

# Gold Country Travelers

e-Newsletter

June 2010

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[A Chapter of Sunny Travelers International](#)

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## President's Message

Tribute to Spridle Lee - a charter dog. I know that I go on and on about what a good club we are and the great members we have. Now I want to remember and recognize our Spridle as a great dog, great pet and a great member of Gold country Travelers. Spridle was just 3 years old when we started this club in February 1999. Throughout the years he endeared himself to members of the club and Schnitzel Lee was his constant buddy and friend who carries on in his place. So many campouts and walks were made better by Spridle's actions and antics. The "big walk" at Dillon's beach just won't be the same without him. Marsha and I wonder if Spridle and all of the other Gold Country dogs in heaven are going out on outings and having fun. One thought that makes us happy is that Charlie is back in the club as charter dog to take over Spridle's place. Here's to you, Spridle!



We will always love you and keep your memories in our heart.

See You Soon,  
Dave

## New Members

With great pleasure we welcome back charter members Jerry and Sherry Kessel. Several years ago they traded their SunnyBrook for a motor home and began the semi-full timer life style. They joined us at Little Bear and plan to make a couple of more outings as their schedule will allow. Please add them to all of your club communications. Email: [sskess24@aol.com](mailto:sskess24@aol.com)



## March in Bodega

### 2010 Outing Calendar

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July 22-25, LaVergne  
Wagon Master

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Aug 26-29, Dillon Beach  
Lee, Wagon Master

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Sept 23-26 Napa  
Watkins & Cooper

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October 8-10  
Durango RV Resort,  
Red Bluff  
Ha, Wagon Masters

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November 11-13  
JGW RV Park,  
Redding,  
Poynter, Wagon Masters

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Dec 4 Christmas Dinner at  
Logan's Road House,  
Cindy Gore

March found the Gold Country Travelers again at Bodega Bay at our annual trip to the beach. Instead of the usual rain we found beautiful blue skies and warm temperatures. Most of the group arrived on Thursday with the remaining stragglers coming in on Friday. There were 15 rigs in attendance.



Thursday night most everyone cooked their own meal in their trailers but a few ventured out to a restaurant or two. Friday morning arrived with beautiful sunshine and everyone was in a good mood. We all had to have a tour of the new rig in our midst which was a new motor home that belongs to Ken and

Yvonne Collins. It is beautiful.

Friday night we all walked up the road to the restaurant at the top of the hill and enjoyed each other's company and good food with everyone. Some had gone on hikes during the day and we all did our own thing so we had to catch up with what each other did.

Saturday morning bright and early several of the women gathered in the clubhouse to help decorate for the evening meal. The theme was "The Beach" of course and the tables were festooned with Pelicans, sea birds, fishing nets and the like. It was a group effort but thanks to Karen Puthuff we got it all together and it looked beautiful.

The evening meal was clam chowder, but the ladies out did themselves with appetizers, salads, bread and desserts. We never go hungry with this group and usually have lots of things to have for the breakfast on Sunday morning. There was a short meeting at which we were all surprised to see Jack and Betty Isola. Jack has just had a hip replaced and on one thought that they would be there. But they drove over from Hidden Valley Lake to join us for breakfast.

All in all I think it was a great weekend and hope that all had a good time.

Richard & Virginia Lee, Wagon Masters.



## May Outing to the Graeagle Area

### Club Officers

**President – David Lee**  
(916) 967-9179

[davidlee838@comcast.net](mailto:davidlee838@comcast.net)

**V.P. Chuck Rogers**  
(707) 483-9276

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**Secretary – Bryce Smith**  
(707) 263-4326

[bapsmith@aol.com](mailto:bapsmith@aol.com)

**Treasurer – Cindy Gore**  
(916) 929-3810

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**Newsletter Published  
Quarterly. Submit articles to  
John Saylor**  
[jsaylor@surewest.net](mailto:jsaylor@surewest.net)

Nine rigs arrived for the May 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> outing at Little Bear RV Park in Blairsden. You would have thought it was December with snow falling intermittently during our stay. It was chilly, but the Recreation Room was cozy with the pellet stove keeping us warm.

Thursday night we all gathered in the Recreation Room where we enjoyed appetizers, drinks and our own prepared dinners. Friday night we went to Cucci's, a new restaurant that has been opened about a year, for a wonderful Italian dinner which everyone really enjoyed. Saturday night we gathered at the Rec Room for a BBQ Tri Tip dinner with all the trimmings. John Saylor helped Dick with the cooking outside with snow falling while the rest of us enjoyed the cozy warm Rec Room. We all agreed it was a beautiful sight to look out at the snow covered

landscape.



