



# Gold Country Travelers

e-Newsletter

**July 2013**

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## President's Message

Greetings Fellow RVer's.

This month marks the halfway point of the year as we celebrated July 4 last week. For some reason it seems time fast-forwards after July 4 and suddenly its Thanksgiving! As we write this the temperature outside is one-hundred and eleven degrees and the thought of November weather is quite appealing. The July outing to Bodega Bay may offer a sweet reprieve from the valley heat. Ken and Cricket report 12 rigs are signed up. I wonder if a few more folks decided to join them after this recent heat wave! The cool ocean breezes sound pretty inviting about now. Hope all of you are surviving and thriving. We added two new members at the May outing. Marlys DeVerness and Jim Kerney are our long-time neighbors (25 years) and have attended some of our gatherings in Yuma. A number of you got to know them from the Yuma trips. They were quite taken with what they call our inclusiveness. Their experiences with other clubs was there were always "cliques" making it hard for new members to fit in to. They felt welcomed and included and look forward to meeting all of you at future outings. Thought you all would like to know how we are seen by others. We've always thought of ourselves as a welcoming, friendly group and this confirms it. Gold Country Travelers is a great group of people that came together because of the Sunnybrook RVs. Now what holds us together is our strong friendships, and shared love of RVing. Who could ask for more? Life is sweet and just getting better.

Happy RVing,  
Jane and Murl

## Wagon Masters needed for 2014

The calendar is filling up for 2014. The following months are open: February, March, September October and November are currently open. Let's get the calendar filled up.

**Smithwoods RV Park  
June 20-23**



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**[Meeting Minutes](#)**

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**[Birthdays &  
Anniversaries](#)**

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**[2013 Outings](#)**

Check the website for  
details on these upcoming  
outings

**July 11-14, 2013  
[Bodega Bay RV Park,](#)**

**Ken & Cricket Couser  
Wagon Masters**

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**Recent Outing Stories**

**PORTO BODEGA – APRIL 2013**



*By the Bay, By the Bay, By the Beautiful Bay* ..... That tune could have described the perfect weather and the great times had by the 22 members and guests of the Gold Country Travelers RV Club at the *Porto Bodega RV Park and Marina* from April 17 to the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Porto Bodega sits right on the Bodega Bay with full hook-up RV sites within feet of the water. So, the Club again reserved all of the waterside sites and enjoyed the views, fishing boats comings and goings, windy evening fires, great food and even better friends. In other words; a perfect outing. Of the 11 rigs attending, 7



arrived on Wednesday with the balance hooking up on Thursday. While Murl and Jane Poynter couldn't stay for the outing, they did join us for the Saturday potluck.

Our great group was made up of Dick LaVergne (Wagonmaster), Dave Lee, the Saylor's, Harris', Watkins, Smiths, Diggins, Ha's, Fernandez', Eldreds, Poynters, and Larry Cooper and Shirley Kern.

The outings included exploring the coastal parks, towns, shops, and, of course, having a Spud Point lunch of crab sandwiches and clam chowder. While exploring, Dick and Dave wondered what a far off group was doing on one of the ocean view points and went to investigate until they realized they were walking in on a wedding.....oops). The trip was also notable with the inauguration of Dave's new Lance camper with its roomy slide-out.

Friday evening, the group tried out the Lucas Waterfront Restaurant with the ocean view and the eatery won our praises for its service and food. (Try the linguini pasta in clam sauce..... delicious!). The Saturday night potluck was great with abundant food, Bryce Smith winning the "Manly Man Hat Contest," (was that sea themed hat moving?), followed by a short business meeting in which the Club approved its new bylaws, renaming the Club the "Gold Country Travelers," welcoming all rigs and travelers.



For 2014, the waterside sites have been reserved during the *Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival* weekend. Some sites will be available as early as Wednesday, April 23 right on through to

Sunday April 27. Mark your calendars and see you then!!

