



A Chapter of Sunny Travelers International

Gold Country Travelers

e-Newsletter

December 2009

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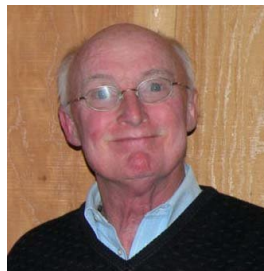
January 20-27, 2010
Yuma, Az

Feb 19-21, 2010
49er Rv Ranch

March 25-28, 2010
Bodega Bay

Presidents Message

Another year goes by and our club seems to get older and stronger. We started as a SunnyBrook only club who wisely morphed into a "SunnyBrook Friendship" club. Wisely, we have kept our friends who have sold their SunnyBrooks and purchased other brand RV's in our club. We have realized that it is harder to replace friends than to replace RV's.



By the way, thank you for continuing to step up and be wagon masters for upcoming campouts. I love to point out that our club has missed only 1 or 2 campouts in over 10 years. If anyone wants to volunteer for wagon masters, there are openings in 2011.

Also, I am extremely proud of the fact that Chuck and Arlys have 14 rigs going on their weeklong outing in Arizona. Way to go Chuck and Arlys.

As we head into our second decade of existence, let us remember what makes us great is the friendship and love of our chapter pals which will hopefully take us into a third decade and beyond.

Happy RVing,
Dave



I'm only using RABBIT EARS...!!!!

Outings: Rest of the Year

April 8-11

**Jackson Casino RV
Ed & Joan Fernandez**

May 20-23

**Little Bear RV, Blairsdon
Dick & Carol Bilheimer**

June 17-20

**Cisco Grove,
Ken & Cricket Couser**

July

Dick LaVergne

August

**Lawson's Landing
Dave & Marsha Lee**

Sept 16-19

**Napa Valley Expo
Cooper / Watkins**

October

Ken & Vivian Ha

November 11-13

**JGW Redding
Murl & Jane Poynter**

December

**Christmas Party
Cindy Gore**

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**September Outing At Cisco Grove
Sept. 24-27, 2009**

Watkins and Cooper, Wagon Masters

Cisco Grove Campground is just off Highway 80 about 20 miles west of Truckee. We were at 5,500 ft elevation in the pine trees. Squirrels and chipmunks were dancing and cavorting all around. A new couple, John and Betty Diggins joined us for the weekend. It was warm during the day and cool enough in the evenings to sit around the campfire.

Many rigs arrived on Thursday and enjoyed a campfire together that evening. On Friday the Coopers, Lees, Watkins and Tobitts went to the new Cabelas store for sightseeing, spending and even had lunch there. Allow at least an hour or maybe two just to look around. Ken and Yvonne Collins made the rounds of Quilt stores in the area: Truckee, Reno and Sparks.



We all gathered together that evening and traveled just 10 miles east on Highway 80 to the Soda Springs exit and the Summit restaurant. We may have overwhelmed them with such a large group, but the food was very good. It just didn't all arrive at the table at the same time. That evening we had another campfire and played 31. Thank goodness Ken and Cricket had an easy-up with netting. It covered a picnic table and was the setting for our card games and protected our potluck from the bees.

Saturday many of us spent the day visiting. Christy and Scott celebrated their anniversary with a hike near Donner Summit. Our friends Tad and Becky Tobitt took a drive and located her old Girl Scout Camp at Ruckers Lake. That evening we had Clam Chowder and Italian Wedding Soup (recipe to follow) and many wonderful side dishes. John chased away the bees with his electronic fly swatter. Tad shared his telescope for all to see the moon and stars. Then another round of campfire and an exiting game of 31 ended the evening. Sunday morning found us enjoying a breakfast of Oatmeal, fruit and nut breads.

On Sunday we had our quick meeting, the Diggins asked for applications and plan to join the club. John Saylor and John Watkins both gave a talk on checking the age of your tires. Not how long they have been on the R.V., but checking the actual date of the tire. We found that ours were 2 years old when they were put on the R.V. Howard Hitt found that his tires were cracked and in need of replacement. He traveled home a lot slower than normal. Dick Lavergne had a flat on his way home. Richard Lee suggested that next time we discuss the lottery!!

I think this campground was great, the staff worked with us, the weather worked with us, and the squirrels entertained us.

Campfires by John and Larry
Soups by Roberta and Shirley

Respectfully, Shirley Watkins

Club Officers

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ROADTRIP TO THE COWBOY FILM FESTIVAL IN LONE PINE

Wagon Masters: Carmen and Aaron Harris

Seven rigs attended an absolutely beautiful trip – it was just candy for the eyes! A winter drive on Highway 395 has to be the most beautiful California road trip.

We started our road trip on October 1 using the route the McGrew's had introduced us (Highway 88) to. We also had completed TWO scouting trips to make sure there were no surprises. The drive on Highway 88 is just beautiful with lots of lakes and beautiful granite mountains and lots of Fall colors.