Even though we had snow and showers the roads remained clear, so those that wanted could travel around to sight see and shop. Two brave members even found time to do their walking in the rain and snow.

The Kessel's joined us on this outing, and by Sunday morning became members again. We were very glad they have become members of the Gold Country

Travelers. Our eventful outing came to an end after a delicious breakfast and club meeting.

Dick & Carol Bilheimer, Wagon Masters

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## June at Cisco Grove

Cisco Grove June outing had a good turnout of old and new members and several family guests of the Saylor's and the Diggins'. Everyone enjoyed the great weather, on the cool side, with full rivers and streams, waterfalls and a fair amount of snow still sticking around. Perfect weather for hiking. The Harris' made a day trip on Thursday and joined several club members for dinner at the Rustic Table. Rave reviews by all attending.

The camp out theme was a "Pig Fest" with pulled pork served by Howard Hitt on Friday night accompanied by the club's usual fantastic assortment of appetizers, side dishes and desserts. After dinner, the group played a game of "porkinary". There was no clear winner but fabulous prizes were enjoyed by all. Ceramic pigs were also passed out which were to be painted on Saturday and judged after breakfast on Sunday.

Saturday night, some of the group had dinner out at The Summit and others remained at camp for more traditional camp fixins'.

Of course, there was Thirty-One played after dinner with Christy Nyland winning one game and Judy Hitt winning the second game.



Little Bear without snow

Christy had also been the winner of the Friday night game.

Sunday morning, there was great food as usual but the highlight was

seeing how creative everyone had been in decorating their pigs. Dick LaVergne won hands down with his Sunny pig camper. Ken Collins came in a not too distant second with his big bucks piggy

bank and Jane Poynter and Janice Saylor tied for third with some superior brush work. Thanks to everyone for making it a great outing and lending a hand for the Cousers. We are all wishing a speedy recovery for Ken and Cricket and hope to see them soon, on all 6 or even 8 cylinders. PS.

The adventure did not end on Sunday morning for Scott and Christy Nyland. They attended the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Concourse de' Elegance boat show at South Lake Tahoe and Christy won a boat ride on the Lake's most famous boat, "The Thunderbird". The Thunderbird is made of mahogany and stainless steel and is over 70 years old. The Nylands were able to go on the ride Sunday afternoon. Christy sat in Frank Sinatra's favorite seat and she is still in the clouds. We think Scott liked it too.

Pictures of The Thunderbird can be seen at:  
[www.tahoecountry.com/woodies/thunderbird](http://www.tahoecountry.com/woodies/thunderbird).

Howard & Judy Hitt, Wagon Masters

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### Upcoming Outings

July 22-25, 2020

Cool off on the Russian River at Casini Ranch RV Park  
Full hookups, wifi, \$44 deposit due by July 1.  
Contact Richard LaVergne, 916-482-4640

August 26-29, 2010

Lawson's Landing at Dillon Beach  
Bocce Ball, Spaghetti Feed, Beach Walks. Our annual Dry Camp event  
Contact Dave & Marsha Lee 916-967-9179

September 16-19, 2010

Napa Valley Expo, Napa  
One of America's Great Visitor Destination Areas  
Contact John & Shirley Watkins or Larry Cooper  
707-442-6018 or 707-688-8266



## Recipes

### Avocado Feta Salsa

Served at The May Outing by Sherry Kessell

*"A chunky, savory summer salsa that tastes great with pita or tortilla chips."*

Original Recipe Yield 12 servings

#### *Ingredients*

- 2 plum tomatoes, chopped
- 1 ripe avocado - peeled, pitted and chopped
- 1/4 cup finely chopped red onion
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon snipped fresh parsley
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh oregano
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon red or white wine vinegar
- 4 ounces crumbled feta cheese

#### *Directions*

1. In a bowl, gently stir together tomatoes, avocados, onion, and garlic.
2. Mix in parsley and oregano.
3. Gently stir in olive oil and vinegar.
4. Then stir in feta.
5. Cover, and chill for 2 to 6 hours.

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## Meeting Minutes

### Minutes Little Bear RV Park - May 23, 2010

Dave Lee called the "meeting" to order at 9:00.

He thanked the Bilheimer's for a great weekend. Carol thanked everyone for bringing all of the great food. Everyone had a good time. 31 came down to Bob and Jo-Ann Kuhlman and Bob came out victorious.

Our returning charter members Jerry and Sherry Kessell were welcomed back into the club.

Howard Hitt reported on the Cisco Grove outing June 18 to 20. He will get more information on the outing out to the club.

Dave indicated that if supplies were need for outings, to buy them and get reimbursed from Treasurer Cindy Gore.