**Wagonmaster, Dick Laverne**

**August 15-17, 2013**

**Woodsen Bridge, RV Park**

**David Lee  
Wagon Master**

**September 5-8, 2013**

**Pacific Pines RV Park**

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

**October, 2013**

**Pine Acres RV Resort**

**Upper Lake, Ca  
Bryce & Bessie Smith  
Wagon Masters**

**November 14-17, 2013**

**Nevada County  
Fairgrounds RV Park**

**Aaron & Carmen Harris  
Wagon Masters**

**December, 2013  
Christmas Party**

**Larry Cooper  
Wagon Master**

**Club Officers**

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**Presidential Team**

**Murl & Jane Poynter  
(5300) 661-1297  
[jpoynter@pacbell.net](mailto:jpoynter@pacbell.net)**

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**V.P. Team**

**John & Shirley Watkins  
(707) 422-6018  
[shirleywatkins47@gmail.com](mailto:shirleywatkins47@gmail.com)**

**May Outing**

**Marble Quarry RV Park, Columbia California**

**May 16-20, 2013**

Gold Country Travelers headed to gold country in May for a weekend at Marble Quarry RV Park in Columbia. Murl and Jane Poynter were the wagon masters and were joined by the Larry and Max Kochie, Chuck and Arlys Rogers, Larry Cooper and Shirley Kerns, Scott and Christy Nyland, Aaron and Carmen Harris, Dick LaVergne and David Lee, Woody and Dee Poynter (Murl's brother and wife), and Marlys DeVernes and Jim Kerley (the Poynter's neighbors). Ed and Joan Fernandez joined us for the Friday night potluck as they live nearby. Marlys and Jim had such a good time they decided to join the club.

Everyone arrived Thursday and were set up in time for dinner in Sonora at the Peppery Gar and Brill (not a misspelling!). Ed Fernandez recommended it and we all enjoyed the food. Thanks Ed! Friday and Saturday were spent exploring Columbia State Park, Sonora, Angels Camp and Murphy's. Friday night was the group pot luck followed by a challenging frog trivia quiz. Everyone got a prize with the "grand prize" winner Kristy Nyland receiving a solar lit frog. The very best prize however was hearing Scott Nyland sing "Jeremiah was a Bull Frog and Christy Nyland sing "I'm in Love with a Big Blue Frog." Way to go guys! (But don't give your day job just yet Christy). After Friday's dinner we headed to the Fallon Theater in Columbia to see the play "The Church Basement Ladies – a delightful comedy about the ladies running the kitchen in a Lutheran Church basement.

We had enough food left from the pot luck for another meal Saturday night. What a great way to get rid of leftovers. After dinner we decided to forgo "31" in favor of sitting around the campfire and enjoying some good company, good conversation and some adult beverages. We had one of Dave Lee's famous fires – big enough to be seen in outer space. At one point we thought we saw a forest service plane overhead and we were just waiting for it to drop a bucket of water on us. LOL

Sunday we said goodbye to Dave and Dick, Christy and Scott, Marlys and Jim, Chuck and Arlys and Larry and Shirley. Murl and Jane, Woody and Dee, Larry and Max and Carmen and Aaron stayed an extra night. The ladies invited the men to lunch at Kate's Tea house in Columbia that afternoon. We had an outdoor table in the garden area and a delightful lunch. The food was delicious and the scones to die for. What a great weekend!

This was our first outing to Marble Quarry as a club and we were quite pleased with the park. We were assigned spaces in a cul-de-sac usually reserved for clubs. This meant little traffic, and some open space to set up tables and chairs for meals and visiting. While we had use of the small upstairs club room, the weather and surroundings were so nice we decided to stay at the camp sites for our club activities. We all agreed we want to come here again for a future outing.

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**Secretary –**

**Dick LaVergne**

**(916) 482-4640**

[bmagicl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bmagicl@sbcglobal.net)

**Treasurer –**

**Larry Cooper**

**(707) 688-8266**

[lcooper5@comcast.net](mailto:lcooper5@comcast.net)

**Website – John Saylor**

**(916) 723-1613**

[j99saylor@gmail.com](mailto:j99saylor@gmail.com)

### Newsletter

Published Quarterly

Submit Articles to:

John Saylor

[j99saylor@gmail.com](mailto:j99saylor@gmail.com)

### Welcome New Members

Jim Kerley and Marlys Devarennnes were accepted as members at the May outing.

They may be reached at:  
1350 Roosevelt Place,  
Woodland, Calif., 95776.

Home Phone:

(530) 662-3491.

Jim's Cell:

(916) 765-9870.

Marlys Cell:

(916) 715-7814.

Email address:

[mdjk60@aol.com](mailto:mdjk60@aol.com).

Please update your address books and include them in your club communications.

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## Smithwoods RV Park in Felton

June 20-23

Jack & Betty Diggins, Wagon Masters

Everyone arrived on Thursday: Ken & Cricket Couser, Jack & Betty Diggins, Dick LaVergne, David Lee, Scott & Christie Nyland, Murl & Jane Poynter, and John & Shirley Watkins. The weather was spectacular the first two days, High 70's during the day and mid 50's at night. Sunday was mid 60's during the day and there was a light rain falling when we left on Monday.

There was a beautiful grove of Redwood Trees behind space number 46. The club members quickly decided to not use the club house and hold all meeting and fires in the "cathedral" of Redwood trees.



Thursday night, we drove down to Phil's Fish Market in Moss Landing. The food was spectacular even though the music was a bit loud.

Friday, we went over to Roaring Camp Railroad to take the train to the Santa Cruz Boardwalk. The ride was a beautiful, one hour trip through the Redwoods going each direction. We had a little over an hour to eat healthy food on the Boardwalk:

Chocolate dipped ice cream cones, falafels, potato twists, popcorn, roasted almonds and other healthy things were consumed with gusto.

