

AUTOMATE RV CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Issue # 45 Spring 2014

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Neil Zinn

Well, here it is mid-February and it is time to consider our Spring Rally in King City. For the newer members, this will be our annual business meeting as required by our corporate bylaws. It's a very nice venue and if you like to do a little wine tasting, then you will be in the right place and any time is the right time for a tasting.

Last month, Helen and I camped at the Jackson Rancheria, just outside of the city of Jackson in Amador County. While we are not normally attracted to Indian casinos, we were part of another group and we were pleased that we visited this facility. The campground is first class; I would recommend it to you as a quality destination. Our group received the first ever "behind the scenes tour" where we visited just about everything but the "eye in the sky" security area. We did learn, however, that they are tied into Nevada's gaming database of casino cheats as well as one operated collectively by the Indian casinos. The Jackson casino is largely a family operation as the band of local Indians is quite small and pretty much related to one another. One feature that I admired is the prohibition of alcohol on the gaming floor. They have an ethic that really doesn't want to push drinking while people are gambling. Unusual and admirable.

One item of business facing us will be a recommendation from our bylaws committee (Chuck Creevan and Mick Serra) to change the wording in the bylaws of the club to include as eligible members any owner of an RV that would like to join us if sponsored by a member. At present, you must be a "current or former AutoMate owner" to join. I can anticipate a spirited debate over this issue so invite you to give some forethought about this proposed measure.

I know there has been interest in changing our bylaws to allow other options for the disposal of club assets in the event that the club would disband. Nothing, however, has been forthcoming on the subject. I can tell you that as a condition of our tax exempt status, club members are prohibited from profiting and assets must go to another exempt organization. This language is in the IRS code and is a part of the tax exempt application. I became aware of this in detail as I am involved in another exempt group making application to the IRS for this status.

A second order of business will be an election to fill or refill the offices of Vice President and Secretary. Nothing new with our rig to report at this writing, no problems have emerged over the winter. I do expect that baby will have new shoes as we will embark on a several month trip to Michigan via Kansas for several months in early summer. I've been busy lining up estimates for four Goodyear Unisteel LT235/85/R16 (load range G) tires and hope to have them on before our outing. The only sure thing is that I will have to collect many aluminum cans for the recycler to help pay for them. We look forward to seeing you all in King City. We have a good time and it is always nice to see old friends again. The older I get, the more I value and appreciate old friends.

BILL'S NEWEST PRODUCT

Feb. 14, Jim and I were traveling to Tulare for a square dance week end. (Yes, we still square dance.) We needed to stop at Toscano's RV center at the east side of Los Banos. When we pulled in, we were very surprised to see a small "Toy Mate" sitting in the front of their lot. We thought for sure that it was a used rig as we knew that Bill had built some a few years back. But WOW, we thought, was this one in good condition for a "used rig". We went in it and looked around. It had a bathroom with tub/shower and a kitchen both up front and looked like it would sleep 4, with 2 drop down beds in the back. Of course we caught the eye of the salesman, who thought we were going to make his next sale. Much to our surprise the salesman told us that they had just gotten the rig new from the factory. It was so cute that we just had to take a couple of pictures to show you all. Hopefully this will lead to another line for Bill because the salesman indicated that

"they" could build one to our liking. See what you think.



2014 SPRING RALLY

The annual spring rally is fast approaching and as such it is time to make your plans to attend and to renew club friendships. This year we will assemble in King City, CA at the San Lorenzo Park on April 24 to April 27. The park is part of Monterey county parks system. It is a very nice facility for our rally and hopefully there will be a good turnout of the membership. Each of the campsites we have on reservation are pull through paved sites and have either full hookups (includes sewer, electric and water) or electric and water at the site. There is a dump station at the park. There are many large trees for shade. Some of the activities of the area that are available to those that attend are an outstanding vintage agricultural display, a putting green, and horseshoe pits right at the park very close to our campsites. There is a 9 hole golf course as well as wineries and historical sites close-by. There is ample room to just roam around as well as space to just plunk and read, pass the time of day or solve some of the problems with our rigs. The wagon masters' plea for individuals to chair one of the social events only resulted in one response. As a result, we, the wagon masters, have

decided to request that each rig bring a hors d'oeuvre that will serve 8-10 people for the Thursday night welcome meeting. Committee members are providing a continental breakfast on Saturday and the dinner Saturday night will be catered.

