



[A Chapter of Sunny Travelers International](#)

# Gold Country Travelers

e-Newsletter

## Fall 2012

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

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Relaxing in the shade by the river



What a life!

### President's Message

I thought long and hard on how to say thank you to a great group of friends for allowing Marsha and I to be President of our travel club. I stopped and thought about using the phrase "Sunnybrook Club", but because we are much more than that. We are friends, acquaintances, mentors and people who listen to our friend's lives, loves, kids, dreams and adventures, etc. Marsha and I had a tremendous time being the head of our group. You probably don't know how much your friendships means to us and everyone else in our group. For those that don't know, I resigned the position of president due to our family circumstances. Marsha and I will always be a part of this great group and you will always be the friends that we have grown to know and love.



Happy RVing - see you soon!

Dave

### Recent Outings

#### Olema RV Resort - Pt. Reyes National Seashore July 24-26

Scott & Christy Nyland, Wagon Masters

Two Sunnybrooks and one Air Stream Land Yacht gathered in Cedar Circle at Olema RV Resort and Campground. The rigs brought their owners: Ed & Joan Fernandez, Loran & Kay Eldred (Friends of Fernandez) and Scott & Christy Nyland.

While the rigs stayed to guard the camp, the campers spent the days beach walking, hiking and biking. The dogs, Britt and Hallie loved the beach. Evenings found us circled around beautiful campfires with lots of firewood (Thanks to Ed, Loran and Scott). Since we were a small group our main dinner was held at Pt. Reyes Station House. The food and service were great. The Fernandez' and the Eldred's had been neighbors many years ago. It was a delight to hear their stories and see their continuing friendship.

## September Calistoga



The "wine room"

## October Sugar Barge



The Dutra Museum



Richard's Window Cleaner  
Service

## Upcoming Outings

### Campers Inn RV & Golf

Resort

Dunnigan

November 9-12

Watkins' - Hitt's,  
Wagon Masters

(Olema Cont'd) The weather for the week was cool and sometimes breezy but was a much appreciated break from the valley heat. We all had a really good time.

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### **Woodson Bridge RV Park** **August 15 - 19, 2012** **Wagon Masters - Dave and Marsha Lee**

Dave and Marsha were the first campers to arrive along with their grandchildren Jake and JoJo. We decided to arrive on Wednesday so we could get set up before anyone else arrived. With Jake and JoJo with us, we knew set up would take longer than normal. We also had our new dog, Snickers, with us and weren't sure how he would like his first camping trip.

Wednesday late afternoon, Scott and Christy Nyland arrived. We all ended up eating dinner together and visiting.

On Thursday, Cooper, The Watkins', the Poynter's, the Smith's, the Saylor's and Richard Lee's arrived. The Roger's came in on Friday.

During the day and evening on Thursday and during the day on Friday, campers were on their own.

Friday night we all went to Rolling Hills Casino for their seafood buffet. Afterwards some visited and others played 31. Virginia Lee was the big 31 winner.

Saturday we went to the Abbey of New Clairvaux. We attended the tour provided. The tour guide talked about the property and the Monks living there and then we toured part of the property. We saw the progress of the new church which had previously been intended to be the Chapter House. Afterwards we went to the winery where we could taste wine. Some of us purchased treats such as olive oil, T-shirts, sweatshirts and wine.



Saturday night we had our normal spaghetti dinner along with appetizers, French bread, salad and dessert. As always, everything was delicious. After dinner some visited and others played 31. The 31 winners were Christy and Scott.

Sunday morning we had our pot luck breakfast and short meeting. Afterwards, we all packed up, said our good buys and headed for home.

**Christmas Party**  
**December 1**  
**Logan's Roadhouse**  
**3698 North Freeway Blvd**  
**Sacramento**



Larry Cooper, Party Master  
Watch your inbox for  
more info

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[Recipes](#)

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[Tech Tips](#)

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[Birthdays & Anniversaries](#)

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[2013 Outings](#)

Check the website for  
details on these outings  
We still have several  
openings for 2013 & 2014

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January 2013  
Fortuna De Oro,  
Yuma, Az.  
Chuck & Arlys Rogers,  
Wagon Masters



More details soon

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**Calistoga RV Park**

September 20-23

Bryce & Bessie Smith, Wagon Masters

The September outing was centered around the quaint town of Calistoga known for spas, mud baths and wine tasting. Thursday arrivals were Bryce and Bessie Smith, Chuck and Arlys Rogers, John and Janice Saylor, Dick LaVergne, Howard and Kathy Stohlman. Thursday afternoon was spent relaxing, visiting and catching up on each other's activities. The RV park, part of the Napa fairgrounds, was next to a golf course which Chuck and Arlys took advantage of. Others made visits to town and shopping and relaxed in the nice fall weather. Friday afternoon Scott and Christy Nyland arrived.