Friday evening, we had a great potluck at the redwood cathedral. Betty's chili was a big hit, and everyone brought the fixings for a great meal. Dave said the redwood cathedral was the prettiest place the club had eaten in during his 13 years with the Gold Country Travelers. A warm, crackling fire rounded out a great day.

Saturday, we went down to Santa Cruz for *Woodies on the Wharf*. There were a spectacular group of Woodies from a 1930's fix it upper to a Bentley (I thought it was a Rolls Royce) that was incredible. This was a fun and enjoyable afternoon. We stopped at the end of the wharf and had an excellent lunch at the Dolphin Restaurant.



That night we went to Cowboys Bar and Grill in Felton. Dick LaVergne had two of his cousins join us. Cowboy's had an unusual menu, but everyone told

me their food was excellent.

Sunday, we sat around a fire in the redwood cathedral all day. We had great conversation and finished up all the leftovers that night.

Everyone enjoyed Smithwoods so much; I agreed to host another trip to Smithwoods next June.

Jack & Betty Diggins



## Member Recipes

### **Caramel Apple Dump Cake** by Vivienne Ha. Served at Porto Bodega

#### Tech TIP

Many of our rigs are more than 12 years old which means the propane tanks will need to be re-certified. I inquired around and found that Placer Propane on Douglas, Blvd, Roseville, will do it for 6.95 a tank. The tank needs to have some propane in it for them to test, so you do not have to wait until its empty. I dropped mine off, ran a few errands and came back an hour later and he was done.

#### Breaking News

Our own Howard Hitt, the "Big Easy Chef", now has his own website. Check it out at <http://www.thebigeasychef.com/>

1 (21 oz.) can apple pie filling  
1 (9 oz.) pkg. yellow cake mix  
2 Tbsp brown sugar  
1/2 cup apple juice  
1/2 cup chopped honey-roasted peanuts or cashews  
1/4 cup butter, melted

#### Layers:

Spread apple pie filling in prepared 9" x 9" baking dish.  
Sprinkle dry cake mix & brown sugar evenly over pie filling.

Drizzle apple juice over dry ingredients.  
Sprinkle with peanuts.  
Drizzle melted butter over all.

#### Bake:

40 to 45 minutes. Cool completely before serving.

#### Try:

topping with whipped cream and drizzling with caramel sauce.

### Cookie Sheet Cake

From our newest member,

#### Ingredients

#### FOR THE CAKE:

2 cups Flour  
2 cups Sugar  
1/4 teaspoons Salt  
4 Tablespoons (heaping) Cocoa  
2 sticks Butter  
1 cup Boiling Water  
1/2 cups Buttermilk  
2 whole Beaten Eggs  
1 teaspoon Baking Soda  
1 teaspoon Vanilla

#### FOR FROSTING:

1/2 cups Finely Chopped Pecans  
(or walnuts, or omit)  
1-3/4 stick Butter  
4 Tablespoons (heaping) Cocoa  
6 Tablespoons Milk  
1 teaspoon Vanilla  
1 pound (minus 1/2 Cup)  
Powdered Sugar

#### Preparation Instructions

Note: I use an 18x13 cookie sheet pan.

In a mixing bowl, combine flour, sugar, and salt.

In a saucepan, melt butter. Add cocoa. Stir together.

Add boiling water, allow mixture to

### - Chocolate

Marlys Deverness

#### Preparation Instructions

Continued....

boil for 30 seconds, then turn off heat. Pour over flour mixture, and stir lightly to cool.

In a measuring cup, pour the buttermilk and add beaten eggs, baking soda, and vanilla.

Stir buttermilk mixture into butter/chocolate mixture.

Pour into sheet cake pan and bake at 350-degrees for 20 minutes.

While cake is baking, make the icing.

Chop pecans finely.

Melt butter in a saucepan. Add cocoa, stir to combine, then turn off heat.

Add the milk, vanilla, and powdered sugar. Stir together.

Add the pecans, stir together, and pour over warm cake. Spread to cover entire cake.

Let cool (if you can wait that long).

Cut into squares, serve, eat, and totally wig out over the fact that you've just made the best chocolate sheet cake. Ever.

