sunday we had a late and leisurely breakfast of scrambled eggs, ham, hash brown casserole, and pastries. The Nylands and Pointers packed up to travel home in sunshine between the storms. We went with Richard and Virginia to the Bidwell mansion and enjoyed a personal tour. I recommend this tour to anyone who visits Chico. The house is fantastic. It had running water, and flush toilets, hot water in the laundry and kitchen in the 1850's. You can play the piano ordered by John Bidwell for his wife Annie and shipped from New York to Chico in 1858. It is in perfect condition. A dinner of leftovers was enjoyed and yes another game of 31 ended the outing.



We all agreed to send our special recipes in to Bessie to share with all of you. Almond Tree RV Park was neat and clean, they did not charge us for cancellations, and still allowed us to use the club room with only 5 rigs.



February 15 – 17, 2008 Outing at Brannan Island KOA (Delta Bay) Dave and Marsha Lee, Wagon Masters

Seven rigs braved the winds and arrived on Thursday. Due to the wind, it was conducive to stay indoors and as it was Valentines' Day, most couples had dinner on their own.

February in the Delta



By Friday the wind died down which made for a beautiful sunny weekend. Six more rigs and Darrin Saylor (John and Janice's son) arrived on Friday. Everyone mingled throughout the day for good old fashioned fellowship. Friday evening dinner was at the Spindrift Restaurant which was right up the street from the campground. The food was good except for the vegetables of peas and corn. Service was another story. One table got good service and was served in a timely manner. Diners at the second table had too long of a wait for food. After dinner some sat around the camp fire and the rest retired to the club house for a rousing game of "31". Virginia Lee (with some financial backing from Dave Lee) was the big winner.



(click on the photo to see them all)

Saturday was another beautiful day and the last rig (the Harris's) arrived. Everyone visited or took a drive during the day. Bessie's daughter and family came in Saturday and joined us for dinner. The main course was bar-b-cued chicken (done by John and Darrin Saylor and Dave Lee) and there were lots of appetizers, side dishes and desserts. As usual the food was great and there was plenty of it. After dinner some of the group sat around the fire and visited. Darrin Saylor was a great "fire master" and kept the fire going until we were ready to retire for the evening. The rest of the group went to the "casino" for "31". Bob Kuhlman was the big winner.



Sunday morning, there were great breakfast dishes to share and a short "meeting". Afterwards those that had to leave on Sunday

said their good bys. Those that were able to stay enjoyed another wonderful day of warmth and sunshine.



Meeting Minutes, Brannan Island KOA (Delta Bay), Feb 17, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 9:05am by President Dave Lee. He thanked Marsha for all the good food and nice decorations. He reminded us to send anything for the club newsletter to Bessie as soon as possible.

March @ Casa de Fruta



We were joined for breakfast by Cindy Gore and Muriel Fix. Cindy gave treasurers report of \$2,484.00, with one check still not deposited.

It was noted that the club box needs small plates, napkins, plastic ware, etc. and more coffee. We were reminded that we cannot spend the contingency fund. It was decided to get another coffee pot, another small one. Betty Isola was to take care of this.

Cindy Gore reported talking to Larry Cooper, that he was feeling good and had another scan and the cancer MAY be gone.



Dave read a card from Ray and Leslee McElroy. Ray has recovered from having by pass surgery but is having other health issues. They are traveling 8 months a year and spending spring and fall in North Star.

Future outings:

Casa de Fruta, March 7-8, Wagon masters Ken and Yvonne Collins. Ten spaces have been reserved. There is lots to see and do in the area.



Corning, Woodson Bridge RV part, April 4-5. Wagon masters Richard and Virginia

Lee. Ten spaces have been reserved.



Columbia, May 2-4, Columbia. Wagon masters Dick and Carol Bilheimer. Fireman's Muster. Theater production after dinner Friday night.

In Oct, 2009, Carmen and Aaron Harris will do the Cowboy Film Festival in Lone Pine. Lake County Park is available, \$65 per night with hook ups.

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Submit articles to Bessie besseclark@aol.com

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Months left open for 2009 were:

February, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the club, taken by Bryce and Bessie Smith, to be held at 49er RV Park in Plymouth.

April, taken by Greg and Jennifer Leard.

May, taken by Jim and Judy McGrew.

June, by Jack and Betty Isola.

Club Officers

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The Christmas Dinner for 2008 still needed a host/hostess. Cindy Gore volunteered, as long as she could get help with decorations.

Dave said that if you need dangles for your name badges to see him.

Jane Poynter suggested a box for each month for decorations to be included with club stuff, to save wagon masters from having to spend money each time for decorations.