Friday evening we went to dinner at All Seasons Bistro in Calistoga. We were seated in the wine room. There were floor to ceiling wine racks around the room. Our waiter introduced himself and immediately told us this was his first night on the job. After a few minutes it was obvious that he was no rookie! (He had

defected from the restaurant across the street!) He was definitely a pro and knew what he was doing, answered our questions about the food and wine and got answers he didn't know. Food and Service was excellent. Back at camp Bryce got the campfire going and we sat around and enjoyed the evening.

Saturday we mostly did activities on our own including Golf, shopping and sightseeing. There was a large (250 cars) classic car show at the main fairgrounds. Several of the car owners were camped here at the RV park, arriving in large motor homes towing enclosed custom car trailers. Several of us took in the show.



For our evening activities we had the use of a large covered gazebo that was a few spaces away, but with our smaller group and the perfect weather, it was decided to move a couple of tables in between Smith's and Rogers' rigs. Saturday afternoon Dick received a call saying his car back in Sacramento had been broken into. He decided it best to leave and go home to access the damage and loss and get the insurance claim in.

For the evening activities, Bessie decorated in a fall theme. Bryce and John barbequed hamburgers and hot dogs. Bryce got the special handmade hamburgers from a meat market near Lakeport and with all the delicious sides, we had another fine feast.

After dinner some enjoyed the camp fire while the casino crowd played two rounds of 31. The big winners were Janice and Bryce.

**February 2013**  
**Wagon Masters Needed**

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**March 2013**  
**Wagon Masters needed**

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**April 24-27, 2013**  
**[Porto Bodega RV Park](#)**  
**Ken & Cricket Couser**  
**Wagon Masters**

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**May 16-17, 2013**  
**[Marble Quarry RV Park,](#)**  
**Columbia**  
**Murl & Jane Poynter**  
**Wagon Masters**

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**June, 2013**  
**Jack & Betty Diggins,**  
**Wagon Master**

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**July, 2013**  
**Wagon Masters needed**

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**August, 2013**  
**Wagon Masters needed**

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**September, 2013**  
**Florence, Oregon**  
**John & Shirley Watkins**  
**Wagon Masters**

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**October, 2013**  
**Bryce & Bessie Smith**  
**Wagon Masters**

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**November, 2013**  
**Aaron & Carmen Harris**  
**Wagon Masters**

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Sunday morning we had our breakfast get together. We had a short meeting to discuss the next outing at Sugar Barge. John gave the details and noted that we have 14 rigs confirmed. Chuck and Arlys will again host the club in Yuma in January. He is suggesting the same RV Park, Fortuna De Oro near Foot Hills Blvd. Chuck will check with the Watkins to coordinate the dates with the Quartzite shows.

Bryce also announced that nominations are open for club officers. Dave and Chuck will not be running for their respective offices. Bryce is asking for volunteers to fill the office of President and Vice President. We will vote on acceptance at the Christmas party, Dec 1. After breakfast we broke camp, and said our goodbyes. We all had a good time.

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**Sugar Barge, Bethel Island**  
**October 18-21**  
**John & Janice Saylor, Wagon Masters**

The October outing was held at Sugar Barge RV Resort on Bethel Island. The outing was well attended with 15 rigs. The Wagon Masters and the Cousers arrived on Wednesday, which was an afternoon of relaxation. Twelve more rigs



arrived Thursday afternoon keeping John busy getting everyone settled into to their spaces. Those arriving Thursday were, Collins', LaVergne, Bilheimer's, Harris, Ha's, Kochies, Poynter's, Richard Lee's, Smiths, Fernandez's, Cooper and Watkins'. The Nyland's came in on Friday. Thursday afternoon was spent getting set up and

socializing and getting an inside look at Larry & Max's new Hitch Hiker and Bryce & Bessie's Sunnybrook 31BWKS. That evening we gathered around a big campfire provided by Bryce.

Friday morning a few drove into the local towns for breakfast, museums, shopping and lunch. Friday evening we carpooled into Brentwood for dinner at



Caps Oak Street Grill. Boy, what a treat! We were seated in a large banquet room, at a long table with white table cloths and in view of the TV as the Giants whipped the Cardinals! We were also treated to a fantastic guitarist who played some of our favorites. Our two waiters were as good as they come, taking our orders and serving the

delicious dinners. Back at camp some went to the club house to play 31 while others enjoyed another campfire.