## Upcoming Outings -

**July 11-14**  
**Bodega Bay RV Park**  
**Ken & Cricket, Couser Wagon Masters**

**Escape the heat! Join Ken & Cricket for a weekend on the Coast at**

### **Bodega Bay RV Park**

**2001 Highway One, Bodega Bay, CA 94923**

**13 rigs are coming**

**Reservation deadline was June 24, but check with Ken to see if there are any  
last minute cancelations .**

**For More info Contact Ken or Cricket Couser, 916-967-7404**

**or email: [lionrampant@softcom.net](mailto:lionrampant@softcom.net)**



### **August Outing to Woodsen Bridge RV Park**

**August 15-18, 2013**

**David Lee, Wagon Master 916-967-9179**  
**Food reservation - Ed Fernandez 209-559-2186**

**I hear it's going to be an old fashion Hamburger and Hot Dog BBQ.**



### **September Outing**

**September 5-8, 3013**

**Pacific Pines RV Park, Florence, Oregon**

**John & Shirley Watkins, Wagon Masters**

**707-422-6018**

**[mailto:Jlw\\_saw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Jlw_saw@sbcglobal.net)**

## Meeting Minutes

### GOLD COUNTRY TRAVELERS RV CLUB

Business Meeting April 20, 2013

**Location:** Meeting held at Porto Bodega RV Park & Marina (after the potluck)

**Previous Minutes:** Not discussed.

**Officers Reports:** None.

**Committee Reports:** None. **Communications/Letters:** None.

#### **New Business:**

•**By Laws Update:** The GCT By-Laws update was introduced to the members for approval. Murl Poynter discussed the background and Dick LaVergne presented an outline of the updated By-Laws, which included the following major changes:

1. Renames the Club from Gold Country Travelers, Sunnybrook Chapter 9, to simply Gold Country Travelers (GCT) RV Club.
2. Opens up GCT membership to all brands and makes of RV vehicles and allows the Club to belong to any national RV organization, if the members wish to.
3. Creates a method for accepting new members with a six month review (prospective) period, their attending at least two club outings and acceptance as a member by a vote of the current members.
4. Authorizes absentee voting for major Club actions of (1) by-law amendments, (2) officer elections or (3) dissolution of the Club (hopefully, that day won't ever come). All other matters will continue to be voted on at business meetings only.
5. Currently, the Club Executive Committee has four members. Most organizations have an odd number of voting officers to break ties. A new committee "member-at-large" is added (for a total of five) and who will be the "new member" liaison.
6. Reaffirms that all members are welcome to executive committee meetings.

It was moved to approve the By-Law changes, which were approved by a vote of 19-1. (A copy of the updated by-laws will be forwarded by separate email.)

•**New Exec. Comm. Member:** It was moved and seconded to approve John Saylor as the new Exec. Comm. Member-At-Large. The motion was approved unanimously.

•**By-Laws Amendments:** Bryce Smith moved, and it was seconded, that the executive committee be authorized to make minor technical changes to the By-Laws, without changing intent, to improve their clarity. The motion was approved unanimously.

•**Potlucks and Restaurant Dinners:** Bryce suggested that outings have the option of having a Friday and Saturday potluck (using so many leftovers), since so much food is usually available. This would be in lieu of a restaurant dinner one night. There was general vocal agreement to try this, with the first effort occurring at the May, 2013 Marble Quarry outing. Using this alternative would be at the option of each Wagon Master coordinating an outing.

**Outings:** Upcoming outings were discussed. Dick Laverne shared that the Porto Bodega Bay-side sites had been secured for April, 2014 for the Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival. (Since the meeting, all of the Bay-side sites during the April, 2015 Fisherman's Festival have also been secured.) Yea!

Meeting Adjourned.

Secretary: Rich LaVergne

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### GCT Business Meeting Notes – May 19, 2013

Co-President Murl Poynter called the meeting to order.

1. It was moved to accept as new regular members, Jim Kerley and Marlys Devarennnes. After good natured ribbing they were approved as regular members by acclamation.

They may be reached at 1350 Roosevelt Place, Woodland, Calif., 95776. Home phone: (530) 662-3491. Jim's Cell: (916) 765-9870. Marlys Cell: (916) 715-7814. Email address: [mdjk60@aol.com](mailto:mdjk60@aol.com).

2. It was moved to reimburse the Poynters for a coffee pot replacement. The reimbursement was approved by acclamation.

3. Murl gave a summary briefing of upcoming outings. Please check your GCT website "Outings" section for details.

4. Larry Cooper's new Mirada motorhome was recognized and it was suggested (while not GCT policy) that he and Shirley should treat the members to champagne. Pending resolution...maybe.

Secretary's Note: Attached is the current GCT By-Laws for your files. Enjoy.

Secretary: Rich LaVergne



### 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



### Birthdays and Anniversaries

#### Happy Birthday to:

Isola, Betty	7-Jul
Stohlman, Kathy	13-Jul
Kerns, Shirley	20-Jul
Lee, Virginia	22-Jul
Hitt, Howard	8-Aug
Nyland, Scott	22-Aug
Lee, David	25-Aug

#### Happy Anniversary to:

Ha, Ken & Vivienne	9-Aug
Watkins, John & Shirley	26-Aug
Lee, Richard & Virginia	10-Sep
Stohlman, Howard & Kathy	13-Sep
Nyland, Scott & Christy	26-Sep