No further business, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:
Janice Saylor, Secretary

March Outing at Casa de Fruta

Ken & Yvonne Collins, Wagon Masters

Hosted by Ken and Yvonne Collins, the weekend of March 6-9, we camped at Casa de Fruta RV Park. What a beautiful spring weekend. Everything was green and blooming. It was expected that there would be 5 rigs in attendance but due to illness and a wrong date on a calendar, the Saylor's were the only campers to join up with the Wagon Masters. Thursday evening started off with dinner out at the Casa de Fruta Restaurant. Friday was another beautiful sun-shiny day. John and Janice took a side trip to Holister and checked out a couple of antique stores while the Collins stayed near camp. Even though there were only two rigs in our group, the park still let us have a room in the club house. Friday evening was a potluck with lasagna. After dinner we played some 31 and Mexican Train Dominoes. Saturday morning was breakfast in the club house. Ken cooked scrambled eggs, Yvonne made biscuits and gravy and Janice brought fresh fruit. We ate like kings all weekend!



There was plenty to do right there at the park, visiting the famous fruit stand and gift shop, viewing all the antique farm equipment displayed around the park. There was an old working double decker carousel and a train you could ride. Yvonne had the club house decorated in an easter theme. Saturday evening was a corn beef and cabbage potluck and more games of sequence and mexican train. Sunday was a sleep in day as it was the time change to daylight savings time and of course pack it up and head for home. So, even with just two rigs, it was a very enjoyable weekend

(click on the photo to see them all)

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

April 4-6. Woodson Bridge RV Park Corning, Ca.

Nestled on the banks of the Sacramento River, this outing promises to be a fun time. Contact Richard & Virginia Lee for details. 916-372-2238.

May 1-4. 49er RV Park, Colombia.

Events planned include Live Theater and the Fireman's Muster.
10 sites have been reserved. \$38.20 per night, +\$20 for theater tickets to see: 'Hank Williams: Lost Highway'.
Contact Dick & Carol Bilheimer (209) 267-1936 to sign up.

June Outing Clio's Rivers Edge RV Park - Graeagle

June 26-29. Camp in the pines along side the Feather River. Located in Mohawk Valley near Graeagle California. We have 15 spaces reserved. \$29.43, for 30 amp, \$34.34, for 50 amp. We're planning on dinner at the Grizly Grill Friday night and BBQ tri-tip Saturday. Reservation with one nights deposit due by May 21. Contact John Saylor 916-723-1613.

Chili Releno recipe by Christy Nyland

Chili Releno Casserole (serves 4)

- 3 4oz. cans whole green chilies
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 eggs beaten with a fork
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 16 oz. shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 14oz. can ready cut tomatoes (mashed with a fork)

Mix milk, flour, eggs and salt into a batter

Make in 2 layers: split open chilies, remove seeds, pat dry, lay chilies flat in bottom of greased 11/2qt. baking dish.(Pam is fine for greasing) Top with 1/2 of the cheese and 1/2 of the batter Repeat the layers with chilies, cheese and batter Bake 30 minutes at 375 degrees, spoon tomatoes over top and cook 30 more minutes until casserole is set. To increase the servings, increase the ingredients(for Chico trip I made enough for 8 servings so I doubled all of the ingredients)

Two great recipes by Shirley Watkins

Hot Chicken Salad

- 2 c. diced chicken 1 c. cooked rice
- 1 can cream of ck soup 3 T onion
- 1/2 c. slivered almonds 1 c. diced celery
- 3 T lemon juice 3/4 c. mayonnaise
- 1/4 t. salt 3 hard boiled eggs - chopped

Mix together all above ingredients and put into greased 9 x 13 pan. Top with buttered bran or corn flake crumbs.

Bake 30 min at 350.

Ham & Hash brown Casserole

8 bacon slices 3/4 c chopped onion
 1/3 c butter 1 (30 oz) package frozen country style hash browns
 1 - 10 3/4 oz can cream of chicken soup
 1 - 16 oz container sour cream
 2 c. shredded Jack cheese 1 - 8oz package diced ham
 2 T.dijon mustard 1/2 t salt & pepper

Cook bacon until very crisp, remove, drain and crumble. Set aside. Cook onion in 2 T reserved bacon drippings until tender and golden.

Swirl in butter until melted remove pan from heat.Squeeze excess moisture from thawed potatoes. Stir in soup and remaining ingredients. Spoon into greased 9x13 pan.

Bake covered at 350 for 45 min. Uncover and sprinkle with bacon. Bake 15 more minutes or until browned on top. Let sit 10 minutes before serving.

Either recipe can be frozen ahead and then baked the day you want to serve it. The baking time must be doubled or tripled if frozen.

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.

Happy Birthday

Richard Lee	January 8
Ken Couser	January 23
Ed Fernandez	February 20
John Saylor	February 22
Roberta Cooper	March 6
Jo-Ann Kuhlman	March 10
Janice Saylor	March 15
John Puthuff	March 18
Chuck Rogers	March 19
Carol Bilheimer	March 31

Happy Anniversary

Aaron & Carmen Harris	January 22
John & Karen Puthuff	January 30
John & Janice Saylor	March 30

Roster Update

By now everyone should have the new 2008 Roster. There are two corrections; The Nyland's email has a typo, it should be: sncroaminround@comcast.net. Then there is our mystery camper - Dick LaVergne. Dick is listed in the Roster but not on the picture page. I have inserted a picture of Dick below....