Saturday morning we assembled and car pooled to Rio Vista to the Dutra Museum of Dredging. The museum is housed in two story house built in 1907. The museum is a private collection of materials representing the history of clamshell dredging in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. It's only open to private tours at this time. The Dutra family was involved in the Delta dredging more than a century ago and is active in the dredging business still today.

**December, 2013  
Christmas Party  
Larry Cooper  
Wagon Master**

(Sugar Barge Cont'd) John & Janice's daughter Lori, her husband Jesse and 18 month old son Luke joined us at the museum and for the rest of the day. After the tour some stayed in town for lunch and shopping while other made their way back to Sugar Barge.



Saturday evening festivities started off in the club house with appetizers and socializing followed by dinner of baked ham provided by the wagon masters and many delicious potluck sides and deserts. After dinner there

was the usual 31 crowd and campfire.



Sunday morning we met in the club house for continental breakfast and meeting. Shirley Watkins

gave the details of the next outing in Dunnigan. She emphasized to also call the park and make a direct reservation with them as well as with Howard. The potluck will be on Friday with Howards world famous Pot Roast and Gravy. Dinner Saturday will be at the Buckhorn Steak House in Winters. Larry Cooper announced this year's Christmas party will be at Logan's Road House in Sacramento again this year on December 1. He will be sending out details soon. Larry also announced that next year he will look for a place in the Folsom or Rancho area to make it closer to those that live to the south and east.

John Saylor went over the outings for next year with several members filling some of the needed wagon masters. John & Shirley are looking into a trip to Florence, Oregon in September. Bryce announced that we must elect a new President and Vice President this year. See details of the nominations in a separate article in this newsletter. Wagon Masters John and Janice Saylor thanked all for coming and helping to make this a great outing.

**Club Officers**  
**President – David Lee**  
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**V.P. - Chuck Rogers**  
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[chkrog@aol.com](mailto:chkrog@aol.com)

**Secretary –**  
**Dick LaVergne**  
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**Treasurer – Ken Couser**  
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I saw this unusual RV on a recent trip to the California Auto Museum



**1971 Star Streak Motor Home. Has a 1971 Olds Tornado drive train**

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## Election of Officers

**Nominations are open for club officers. We will need to nominate and elect a new President and Vice President for next year. The present Secretary and Treasurer have agreed to run for another year. At the October outing Jane Poynter was nominated for President and Shirley Watkins for Vice President. If you want to volunteer, please contact Bryce Smith, Nominating committee chair at 707-263-4326. We will be voting at the December Christmas Dinner.**

## Web Site

The website is updated with information you provide. Remember to check the Outing schedule, Links page, Tech Tips and Recipes for information you may need. If you find information you want to share or links that no longer work, please send me an email and I will add and/or correct the info. - John



## The Next Outing

**Campers Inn RV & Golf Resort, Dunnigan.**

**Nov 9-12**

**Watkins and Hitt's, Wagon Masters  
2501 County Road 88, Dunnigan, Ca 95937**

**Full hookups, Cable TV, tax included, \$32.85 per night.**

**12 sites have been reserved.**

**For Reservations Contact Howard at 916-812-8845**

***You must also call the park to reserve your site. 530-724-3350***

**Friday Nov 9** - Potluck dinner - Pot roast & Gravy by none other than *The Big Easy Chef* himself  
and Mashed Potatoes by Shirley  
Bring a salad, desert or appetizer  
Games to follow

**Saturday Nov 10th** - Handicapped Golf Tourney, Shopping and Wine Tasting Dinner in Winters at the  
Buckhorn Steak House Then Back to Dunnigan for more fun and games

**Sunday Nov 11th** - Meeting and Breakfast

Howards famous home cured ham, Shirley's scrambled eggs  
You bring Fruit and breads

**This is going to be a spectacular outing, with a holiday weekend packed with events. Reserve you spot now!**



**Recipes** - We have many member recipes on the website. Submit your favorites. I will publish them in the newsletter and on the website. <http://www.goldcountrytravelers.com> click on Recipes

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## Tech Tips

### **Propane Detectors & Batteries - Chuck Rogers**

Something to be aware of regarding the propane detector in our coaches. Our propane detector alarmed, but we could not smell anything. It happened a couple of times. We still did not smell anything. I checked on line about the detector and found that it is recommended to change the detector every 5 years, plus this detector has many comments on line about failing earlier.

So I assumed that the detector had gone bad and ordered a unit to replace it and deactivated the detector. Today Arlys was going to load some things in the trailer but encountered a very strong odor. I went to investigate and smelled an odor similar rotten eggs. I assumed it was propane, but the propane system held pressure just fine and did not indicate a leak.

