



GOLD COUNTRY TRAVELERS

Third Quarter 2024

Newsletter Published Quarterly by the
[Gold Country Travelers RV Club](#)
Our 25th Year

The Gold Country Travelers RV Club is a non-brand specific club. Members own campers, travel trailers, 5th wheels and motorhomes of different makes.

Members volunteer to take turns as wagon masters on a monthly basis. Wagon masters choose the location of the outing. We have an outing once a month, January through November. In December we celebrate with a Holiday lunch.

We are all about having fun, fellowship and relaxing on our outings.

CLUB OFFICERS 2024

President

Donna Thompson

Vice-President

Carl Taylor

Secretary

C. J. Deaton

Treasurer

Bonnie Marquardt

Member-at-Large

Jack Diggins

Website

Ernie Curto

President's Message

With Fall almost upon us and cooler weather, we look back on the great summer of camping we just had.

July, again, took us to Little Bear up in the Blairsden/Graeagle area. Short of major road work along both highways 80 & 70, which are the main arteries into that area, it seemed everyone got there safely without real issues. Ernie Curto was our host for July and did a great job at hosting. Potluck was Tri Tip that a few of us helped to Bar-B-Que. There was always the circle at night, minus the firepits as it was way too warm, even in the evening. One evening we all drove up to Johnsville, which is an old gold mining town and had another amazing dinner at the Iron Door.

August outing was beautiful. Again, hosted by Mike and his driver Jack Diggins we went to Ancient Redwoods. Not only is it a gorgeous area with redwoods all around, but the weather was also more than glorious compared to what we had been experiencing in the Valley. Mike was a great host, although he was concerned about manning the BBQ, so Jack took over and had Bar-B-Que'd hot dogs along with having Betty's Chili, which is always good. Everyone else filled in with sides, salads and desserts. We were able to go out as a group to a brewery, Eel River Brewery. Very good food and I believe we all enjoyed it.

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2024 Outings

January 10-13: Flag City, Lodi, No-Host

February 11-15: Santa Cruz/Monterey Bay KOA
Watsonville, Mark & Diane Loftus,
Wagon Masters

March 10-14: Sugar Barge, Bethel Island, No host

April 24-28: Feather Falls KOA, Oroville,
Dick LaVergne, Wagon Master

May 14-18: Black Oak RV Park, Tuolumne, Mike &
Annette Babcock / Donna & Gary Thompson
Co-Wagon Masters

June 4-8: Sugar Barge RV Park, Bethel Island
Club 25th Anniversary, Donna Thompson Contact

July 14-18: Little Bear RV Park, Blairsden,
Ernie Curto Wagon Master

August 11-16: Ancient Redwoods RV Park,
Redcrest, Jack Diggins Wagon Master

September 10-14: Viera's Resort, Isleton, Dan &
Debbie Cullen / Tim & Beth Forrester
Co-Wagon Masters

October 11-15: Pioneer RV Park, Quincy, Dan &
Eryn Strickland / Donna & Gary Thompson
Co-Wagon Masters

November 6-10: Heritage RV Park, Corning,
John & Debbie Marquardt / Martin & Zoe Beaton
Co-Wagon Masters

November 19-21: Ladies only Campout, Jackson
Rancheria RV. Bonnie & Debbie Marquardt hosts

December 7: Holiday Party, Aviator's Restaurant
Donna & Gary Thompson Hosts

Presidents Message (continued)

They had wild blackberries which most of us took advantage of and picked our share.

There were a few excursions, most of us took tours of Ferndale, which is a very quaint little town. Ken and Cricket Couser had done some research and found a tour of a Jewelry factory and a boat tour of the bay. Several folks participated in these activities and really enjoyed themselves.

In September, we went to Isleton, just west of Stockton. Very convenient for all. This outing was hosted by Tim & Beth Forrester along with Daniel & Debbie Cullen. The first evening there was a Meet & Greet which hot dogs and potato salads were served. The park is a new park for us and right on the river. Gary Thompson and Daniel Cullen trekked to the river to do magnet fishing (I think they were hoping for an old chest with a million dollars in it). As far as I know, they were not successful. Potluck was scrumptious with chicken as our main course. With our normal wonderful appetizers, sides, salads and of course desserts.

I'd like to thank everyone for stepping up filling in next year's schedule. I noted in our last quarterly newsletter that we were short, about 8 to 9 months, and needed people to step in. You guys all came through. Thank you! I believe that only February and November are still open. March still needs to be noted, but two of our newest members, who both joined this past July, are stepping in to the Wagon Master spot. Tish Foley and Liana Mabry who has chosen Red Bluff KOA.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

We have several great outings to look forward to this next quarter. Make sure you check your email for upcoming emails from the wagon masters.