We headed south on 395 when we hit the flatland and decided to spend the first night at Topaz Lake Resort, which is quite beautiful.

The second night we spent on the south side of Bridgeport in order to visit Bodie and Bridgeport. Bodie was very stark, beautiful, windy and very cold. It's quite unbelievable that it has survived this long and the amounts of tourists that visit. Of course, you

shouldn't take your RV up that road, but we saw many 1-800-RVRENT's (usually rented by Europeans). We always wonder if they know what the road conditions are going to be before they started.

From Bridgeport we drove to Lee Vining and spent two nights there as it snowed during the night. We visited the Mono Lake Visitor Center and took several side trips. The sky and clouds in this area are just breathtaking. This area merits a longer stay, as there's so much to see. What a treat to wake up in the morning and have everything covered in a white blanket. We loved it! The third night we spent in Bishop to visit their Galleries and eat lunch at Eric Schot's Bakery.

When we arrived at our destination, Diaz Lake in Lone Pine, the wind was in turbo charge! For two days we tried to staple tablecloths to the tables and they wouldn't stay on. Finally, I laid on top of the tables while Aaron used 10,000 staples on each table using a special washer out of a paper plate that I designed to have more surface area for the staples. They stayed on after that, it was funny! See picture in website of me stretched on top of the table!

The Cowboy Film Festival was great. We did Movie Road Trips, visited the Cowboy Film Museum, watched serial movies that were hysterical, attended the concert, ate at the Lion's Club steak dinner at the park, saw the movie stars at various venues, watched the Parade of Stars (Hopalong Cassidy still has the most beautiful outfit), visited Whitney Portal and other events. Our personal favorite was a Cowboy Church service that Aaron and I attended Sunday morning at one of the ranches. The service was held outside, facing Mt. Whitney and the Black Hills, which were covered with snow.

Sunday morning some of the families left in a hurry trying to beat a humongous storm that was to hit Northern California in the next 24-hours. We left Monday morning and headed south to continue our Road Trip. And, we are sad to say that we only had drizzle on us all day. I, Carmen, was looking forward to a huge downpour!

November Campout at Redding

Our last outing of the year was held at JGW RV Park in Redding, November 12-15. Howard and Judy Hitt planned a great weekend for us. However with their truck in the shop for major repairs, they were only able to be there Friday. The weekend schedule was re-arranged. Several members stepped up to make things happen.

Thursday most had arrived and setup. And walked around the beautiful park nestled along the Sacramento River. That evening the first of many 31 games was enjoyed. Friday, many went on day trips to points of interest in the area; Sundial Bridge, Burney Falls, Antique & Goodwill shopping or just hanging out.



The traditional potluck dinner was held Friday evening with a chicken theme. Howard had Tri-tip a roasting a way and fried chicken from the "Colonel." We all provided a tasty array of side dishes. After dinner Howard and Judy led a game of "Chickenary". We were divided into two teams. As one from each team came up, Howard gave us a chicken related word to draw on the easel as our respective teams tried to guess the word or phrase. We all had a blast and many prizes were given out. The evening ended with a

31 game that went right up to the clubhouse curfew.

Saturday was another day of day trips and more good weather. Christy and Scott setup the evening dinner out at Peter Chu's Chinese Restaurant at the airport. We all ate till we could eat no more! Then back to camp to relax or play another round of 31.

Sunday morning was our potluck breakfast and informational meeting. Murl gave an update on the upcoming Yuma trip and Bryce explained the by-law update. The Poynters' also reserved this park (JGW) for November of next year. We cleaned up and said our goodbyes to another great outing.

Christmas Dinner December 5

The annual Christmas Party was held at Logan's Roadhouse. We had 29 in attendance and Muriel Fix as a guest. Before I go on about the party I want to thank Richard, Virginia, and Muriel for helping me get set up. The party was super as was the food. Howard and Judy gave to all of us a nice Christmas present. It was a bag of beautiful stones. The big stones can be used as a worry stone. You rub them with your finger and thumb and it is suppose to help relieve stress. The rest could be used in jewelry. Thanks Howard and Judy. During the party we had a short meeting. In the meeting it was decided to amend our bylaws to allow past members to become associate members. These members would have the same privileges and responsibilities as regular members.



There was no change in the officers of the club. As people were leaving, I believe it was

Shirley Watkins noticed I had an earring missing. The earrings have sentimental value. Although we were unsuccessful finding it, thanks to all who looked for it. There is a bright side to this. The next morning when I was unpacking the decorations that I had used at the party, low and behold, there was my earring. I was so glad I found it. I believe the party was a success. We had great company and as I said before great food. All of our outings and parties turn out well because of the wonderful people in this club. I hope it will kick off another great year for all of us.

Cindy Gore

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Gold Country Travelers - Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of August 23, 2009

Dillon Beach, CA David and Marsha Lee, Wagon Masters

Meeting opened at 9:02 am by President Lee where he welcomed everyone to the 11th annual Spaghetti feed and thanked Marsha for making sure the dinner was a success.