I called a local RV repair business and discussed the odor with the maintenance man. He told me the rotten egg odor was NOT propane as propane smells like fish oil. He then asked if I had the trailer plugged to AC electricity-- which it was. He suggested I check for an overheated battery being charged. I did and one battery was very hot and was boiling. It had a dead cell and was putting out the fumes from the battery acid boiling. So the detector was really working as several different odors can set it off like Clorox, ammonia, isopropyl alcohol etc. I changed out both batteries as one was bulging and very hot. Both were over 5 years old. I also activated the detector again and it is not alarming..

Most of us have CCI Controls LP gas detector. As noted above, I thought I had a problem with mine but as it turned out, I did not. However until I solved the problem I did research on the detector. It turns out that the general experience is that they fail and/or should be replaced after about 5 years (which is the manufacturer's recommendation). (Mine is now 7 years old and is still working.) CCI Controls is no longer in business and a replacement CCI is not available. The outside dimensions are approx 3 x 6 1/2 inches. I found a replacement detector that is 3 x 6 1/4 inches outside dimensions. I found several comments by other RVers that this unit will fit in the cut out in our rigs. It is a Safe-T-Alert, model 30-442 P. Any questions, give me a call., Chuck Rogers

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## RV Roof Maintenance - John Saylor

I recently recoated my 27 RKFS 5th wheel roof with the Dicor two step process. For those thinking of doing this yourself, it's not that hard but you can't rush it. I spent the first day rinsing off the roof, taking off the refrigerator vent and Maxair vent covers and the air conditioner cover to give access around them. After inspecting the roof I re-caulked any areas around seams and utilities using Dicor lap sealant and EDPM self adhesive tape. Early the next morning I draped the sides of the entire rig with plastic drop cloths to protect from the cleaner activator. The cleaner activator was applied with a 2 gallon garden sprayer. I did an area about 5 feet, let it set for 15 minutes then lightly scrubbed with a brush and hosed it off with a pressure nozzle on a garden hose. The instructions suggested to use a 2000 psi pressure washer but I felt that would be too harsh on my 14 year old roof. I repeated the above procedure until I finished the roof. I did not do the slide at this time. Per the instructions I let the roof dry ( about 1 hour), and wiped down a few spots to help it dry. The coating was applied with a household paint roller and pan. I used a small brush to cut in around the edges, vents pipes, etc. Letting it dry for an hour between, I applied two more coats. It was a long 10 hour day. I was able to apply 3 coats and used almost 2 gallons. The next day I repeated the process on the slide, also giving it 3 coats. I waited a couple of more days for things to thoroughly dry before reinstalling the covers. The air conditioner cover was very brittle and cracking. I purchased a new one from Camping World, who had them on sale.

All total I used 3 quarts of the cleaner activator and 2 1/3 gallons of coating and did 3 coats. The instructions stated it would take 4 gallons to get only 2 coats. I checked several online forums. All reported the same results using on 2-3 gallons for a 30 foot roof with material left over.

### Send pictures by email

**Did you know** -- Windows has a built in program that will allow you to resize pictures to make them easier to send by email. In your file manager *right click* the .jpg file you want to resize. Scroll down to "**Open With...**" and over to and *left click* on **Paint**. When Paint opens up, click on **Resize**. In the resulting box that opens up you can change the size by Percent or Pixels. I find that using 600-800 pixels works good for emailing. Click OK and then save. If you want to retain the original file use "**save as**" and give it a unique name. Open your email and attach the new resized photo. If you just use your pictures online and never get prints, most cameras allow you to change the image size on the camera. I find that changing the camera setting via its menu to 2048x1536 produces a 300-500 kb file that emails easily and no other resizing is required.



## Birthdays & Anniversaries This Past Quarter

### Happy Birthday to:

Isola, Betty	7-Jul
Stohlman, Kathy	13-Jul
Lee, Virginia	22-Jul
Hitt, Howard	8-Aug
Nyland, Scott	22-Aug
Lee, David	25-Aug
Lee, Marsha	12-Oct
Smith, Bessie	28-Oct

### Happy Anniversary to:

Lee, David & Marsha	19-Jul
Ha, Ken & Vivienne	9-Aug
Watkins, John & Shirley	26-Aug
Lee, Richard & Virginia	10-Sep
Stohlman, Howard & Kathy	13-Sep
Kuhlman, Bob & Jo-Ann	26-Sep
Nyland, Scott & Christy	26-Sep
Fernandez, Ed & Joan	4-Oct
Leard, Greg & Jennifer	26-Oct

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## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> month of each quarter. So for the first quarter please have all articles for publication to me by March 21, the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter by June 20, 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 it is over to John Saylor ([j99saylor@gmail.com](mailto:j99saylor@gmail.com))

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