



Gold Country Travelers

e-Newsletter

December 2011

[A Chapter of Sunny Travelers International](#)

Published Quarterly by the [Gold Country Travelers RV Club](#)

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President's Message

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Holiday's - Holiday's.

Recent Outing Stories

There is a lot to do at this time of year, yet it seems that there is not enough time to do it all. This year has taught me to watch my priorities and do what is important rather than trying to get every little thing done. Some of the things that were important in the past are not nearly as important now. I imagine many of you are also rethinking priorities at this important time of year. Our priorities have become family first and then all of the other things that try to get our attention.

[October](#)

Almond Tree, Chico



[November](#)

Betabel, San Juan Bautista

May the Holiday Season find all of you happy and as healthy as possible. Hopefully the new year will be a good year for all of us!

[December](#)

Christmas Party @ Logans

Happy Camping!
Dave

[Upcoming Outings](#)

Recent Outings

[Yuma, Az.](#)

Jan 18-25

Fortuna Del Oro RV Park

Almond Tree RV Park, Chico CA

October 20-23, 2011

Bob & Jo-Ann Kuhlman, Wagon Masters

[Oroville](#)

**Feather falls
February 16-19**

Our October outing was held at the Almond Tree RV Park in Chico. Bob & Jo-Ann Kuhlman, Wagon Masters, arrived early on Thursday the 20th to begin setting up the weekend festivities. A total of ten rigs came in on Thursday followed by one more rig on Friday.

The weather turned out to be perfect. We were fortunate and had 85 degree shirt sleeve weather the whole weekend without wind or rain.

Upon arrival, each family was presented with a pumpkin so that they would be able to enter a pumpkin carving contest on Saturday afternoon. Thursday evening was free for relaxing and visiting to do as you please. Some families tested the cuisine at Basque Norte for dinner that evening.

On Friday many of our group visited beautiful Bidwell Park, the

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Tech Tip

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Photos from recent outings

September @ Almond Tree



Soaking up some fall sunshine



RV Pumpkins



The "Casino"

Betabel



Nice RV Park

historical Bidwell Mansion and the downtown area with glass blowing studios and the CSUS campus. In the evening we caravanned down the street for dinner at the Italian Cottage restaurant. After dinner eleven of us retired to the clubroom for an exciting card game of "31".



Enthusiasm ran high Saturday afternoon with the pumpkin carving contest. First, second and third place prize winners were the Nyland's, a Watkins/Cooper entry and Fernandez'. Judging was difficult with many original entries. After judging, the pumpkins were used as table decorations for the potluck dinner in the clubhouse that evening.



On Sunday morning everyone gathered for a continental breakfast of pastries, muffins, fruit and goodies with more social time and reminders of upcoming events. We then said our goodbyes until next time and packed up to go home.

We wish to thank everyone that attended for their help in bringing a tasty selection of salads, appetizers, desserts and other side dishes for our meals and for helping us in the setup and cleanup afterwards. The camaraderie we have in our club is very special and appreciated

Betabell RV Resort, San Juan Bautista

November 10-13

John & Janice Saylor, Wagon Masters

Our November Outing was held at the Betabel RV Resort near San Juan Bautista. John and Janice, Wagon Masters arrived on Wednesday. We were very pleased to find that we had use of the club house close by instead of the rec room up by the office. The rest of the group arrived on Thursday and one on Friday morning. We had mostly decent weather with a few rain showers coming at night. For day activities some visited San Juan Bautista and its quaint old down town and the mission. Others ventured into Gilroy for the Garlic stores, Factory Outlets, antique and Goodwill stores looking for good buys on treasures too good to pass up.



Friday evening we had dinner out at Tasso's Old House in downtown Gilroy. They had a menu of Greek and Italian entrees fit for kings. After dinner we headed back to Betabel where we enjoyed socializing and an exciting game of 31.

Saturday brought more exploring the area. Your Wagon Masters started work early on the Thanksgiving feast only to discover a leak in the club house kitchen sink drain. The management was quick to respond. The repairman knew exactly what to do and had it fixed in

Betabel



Casino Time



The Indians Were There

Christmas Party



Having a good time



Lots of Socializing

Merry Christmas

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record time. While talking with the maintenance guy, who was a resident at the park, about cooking our 24 pound turkey, he told us he was cooking 6 turkeys at the park next weekend and told us he always used a turkey bag and that it would only take 3 hours for our large turkey. So we changed to this method and will never cook a turkey any other way. The club house was decorated in a fall thanksgiving theme complete with *Indians*. The turkey was done on time and very moist and delicious. Appetizers and potluck side dishes were some of the best. Aaron & Carmen's Daughter and Granddaughter also joined us for the evening.