Please remember that this rally is also the occasion of our yearly business meeting. A notice has been posted in a previous club newsletter for a change in the bylaws with regards to membership so that is one thing that will be acted upon at this rally.

The wagon masters have reserved 32 sites and we can add to this should we need to. There are 25 full hook up sites (total the park has) and 7 electric-water sites reserved. This number can be changed with enough notice so please register early and pay attention to the deadline date on the registration form. The club needs to occupy a minimum of 21 full hook up sites in order to qualify for free use of the De Anza Hall for our social gatherings and business meeting. Monterey Parks has granted that those arriving early or staying later will be allowed to pay the same daily camp fee as the group is paying for the rally. Please refer to the registration form to exercise this option.

Directions to the park can be obtained online by searching "San Lorenzo County Park". GPS address to type in is 1160 Broadway, King City, CA. For the rest of us technically lost souls this should get you there.

Northbound hwy 101: at King City, exit Broadway. Stay to right and turn left at stop light (Broadway). Proceed straight to campground. Follow signs to campground.

Southbound hwy 101: exit Broadway to right and circle under hwy 101 to stop light (Broadway). Turn left and proceed straight to campground. Follow the signs.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the rally.

PS 1/23/14. SOS to the membership

Just got a message from Rick Damlos that due to some unexpected personal issues, he and Sharon will not be able to chair the Friday night dinner at the Spring Rally. They are keeping hopes up to still be able to attend the rally but that being iffy they cannot commit to doing the dinner. So the wagon masters are seeking a replacement for Rick and Sharon to do a dinner on Friday night. If this is something you could do call Chuck or Sandy Creevan (925-455-1705). Thanks in advance. If

there are no takers the show will go on anyway and we will see you in King City.

PROPOSED BYLAW WORDING CHANGE

(This is a repeat of the same piece put in the last 2 Newsletters)

At our last Spring Rally, President, Neil Zinn appointed Chuck Creevan and Mick Serra as a committee to change the wording in the bylaws of the club to include persons who have a non-AutoMate RV and would be interested in joining our club. Such a change would hopefully allow for an increase in our declining membership.

According to the bylaws now, "all current and former owners of AutoMate recreational vehicles shall be eligible for membership upon payment of annual dues". This committee met and with their wives help came to a decision and proposed wording to change the bylaws.

The committee's idea was for a member (sponsor) to invite other RV owners (guest) to on of our rallies. If the guest owner then decides to join the club, they could and would pay dues and thus become a member. This is the way the new wording of the bylaws could be under Article 3, section 1 "all current and former owners of AutoMate recreational vehicles and sponsored guest owners of a recreational vehicle shall be eligible for membership upon payment of annual dues".

The committee only asks that the membership think and talk about this among themselves and action will be taken at the next Spring Rally April 24 - 27, 2014. If anyone has any ideas on this it can be submitted at the Spring Rally or submit them to Chuck Creevan or Mick Serra and they will present them at the Spring Rally.

Sincerely, *Chuck Creevan*

FOR SALE

2001 31' 5th Wheel Corian Counters, Dometic Refrigerator/Freezer with new coils, New Swivel Rocker, New Jensen Stereo w/DVD Player, 20" LCD TV, Winegard Carryout TV Antenna and new Dish TV Receiver, Electro-Hydraulic Disc Brakes, Air Ride Suspension, 3" extra roof insulation, Four (4) new 165 AH deep cycle

batteries, 3 Roof-mounted Solar Panels which can be elevated and rotated, Solar Controller w/Remote, Vanguard Propane Catalytic Heater, Xantrex 40 Amp 3-Stage Battery Charger, 800 Watt Inverter, new AC Burner and new control panel, Trailer Hitch on back for hauling boat or car, New Sombrella Full Cover ; all in immaculate condition offered at \$16,000

2007 Dodge Ram 2500 Big Horn 4 door Cummins Diesel, 6 speed manual transmission, new Pac Brake Exhaust Brake and Pull Rite 16K sliding hitch, 5th wheel tailgate, new South Bend Clutch and Flywheel, Two new Batteries, New Running Boards, Silver color w/bed liner, Transfer Flo combination Toolbox and auxiliary 30 gallon fuel tank w/auto transfer to O.E.M. tank, 82,500 miles – looks and runs great – the ideal towing machine, offered at \$23,500 or package deal for both at \$38,500

Call or email Jack Vincent at: (360)301-9521 or jacvin02@gmail.com

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2005 33' 5th wheel, custom designed with 3 slides. Original owner. Like new. Rear living room, very open inside. Corian countertops, free standing dining table with 4 chairs, Lazy Boy rocker/recliner, hardwood floors in living room/kitchen, tile in bathroom, ceiling fan, queen bed with huge storage underneath, full width front wardrobe closet, 32" flat screen TV in living room, 18" flat screen TV in bedroom, roof mounted satellite dish, microwave, 8 cubic foot refrigerator, workspace in bedroom.