Dave gave Chuck Rodgers special thanks for taking charge when Dave lost his trailer on the way to the outing.

Howard Hitt said to leave the slide switch "on" when traveling as this will keep the slide from moving. Turn off when parked to save the battery.

Future wagon masters gave presentations on their outings.

Dave discussed the need for the proposed GCT bylaw changes and as we are an independent club, we can make our own rules. Bryce Smith gave an update on the changes and what they would do. After all questions were answered, a motion was made and seconded to "Approve the changes as written and to forward then to the membership meeting in December 2009 for final approval". A voice vote was taken with no opposition.

Meeting closed at 9:33am.

Respectfully Submitted by
Bryce Smith, Secretary

No Official minutes taken at the September or October outings.

Minutes of the meeting of December 5, 2009

Cindy Gore, Wagon Master

Meeting opened at 7:13 pm by President David Lee who thanked Cindy for doing the Christmas party and then thanked everyone for coming.

Future wagon masters talked about their outings. Members who go into Mexico must have their passports to return into the US.

Election of Officers: The following candidates were unopposed and were elected for one year by acclamation. David Lee, President, Chuck Rogers, Vice President, Bryce Smith, Secretary, and

Cindy Gore, Treasurer.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the bylaw changes as presented. Motion passed.

Meeting closed at 7:45pm.

Bryce Smith, Secretary

Upcoming Outings

January 20-27, 2010

Please join Chuck & Arlys Rogers for a week in Yuma, Az. at

[Arizona Sands RV Park](#)

5510 E 32nd Street, Yuma, Az 85365

Phone: (928) 726-0160

Full hookups, Cable TV, WIFI, approx. \$30.00 per night.

For Reservations Contact Chuck Rogers (707)483-9276 or Murl Poynter (530) 661-1297

Feb. 19th, 20th and 21st

Load up your 'wagons' an plan to 'circle up at the 49er RV Park in Plymouth. Friday evening (around 5ish) we will gather at the clubhouse for 'Happy Hour'. Snacks and appetizers always welcome. Saturday evening we will be serving our 'Chuck wagon Dinner' at the clubhouse around 6:00 PM. Again, arrive early for another 'Happy Hour'! Sunday around 9:00 AM ' pot luck' breakfast munchies (whatever you like) and I guess a meeting of the minds for the club. Hope you can all make it. It should be fun, with a little surprise treat, so please, mark your calendars and plan to attend.

We will provide all plates and eating utensils for Sat. dinner. (BYOB)

Please e-mail us back with 'yea' or 'nay' so we know how much 'grub' to prepare.

Wagons HOOO.....

Jerandmare@comcast.net

1-530-637-5728

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March 25-29, 2010

Join us for a fun weekend at the coast at Bodega Bay RV Park.

Reserve early to insure a spot. Contact Richard and Virginia Lee (916) 372-2238 or email to Rvlees@juno.com

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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
Watkins, Shirley	22-Nov
Rogers, Arlys	24-Nov
Kuhlman, Bob	10-Dec
Harris, Carmen	16-Dec
Irwin, Kay	18-Dec

Happy Anniversary to:

Fernandez, Ed & Joan	4-Oct
Leard, Greg & Jennifer	26-Oct
Rogers, Chuck & Arlys	8-Nov
Diggins, Jack & Betty	8-Nov
Billips, Jerry & Maryan	28-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

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Recipes

Shirley's Italian Wedding Soup

Meatballs:

1 lb hamburger
½ lb Italian sausage
1 egg
1 tsp Garlic salt
½ cup seasoned bread crumbs

Soup:

2 large cans chicken broth
1 cup Orzo pasta
4 eggs, beaten
1 small bag fresh spinach
Parmesan cheese

Mix meatball ingredients thoroughly. Shape into small bite size meatballs and cook in a little olive oil. Drain on paper towels and you can freeze them until you make the soup. Bring the chicken broth and one can of water to a boil and cook the orzo pasta according to the directions on the box. Add the frozen meatballs and put it all in a slow cooker if you want for a few hours. Just before serving, with the broth at a boil, add the beaten eggs and then the spinach. Parmesan cheese can be sprinkled on as it is served.

Dues are Due

Cindy will be sending out renewals soon. Respond quickly to insure your listing in the 2010 Roster.

2010 Roster

It will soon be time to publish the 2010 roster. Send any updates to your information to John via email: jsaylor@surewest.net

Website and Newsletter Printing

If you desire to print out a hard copy of this newsletter, use the printer friendly link at top of the left column above. This will bring up a copy that does not have the color background, saving your color ink cartridge. All previous newsletters are achieved on the "[NEWS](#)" tab on the club website.

Newsletter Deadlines – For this next year (2010) we plan on publishing the newsletter during the second week of the 3rd month of each quarter. So for the first quarter please have all articles for publication to me by March 10, the 2nd quarter by June 10, third quarter by September 10 and 4th quarter by December 10.

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