After dinner another round of 31 was played as well as some good social and visiting time. Sunday morning a continental breakfast at the club house was enjoyed by all. After clean up we said our goodbyes until we meet again.

We want to thank those attending and helping with setups and clean up. We had a good time as Wagon Masters. We also want to note that the staff at Betabel was one of the best we have ever worked with on a group event. They have a very well maintained park and were very accommodating when I approached them with less than 60 days notice about having our outing there. When one couple had to cancel at the last minute and another came in a day later, there were no cancellation charges.

Christmas Party, Logan's Roadhouse, Sacramento

December 3

Cooper and Watkins, Wagon Masters

We celebrated another successful year of camping with our annual Christmas banquet at Logan's Road House, Sacramento. The banquet room was very well decorated with all the trimmings of Christmas. There were poinsettias on all tables. We got in a lot of catching up and visiting as we sampled the delicious appetizers. Our president David Lee conducted a short meeting while we were waiting for the entrees to be served. Dave thanked all those Wagon Masters who did most of the work this year and he thanked John Saylor for administering the website and publishing the newsletter. Our meal was promptly served by "L" and his crew. As we started eating the familiar quietness came over the room. After dinner Shirley announced that there are enough poinsettias for each family to take one home. More visiting and then goodbyes until next time. Some in Yuma, Oroville, Bodega Bay, or some camp ground down the road. Thanks Shirley and John and Larry and Roberta for organizing.



Upcoming Outings

Calendar of Outings Later this year

Check the website for details on these outings

Bodega Bay
April 19-22

Angeles Camp
May 17-22

June - ?
Wagon Master Needed

July
Pelican Point
Pending

August
Lawson's Landing
Dillon Beach

September 20-23
Calistoga

October
John & Janice Saylor
(Possibly in the Delta)

November - ?
Wagon Master Needed

Dec 3 - Christmas Party,
Logan's Road House
Cooper-Watkins

Happy New Year

January 18-25, 2012 - Yuma, AZ

at **Fortuna De Oro RV Park**

13650 N Frontage Rd., Yuma, Arizona 85367-7423
(928) 342-5051

For the 2012 Yuma outing, we have decided not to set up a "formal" reservation process. Very few of the RV parks will make reservations for clubs in the "season" January 1 thru March. We have talked to the Fortuna De Oro RV park located at exit 14 on I-8, and they indicate that there should be no problem getting a spot at their RV park for members of our group. They will **not** make an individual or club reservation after Jan 1. We have noted that for the past 3 or more years there have been spots available for RVers. We probably will not be all parked together.

We have selected Jan 18-Jan 25 for the outing. Folks are welcome to come earlier and/or leave later. There are numerous activities to do in the Yuma area. Just Google Yuma AZ and numerous things to do will come up. We will host a BBQ/potluck at our Yuma home in the Foothills. We will set the date for that a bit later. An arrival happy hour will probably be hosted by the Poynters.

Fortuna de Oro is located on the North Frontage Road at exit 15, I-8. Turn left (from eastbound I-8) and cross over freeway. Turn right on North Frontage Road. Fortuna de Oro is located on the left side of N Frontage Road. The posted rate on their website is \$35.00 per day.

Please let us know if you will attend.

Chuck & Arlys Rogers - Cell (707)483-9276 - email chkrog@aol.com

Feb 16-19, 2012

Oroville/Feather Falls Casino KOA

3 Alverda Dr., Oroville, Ca 95966
(530) 533-9020

Dick & Carol Bilheimer, Wagon Masters

10 sites with Full hookups, Cable TV, have been reserved \$34.00 per night Sunday -Thursday & \$36 per night Friday & Saturday . (Requires 8 rigs to get this price)

For Reservations Contact Dick or Caroll (209) 267-1936

Activities & Area Attractions

- [Museums and Historical Homes](#)
- [Lake Oroville Center](#) -- State Water Project
- Antique Stores
- Greenline Tour
- Wine & Olive Oil Areas
- Scenic [Feather River Canyon drive](#)
- [Biking Trails](#)
- [Wildlife and Bird watching](#)
- Relaxing and enjoying the beautiful area

March 2011 - ?