Air-ride suspension with leveling, hydraulic disk brakes, 4 golf cart batteries, double insulation package, alloy wheels, LED taillights, air conditioning, Onan 4.0 generator, A&E 9000 power awning with metal cover, window awning, 100 gallon fresh water tank, 140 gallon grey and black holding tanks, mirrored tinted windows, 2 Fantastic fans with remote thermostats, 2 heaters, inverter, rear trailer hitch, lots of inside storage. Beautifully maintained. Non-smoking.

Asking \$33,000.

For questions or pictures contact:

John Johnson

775-224-7877 Sjrv82@gmail.com

REPORTING SAD NEWS



It's with a heavy heart that I write this to let you all know that one of our club's most beloved members has passed on. At 5:30 p.m., Wed. Feb. 26th, Irv Baptist left this world, leaving a hole in the hearts of all who knew him.

Irv greeted everyone with a warm handshake or hug and always with a big smile and sometimes a funny story or two. He was a big man with an even bigger heart and gentle nature, a true gentleman. He loved his wife, Arlene, his family, friends, RVing and his church.

He and Arlene were charter members and strong supporters of our RV club & attended every rally for at least the past 11 years.

His special pancakes, which he cooked up for at least one of our breakfasts at each rally, were always a big hit.

Heaven's gain is truly our loss. And so we say farewell dear friend, until we meet again.

Arlene has said that if you would like to remember Irv with a donation of some kind, they have always favored the:

Alexander Cohen Hospice House

2201 Euclid Ave.

Hughson, CA 95326

You can request that an acknowledgement card be sent to Arlene and their family at:

Box 1459 Hughson, CA 95326-1459

(or to any charity of your choice)

CLUB DUES

It's that time again. Just as a reminder that the yearly dues for our AutoMate RV Club are **due in April of each year**. While you're thinking of it send your dues in now to continue getting the Newsletters and so to not miss out on all the fun at the rallies. Please use this coupon when sending in your dues.

Here is my 2014 dues check in the amount of \$20.00, made out to **The AutoMate RV Club**.

Mail to:

Pam Richichi
25 Schooner Lane
Modesto, CA 95356

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Please check here if any of the above information has changed since last time

Check here if you can receive your Newsletter by email

SPRING RALLY REGISTRATION FORM

April 24, 25, 26 & 27, 2014

San Lorenzo River Park

1160 Broadway

King City, CA 93930

Mail to:

Pam Richichi

25 Schooner Lane

Modesto, CA 95356

Cost \$150.00 per rig with 2 persons, \$130.00 per rig with 1 person

Any **extra nights camping** will be **\$35.00 full hook-up, \$30.00 water & electric per night**

\$6.00 per dog(max 2 dogs per site) This is a park rule. Extra night(s) is \$2.00 per dog per night

All fees, including extra nights & for dog(s), needs to be paid to the AutoMate RV Club.

Note: There is a slight possibility that those wanting electric/water for extra nights will have to change sites should the site be reserved or occupied upon early arrival or site is reserved for after the rally for those staying late.

Please remember to bring hors d'oeuvre to share for 8-10 people Thursday social.

-----cut along line and mail completed reservation to Pam-----

Dead line for registration April 8, 2014

2014 spring rally cost

2 people \$ _____

1 person \$ _____

Dog(s) \$6 each \$ _____

Additional nights camping

_____ night(s) @\$ 35 full hook up \$ _____

_____ night(s) @ \$30 electric/water \$ _____

_____ night(s) @ \$2 per dog \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Here is my check made out to **AutoMate RV Club** in the amount of _____.

I will be arriving on (Date)_____ I will be leaving on (Date)_____

There will be _____ people in my rig. I need handicapped parking.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____