Happy Camping
Donna

PAST OUTING REPORTS

LITTLE BEAR RV
JULY 14-18 2024

The July 14-18 2024 outing that I hosted at the Little Bear RV Park was a fantastic outing. Graeagle is always a club favorite and there are many things to do. We had thirteen trailers and one prospective member stayed in a cabin, The attendees were the Florencia Llovet, Thompon's, Jack Diggins, Tiemeyer's, Patchett's, Ed Fernandez, Violet Ask-Young, Jim and Bonnie Marquardt, John and Debbie Marquardt, Forrester's, Coldani's, Virginia Quinn. We had two prospective members attend; Liana Mabry and Tish Foley.

On Sunday morning we went to see the Western Pacific Railroad Museum at Portola. This museum has a lot of trains, but most of them are not restored. You can buy a tick to ride one of their engines, but no one in our group wanted to be a train engineer. The people that attend this was Florencia Llovet, Jack Diggins, Patchett's, and the Coldani's

On Monday evening we had the pot luck at the parks Club house. Everyone brought great dishes. I barbecued a tri-tip, which was good. This year I cooked five tri-tips so there was plenty for everyone. A big improvement for myself.

On Tuesday we had a group dinner at the Iron Door at 5pm. at 5417 Main St, Blairsden-Graeagle, CA . This year we ordered off of the menu.

Jack took two different groups over two different days for a hike at Frazier Falls Trail. They told me that there was a lot of water going over the falls and it was a great hike.

As usual, people played pickleball ball, but there was no golfers. For our group I think that pickleball is now more popular than golf.

The Tiemeyer's had to leave early because Anne was not feeling well. Hopefully she fully recovers.

REDWOODS RV PARK
AUGUST 11 – 16, 2024

We had an excellent five night outing. There were a total of 16 rigs attending: Jack Diggins with Mike, Mike & Annette Babcock, Martin & Zoe Beaton, Ken & Cricket Couser, C.J. & Cathy Deaton, Tim & Beth Forrester, Mark & Diane Loftus, Liana Mabry, John & Debbie Marquardt, Cliff & Linda Neal (arrived as guests and then joined the club), Lynne Shubunka (guest), Karen & Carl Taylor, Donna & Gary Thompson, Bill & Anne Tiemeyer, and John & Wanda Wingerter.

The weather was beautiful the entire outing. There were many activities the club members took part in. The Sequoia Park Zoo with the Redwood Skywalk, Touring the town of Ferndale, Eating at the Lost Coast Brewery, Eel River Brewery, Double D Steak House, Ferndale Meat Market and Café Marina & Woodley's Bar.

The Chili Dog Potluck was a success based on the amount of food that was consumed. Nobody left hungry. Members picked fresh black berries around the park for snacks, to add to ice cream and cereal. Yum, Yum.

The Couser's organized a tour of the Holly Yashi Jewelry Company and a Harbor Cruise Tour of Humboldt Bay. Both events were well attended and enjoyed by all.

Members drove the Lost Coast, Mattole Road and the Avenue of the Giants. The Chimney Tree, Burlington Visitor Center, the town of Redcrest were seen and enjoyed. The high water mark signs due to the 1964 flood were very eye opening. Everyone who stopped at Pepperwood enjoyed the black berry popsicles.

Hikes were taken at Founders Grove, Rockefeller Grove, Drury-Chaney Trail, the Robert Madsen Memorial Bridge. and the California Federation of Women's Club Grove. Mike & Jack, Debbie & John Marquardt (with Lucy & Bella), Anne & Bill Tiemeyer, Mark & Diane Loftus, and Zoe Beaton. Took the 4 ½ mile South Bull Creek Trail from Flat Iron to Rockefeller Grove. This trail through the Rockefeller Forrest is the largest contiguous old growth redwood forest in the world. Mark said the GPS was wrong and the distance was closer to 12 miles.

There were many laughs and stories around the 7-8 camp fire pits every night. Next year Mark will bring a second chair because Bella took over his chair.

The fog came in making the Persius meteor shower hard to see. Bill, Mark and Diane were persistent and were able to see some of the meteors.

The outing was very enjoyable and the weather was excellent.

VIEIRA'S RESORT
SEPTEMBER 10 – 14, 2024

Trip to Ida Island

Our September trip took the group to Vieira's Resort. We use the term Ida Island as the resort is located on Ida Island in Isleton Ca just off highway 160.

We had 14 rigs attend and all had a good time hanging out, walking, playing cards, and eating. Oh yea, EATING. The resort did not have a clubhouse but provided us with tables and chairs that worked very well for the meals. The weather also cooperated and for the most part it was very comfortable the entire trip.

A few of us arrived Monday night, had burgers, and watched the 49er game. Glad we saw a win, as with the injuries now, it may be a while to see this again. Tuesday everyone began to arrive between 1 and 2 PM and we cooked hot dogs for the evening and many cookies and cakes were served. We were missing one camper, come 5 PM, but we heard from Disaster Dick, and he was on the side of the road waiting for a tire on his trailer to be replaced. Dick made it in around 8:30 PM and several pitched in to get him backed in and setup in the dark, so things went quickly.