Wagon Masters needed

Club Officers

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2012 Roster

I will be updating the roster for 2012. So check your info, phones, email (both his & hers), RV model and size, and emergency contact info. Send me any changes, I will try to get it out by the end of February. - John

Email update - Please update your email address books for John & Janice Saylor. We have changed our emails to:

John - j99saylor@gmail.com

Janice - tinlizzy4664@gmail.com

Dues R Due

Club dues for the coming year are again due. Make out your checks for \$15 to Gold Country Travelers and mail to Ken Couser, 9060 Vista Del Rio Ave, Fair Oaks, Ca 95628.

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Last Hurrah

During the October outing at The Almond Tree RV park, Jack and Betty Isola announced that this was their last trip in the rig. They are hanging it up. They have had some great RV adventures but as the birthdays keep coming they have realized that it is too much work for them to prep and tow the trailer. We will certainly miss them. Jack and Betty were one of the original members that got our club running.



Headin' home one last time

Tech Tip

Occasionally we run across sewer connections at RV parks that have strange fittings so to make our connections stay put we look around for a rock to hold the hose in. I made an extra large "bean bag". I cut the leg from a 2 foot section of old denim pants, secured one end with a plastic zip tie, filled it full of gravel rock and tied the end up with another zip tie. The bag can then be laid over the hose connector to hold it in. The "bean bag" is also useful to hold other items down such as the wagon master sign when its windy.



Recipes

Slow-Cooked Garlic Smashed Potatoes

(Served at the November outing at Betabel)

Submitted by Janice Saylor

Prep Time: 15 min ; Start to Finish: 4 hr 45 min

Makes 14 servings (1/2 cup each)

Ingredients:

3 lb small red potatoes (2-3 inches unpeeled)
4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup water
8 oz. container chives-and-onion cream cheese
1/4 to 1/2 cup of milk

Prep:

1. Halve or quarter potatoes as necessary to make smaller pieces.
Place in 4-6 quart slow cooker. Add garlic, oil, salt and water; mix well to coat all potato pieces.
2. Cover; cook on high setting 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 hours or until potatoes are tender.
3. With fork or masher, mash potatoes and garlic cream cheese until well blended. Stir in enough milk to serving consistency. Serve immediately, or cover and leave in slow cooker on low up to 2 hours.

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Past Quarter

Happy Birthday to:

Billips, Jerry	2-Oct
Lee, Marsha	12-Oct
Smith, Bessie	28-Oct
Poynter, Jane	7-Nov
Isola, Jack	10-Nov
Collins, Ken	20-Nov
Kessell, Jerry	21-Nov
Watkins, Shirley	22-Nov
Rogers, Arlys	24-Nov
Ha, Vivienne	4-Dec

Happy Anniversary to:

Fernandez, Ed & Joan	4-Oct
Leard, Greg & Jennifer	26-Oct
Rogers, Chuck & Arlys	8-Nov
Diggins, Jack & Betty	8-Nov
Smith, Bryce & Bessie	28-Nov
Hitt, Howard & Judy	2-Dec
Cooper, Larry & Roberta	12-Dec
Poynter, Murl & Jane	20-Dec
Bilheimer, Dick & Carol	21-Dec
Couser, Ken & Cricket	31-Dec

Website Update

Thanks to all who have submitted photos. I am going to miss Betty, my "assistant photographer". I am sure others will fill in. The 2012 calendar is now the current calendar. Photos from 2011 are now under Photogallery. Wagon Masters, as soon as you have any details on you outing send to me and I will make link up a flyer page for the website.

Editor's Notes

Past newsletters are achieved on the "[NEWS](#)" tab on the club website.

Newsletter Deadlines – For this year I plan on starting the newsletter during the third week of the 3rd month of each quarter. So for the first quarter please have all articles for publication to me by March 21, the 2nd quarter by June 20, third quarter by September 20 and 4th quarter by December 20.

Wagon Masters - Please send the stories of your campout soon after it is over to John Saylor (j99saylor@gmail.com)

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