

AUTOMATE RV CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Issue # 49 Spring 2015

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Neil Zinn

Can spring really be here? My head tells me we have another month of winter but my nose tells me it is already here. Right now tree pollens are driving me nuts and grasses will soon follow. But it does mean that I have again survived the winter. Well, compared to the rest of the US, it is our version of winter. Maybe those folks in the East can ship a little water our way. Without more water, it means no summer garden this year again. I saved 50% of my usual water usage because I didn't garden last year, making me a little smug about the state's 20% goal.

Before saying anything remotely resembling fifth wheels, Let me reminisce. Do you remember in the 1950's, the big stir in the media was "the coming Ice Age"? I clearly remember all the big hoopla about the pending catastrophe. Wonder what happened to that? A little further along, we get the "ozone hole" and the evil that was going to befall us. Wonder what happened to that? In more recent years, we have been threatened with global warming. Well, I know what happened to that; some places thawed and some places froze over. Have you noticed how we've now segued from global warming to "climate change" without hardly missing a beat? I've always placed my trust in science but what has happened to science? Science told us eggs were bad, now they are good. Science told us coffee was bad and now it is pretty good. We thought we stamped out measles because of science and the "flat earthers" and their ilk have us at risk again. Don't look at me for an answer but I suspect too many brains have turned from gray matter to clabber. Don't get me wrong; I do believe in climate fluctuations, i.e., change, but I suspect it

occurs over longer periods of time that the decades we are talking about today.

Now, to the rally. We've a couple of chores to accomplish at the rally. We've an election coming up and there is a nominating committee of two in place to help us with this. I'm hoping the only office that needs filling is that of president. I've done it for four years and we need a fresh look at things with a new set of eyes. Fortunately, I believe everything is in place although new eyes may identify now unrecognized needs for the club. We've been fortunate the last few years in that members have stepped forward and taken responsibility for putting together our rallies. I can guarantee that we will be looking for volunteers again at this rally. Please consider stepping up to take on a rally; it isn't mysterious or beyond any one's abilities and you can count on a lot of help from the members.

I'm really looking forward to our get together. Helen and I have made good friends through the years and it will be fun to see everyone again. We will miss friends no longer with us like crazy but there is no way to fix that beyond holding close those who we have joyfully camped with through the years!

Helen and I spent last week in Oroville at the Feather Falls Indian Casino with another RV group. Of course we had a good time but the highlight of our trip was a dinner in the Steakhouse of another Indian Casino, Gold Country Casino, just eight miles away from Feather Falls. Situated on the sixth floor of the Casino, the Steakhouse is probably a five star experience, clearly as good as anything we can find in Sacramento at half the price. And if you are there between 5:00 pm and 5:45 pm, they have a wonderful Sunset dinner for \$18.95. I cannot speak too highly for this restaurant; it is first class and what it is NOT is casino food. I mean it, the place is outstanding, both in food and in service. Give it a try if you are up north in the great state of Jefferson.

NEW SUNSHINE PERSON

I want to say a big "thank you" to Laurie Wermuth for doing such a good job as our "sunshine person" for so long. I would also like to take this time to thank Julie Stewart for stepping up and volunteering to take on that position moving forward. I would also like to take this time to thank all of you who

said they were willing to take on the position. We have a lot of caring people in this club. So if you know of a club member that is in need of some "sunshine" in their life, either let me know or contact Julie.

Thank you, Evette

SPRING RALLY 2015

The Spring Rally is just around the corner and our rally hosts, Mick & Judy Serra have all their ducks in a row for another great rally at the **Lodi Festival grounds**. Mark your calendars for **May 14 to 17, 2015** and be sure to use the form in the back of this Newsletter to send in your registration for the rally and don't forget to send in your dues, too, using the dues coupon also at the back of this Newsletter.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone and renewing friendships. This will also be our business meeting on Saturday after breakfast.

The schedule is:

Thursday: Pot luck Hor d' oeuvres please bring enough for 8-10 people

Friday: Breakfast by Marie Andrea
Steak dinner by Don Martin and crew

Saturday: Breakfast by Jim Dilley and crew
Chicken dinner by *Up Country Catering*

Sunday: Rally ends, Have a safe trip home
We look forward to the visiting and the fun. It's been a long dry winter and we are ready to get our RV out and have some fun!!!

The Festival grounds have let us know that we can arrive as early as Tue, May 12th and can stay till Monday morning the 18th. The extra nights are charged at \$25.00 per night and can be paid along with your rally fees to the AutoMate RV Club.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Mick and Judy Serra

FALL RALLY 2015

The **2015 Fall Rally** will be held **October 8-11** in the quaint small, old west town of Mariposa, CA. The Mariposa Fairgrounds is south of the town of Mariposa, just outside of town, on Highway 49 and Fairground Rd. The Fairground is about 45 minutes from the entrance to Yosemite National Park and about 30 minutes from Merced on Hwy 99. The town of Mariposa has some cute little shops and

restaurants to visit. As many of you have never visited this area, it gives a chance to get out and see new sights and learn the interesting history of the area.

The hosts are Jerry & Pam Richichi. There will be a sign up sheet at the spring rally for those who want to volunteer their help for the fall rally. For those who can't attend the spring rally, but would like to help call Jerry & Pam Richichi at 209-529-7230. Hope to see you all there

IN MEMORY



Andy Anderson loved camping and loved his 5th wheel. He and Jan were the 6th charter member of the AutoMate RV Club. They were familiar faces at all the rallies. Andy kept his RV in tip top shape and did the work himself and he loved sharing his repair knowledge with others. I'm told that not long before he passed, he was helping another member work on their rig. Andy passed away Dec. 24, 2014. He was a quite man and if you didn't know him better, you would think that he was a very serious man. He spent almost 30 years as a highway patrolman so he had to perfect that serious "I mean business" look for his work. But if you looked closely you would see that gleam in his eye that showed his sense of humor. That gleam, that sense of humor, that man will be sorely missed by us all.

AUTOMATE FOR SALE

2002 AutoMate 5th wheel. 33'

Rear kitchen, two slides, awnings, large shower, generator, non smoker, Four new tires, always kept in good condition

2009 F-250, V-10, Lariat Super Duty w/tow package. Extended cab. Low mileage. Leather, heated power seats, storage box in bed. Would like to sell truck & trailer together. \$36,000 for both. Would consider selling separately. Call: Jan Anderson (209) 295-7070

TRUCK FOR SALE

2008 Ford 250 Super Duty (purchased NEW in 2009) 6.4 diesel, extended cab, 6-speed automatic, full towing package. 17" wheels, 5th wheel trailer hitch installed, in-bed diamond plate tool box. Sprayed in bed liner. 5th wheel tailgate, also comes with original tailgate. 60k miles, maintenance records available. Located in Salinas, CA Asking \$18,000 Contact Bob Frederick (916) 203-4529

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 2015 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 _____

Check here if you can receive your Newsletter by email

SPRING RALLY REGISTRATION FORM
May 14, 15, 16 & 17, 2015
Lodi Grape Festival Fairgrounds
413 E. Lockeford St.
Lodi, CA

Mail to:
Pam Richichi
25 Schooner Lane.
Modesto CA 95356

Cost \$150.00 per rig with 2 persons \$125.00 per rig with 1 person

Any extra nights camping will be \$25.00 per night & needs to be paid to the AutoMate RV Club.

Dead line for registration April 30, 2015

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

I am also paying for _____ extra nights @ \$25.00 each night.

I will be arriving on _____ I will be leaving on _____

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

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

e-mail _____

Don't forget to send in your dues with your rally registration