Wednesday night we had our potluck and there was food for what seemed like miles. There was no lack of something to eat. Thursday night we made the trip over to Hillcrest Tap House in Antioch for a great dinner and Friday several of us walked down to Taqueria Mexico at the resort for dinner.

Every night was fun with many stories by the fires and jokes, plus we had the GREAT DEBATE on Tuesday night between the wall and over the roll people. The over the roll people appeared to win the debate with good arguments on both sides. Which way do you place your toilet paper roll?

We have several people chime in on what they liked about the trip and the resort, and I will include some of the comments.

Comments

1. We liked that park. Nice trees, big sites, walking areas. The sites are very wide and nice. And the weather was fabulous. A couple of things we did NOT like: All elect/sewer at far back of sites, (remember to bring extra-long sewer and elect connections) The sites are all 'setup/designed' as 90-degree parking. (It would be nice if they could change the sites to be at an angle from the entrance roads.
2. We enjoyed the stay, will come again to this spot. We stayed an extra day to visit the Sunday air/car show, as expected it was a nice outing, enjoyed such a laid-back presentation, park gave us the same discount for the extra day.
3. Another enjoyable trip with friendly fellow campers. The potluck and dinner were very good. The resort was nice, the only downside was highway 160 with all the traffic. Nice walks around resort with members. We took a ride down to the fruit stand at highway 12 and 160, wow they had the best selection of fruits and other items. The bread was very delicious, and I made French toast with it Sunday morning. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Quincy.

4. This was a fantastic outing planned and supervised by Beth and carried out by Tim, Debbie and Dan. The food was wonderful and nonstop, and activities were fun and enjoyable for all.
5. I thoroughly enjoyed my trip. The potluck was fantastic, and I liked playing stackers and most of all the fellowship. Everyone is funny and so nice. I really enjoy it. The fishing spot between the two trees left something to be desired.
6. We really enjoyed the outing and the park. Loved the shade trees and even though there was a highway 100 yards away, very little traffic noise. See you in Quincy
7. I liked the RV Park and would go back at a future time. I picked up a "Delta Life" magazine so I will have a list of things to see next time. The food and service at the Tap House were excellent. The Mexican restaurant (Taqueria Mexico on site) had decent food and the prices were reasonable. I would eat at both places again. Even though the wind made putting out awnings questionable, there were plenty of mature trees to provide shade. The downside was the flies and mosquitos. The group who came in while we were there had 4 electric bikes stolen on Friday night. Each of the two bikes were chained together. Neither chain was left so the bikes were probably carried off by the thieves.

As you have read, overall, we had great trip, but thieves did make it hard on some of the other guest. Now we are looking forward to Quincy for another GREAT adventure!!!

INFORMATION FOR DIESEL ENGINE OWNERS

Some Gold Country Traveler members told me that all diesel fuel contained bio diesel.

To determine if the information was accurate, I talked to my diesel mechanic. My mechanic works for Murray's Truck & Auto in San Mateo. The business works on GMC's, Fords, Dodges and many other types of diesels. They service the fire equipment from the City of San Mateo, Davey's Tree service and many other commercial accounts.

They told me that Diesel 2 is the standard diesel that they recommend. However the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has passed many laws and this is their information.

Bio Diesel can be: B5, B-10, B20, B50 or B100. The number after the B is the percentage of Biodiesel in the diesel fuel. Most of the newer engines cannot run correctly on anything greater than B20. Apparently some trucks can run on B100. Adding biodiesel to diesel 2 makes the fuel cheaper to produce.

CARB is attempting to come up with an alternative to diesel fuel. For those that are interested in the latest CARB info I could find, see: ww2.ARB.CA.GOV.

CARB's latest addition is to make manufactures add renewable additives to Diesel 2. My mechanic said there is not enough information on renewable diesel yet, but it appears the cetane rating is much high with renewable additives as opposed to adding biodiesel.

The mechanic said using biodiesel will reduce your engines power and mpg. Filter changes will have to be done much more often. Their suggestion is that if your only choice is Biodiesel, only buy enough Biodiesel to get to a station with Diesel 2.

The number of stations carrying Diesel 2 in California are becoming fewer and fewer. One reason is that CARB is giving diesel manufacturers incentives to blend Diesel 2 with additives.

The mechanics recommendations: Don't trust the freeway sign that says Diesel 2. Any variation of Diesel 2 must have a sticker on the pump. The pump can say Diesel 2 but sticker can be small and inconspicuous. The sticker must say the Biodiesel level or if renewable additives are in the diesel. There is no standard of where the sticker must be posted or how large the sticker must be. They made the comment that you must now be a detective to analyze any writing on the pump to be sure the pump only contains Diesel 2.

I found that in my area there is only one service station that still pumps pure Diesel 2. Out of California, apparently obtaining Diesel 2 is not difficult, but CARB is trying to phase out Diesel 2 by adding Biodiesel or additives to all diesel fuel.

One a side note, the mechanics said the test equipment for Diesel vehicles over 14,000 pounds is not in existence. They said the fees are a way to fund and design the equipment that will be needed to implement CARBS latest anti-pollution program.