Dick LaVergne reported on the July 22-25 outing at Casini Ranch off the Russian River. It is near the coast so the weather will be cooler than Sacramento, but there will be no snow. There are a lot of things to do in the

area such as antiquing and shopping. A one night deposit is required. Dick will send out an e-mail on the details.

Dave reported on the August 26-29 outing at Lawson's Landing (Dillon Beach) with our traditional spaghetti feed. The availability of campground is dependent on the outcome of the Coastal Commission meeting. There will be bocce ball, the big walk, camp fire and fellowship. (NOTE: Dave called the campground and the decision with the Coastal Commission should be July 8, but the campground believes the campground will be open in August no matter what the decision is.)

Howard Hitt is looking into Face Book for the club so that it is non intrusive.

Dave asked for volunteers for wagon masters. The Hitt's volunteered for May 2010 and the Kessell's volunteered for June 2010. Sherry mentioned Jackson Rancheria as a good campground. They had gone up to look at it and were impressed.

John Saylor will do the newsletter in June. Get tech tips, recipes, campout write-ups or anything else you would like to put into the newsletter to John by June 15.

The "meeting "was adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marsha Lee, acting secretary

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### **Meeting Minutes - Gold Country Traveler's - June 20, 2010**

President Dave Lee called the meeting to order at 8:50.

Dave passed on information about cleaning holding tanks. We had problems with our tank getting clogged and had it cleaned successfully by:

RV Holding Tank Dr. Steve Korsvall - (209) 484-9826

All of the dads were wished a Happy Father's Day. Cricket Couser was wished a successful rotator cuff surgery which was on June 21.

Dave also thanked Howard and Judy Hitt for the great outing and all of the pig related events and food including the piggy bank decorating contest.

There is a new outing on the calendar. John and Karen Puthuff will be Wagon Masters in June 2012 and the location of the outing is Cisco Grove.

Wagon Masters are still needed for 2011 outings in the months of January, February and November.

Dick LaVergne gave an update on the Casini Ranch outing July 22 - 25. He has some spots reserved for Thursday through Sunday and others Friday through Sunday. There are full hookups, cable and WiFi. Friday dinner is at the Blue Heron which has been given very good reviews. Saturday night is the pot luck dinner in the Casini Ranch barn. There will also be a game Saturday night. He needs to know who will attend the outing by sending him a check for \$44.00 by July 1. This has been changed to let Dick know ASAP if you will be attending the outing.

Dave Lee talked about the August outing at Dillon's Beach is August 26 - 29. Thursday night will be dinner out. Friday is "Fishy Friday" will bar-b-cued oysters and clam chowder and the big spaghetti dinner will be

Saturday night. There will be bocce ball and the "big walk" on Saturday. Sunday morning will be a pot luck breakfast and short meeting. Contact the Lee's to sign up or Dave will contact you.

The September outing is at Napa Valley Expo September 16 - 19. Wagon Masters are the Watkins and Coopers.

Howard Hitt passed out information about the Petaluma American Graffiti event that will be going on the same time as the Hitt's outing in May 2011 at the Petaluma KOA. Howard's brother has a 1972 Chevelle and will be giving rides.

Dave suggested that everyone look at Ken Couser's door on his rig. He has put on plexi glass which keeps out heat, cold and wind.

John Saylor needs information for the newsletter ASAP as he is working on getting it completed.

The meeting ended at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marsha Lee  
Acting Secretary

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## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday to:

Bilheimer, Carol	31-Mar
Harris, Aaron	4-Apr
Ha, Ken	13-Apr
Fernandez, Joan	24-Apr
Leard, Greg	9-May
Poynter, Murl	24-May
Watkins, John	3-Jun
LaVergne, Dick	4-Jun
Bilheimer, Dick	6-Jun
Collins, Yvonne	16-Jun
Smith, Bryce	18-Jun
Cooper, Larry	18-Jun
Leard, Jennifer	23-Jun
Stohlman, Howard	23-Jun
Hitt, Judy	25-Jun

### Happy Anniversary to:

Saylor, John & Janice	30-Mar
Collins, Ken & Yvonne	9-May
Isola, Jack & Betty	1-Jun
McGrew, Jim & Judy	22-Jun

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## Editor's Notes

Past newsletters are archived 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 3<sup>rd</sup> month of each quarter. So for the first quarter please have all articles for publication to me by March 15, the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter by June 14, third quarter by September 20 and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter by December 20.

**Wagon Masters** - Please send the stories of your campout soon after its over to John Saylor ([jsaylor@surewest.net](mailto:jsaylor@surewest.net)) for this newsletter and also to Bessie Smith ([besseclark@aol.com](mailto:besseclark@aol.com)) for inclusion in the National Magazine.

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