

AUTOMATE RV CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Issue # 50 Summer 2015

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Chuck Creevan

Random thoughts from the club pres.
First thing that comes to mind is to thank Neil Zinn for his two terms as president of the AutoMate RV Club. I only hope I can walk the walk the way he did. Why did he want to leave the position?
Want to thank those that stepped up to be wagon masters for a rally. Mick & Judy Serra with Norm & Anne Emrich (spring 2016), Richard & Judy Souza (fall 2016) and Don & Jeanette Martin (spring 2017) all stepped forward to take on those responsibilities. I and the club members thank you and thank you again and again.
Drought is on everyone's mind and I am with them. My yard looks terrible. With the water conservation measures my yard is a lovely shade of brown. I only hope that when we do get some water it will recover and look nice and healthy again. The water company tells Sandy and I that we are doing our share of conserving. Now that makes me feel all warm and fuzzy. Forecasters say ocean conditions are indicating a wet fall/winter season. Hope they are right but, folks, don't stop the rain dance yet.
In the middle of June, Sandy and myself along with Mick and Judy Serra spent some time up in the mountains. We started at Mick and Judy's house and we went with them on a tour with their model A club. We were able to ride in Mick's model A. Good time. Next we took off over hwy 88 to hwy 395 in Nevada, up 395 to junction of hwy 70 and headed west to hwy 89 and tuned south to our destination at Rivers Edge RV Park in Clio, CA (just south of Graeagle). Neither of us had stayed in that area but Judy picked a winner. It was warm while we were there. Two highlights of trip were

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General Inquiries & Issues	Chuck Creevan

wine under the stars while enjoying live music and fire and Judy's Moscow Mules. For any of you that play golf, the Graeagle area would be a good destination. There are 2 nine hole courses and 4 eighteen hole courses in the area. Sandy and I moved on up to Quincy for a few days (Pioneer RV Park) and then back home. Mick and Judy stayed and were joined by some friends from their model A club for a few days before they returned home. We had planned to leave and go to Grass Valley to check out the fair grounds for a rally but it was too hot. We decided to leave that for another time. Looking ahead, it is time for our annual trek to Eagle Lake in NE California close to Susanville. Will be leaving Aug 24 and return sometime the end of Sept. We stay at Merrill Campground. There are a number of Automate RV Club members that usually come and go during the time we are there--- Fugates, Stewarts, Emricks & Friesens. If the spirit moves you by all means show up. There is usually a lot of space after Labor Day. This is Sandy's "piece of heaven on earth".

Also looking forward to the fall rally in Mariposa. (Wagon masters, Jerry and Pam Richichi) That is new territory for me. A new place, an old place, I've always enjoyed the rallies. Hope you do too. Looking forward to seeing old faces and maybe some new faces in October. Til then be safe my friends.

SPRING RALLY, LODI

The Spring Rally was held in Lodi, May 14 to 17. But as usual some of the members showed up early to relax and visit with old friends.



The weather was nice even though we had a few sprinkles here and there, just enough to leave water marks in the dust on the rigs.

As usual, we started off with our Thursday night "Welcome get together" with lots of good food and of course, wine.



Friday morning, Marie Andrea and her crew prepared a wonderful breakfast casserole (recipe later in the Newsletter) along with a great bowl of fresh fruit. What a way to start the day. Friday was either spent relaxing and visiting or finding a local winery to try.

Later that evening Don Martin and Ross Stewart, along with their wives, did a great job of grilling steaks and serving them up with baked potatoes, salad and dessert. Again, no one left hungry. After dinner some members stayed in the hall for games while others went out and enjoyed the campfire.



You can always tell which one is the winning table. Saturday morning found Jim Dille along with Evette and Jerry and Pam Richichi fixing "Irv's famous pancake recipe" along with sausages fruit salad and juice for breakfast.

The morning was free time until after lunch. That afternoon the annual member meeting was held but a break was taken and the meeting reconvened at

5:00 p.m. before dinner. (See meeting minutes later in Newsletter.)



Elections were held and we have a new president, Chuck Creevan, while Mick Serra continues on as Vice president.



Saturday night 's dinner was catered by *Up Country Catering*. Followed by several members staying in the hall for a few games of card Bingo.



Afterwards several people gathered around the fire pit sharing stories of travels and other tales.

Sunday morning's sky was bright and clear as another rally came to a close and rigs were packed up to hit the road until we come together again in the fall at Mariposa. See you then.

Breakfast Casserole

1 lbs. spicy pork sausage
6 Slice French bread, Cubed
8 oz. pkg. Shredded triple cheddar cheese
8 Large eggs
1½ cups milk
½ cup half/half
¼ cup red bell pepper, Chopped
¼ cup Yellow bell pepper, Chopped
¼ cup orange bell pepper, Chopped
¼ cup green onion, Chopped

In a large skillet, cook the sausage over medium heat, stirring frequently, until browned and crumbly, about 10 minutes, and drain well on paper towels.

Spray a 13 x 9 inch baking dish and nonstick cooking spray.

Cut the French bread into cubed. Place on the bottom of the prepared baking dish. Sprinkle with sausage, Bell Peppers and Green onion and cheese. In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk. Carefully pour the mixture over the cheese. Refrigerate overnight.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Bake casserole until set and golden, about 40 minutes. Let stand for 10 Minutes.

Serve 8.

A RECOMMENDATION FROM A MEMBER

I would like to recommend D 2 Trailer in Gault, California to members of the AutoMate RV Club. They are right off Hwy. 99 just about 20 miles south of Sacramento, and I had them install a new 5th Wheel Hitch and a new Brake Controller for me on the 2008 Ford F250 that I recently purchased from Jan Anderson.

I dealt with Chance, the owner, and they did the work on time and for the agreed price, and did a very nice job, and even helped me with a wiring problem on my new 7 pin connector on Pete and Elsie Petersen's AutoMate, which I also recently purchased.

I thought all the work was well done, and they were a pleasure to deal with, so if any members need any hitch or brake controller work on their rigs, please consider D 2 Trailer, address is 13246 W. Stockton Blvd., Gault, CA. Here is more info from their website:

Questions on:

*Parts or Repair? email us
at chance@d2trailersales.com*

We will get back to you as quick as possible.

OR

Call Us:

209-745-5488 Trailer Service and Parts

All the best, Jack Vincent

FALL RALLY 2015

A note from the hosts, Jerry & Pam Richichi

The Fall Rally will be held **October 8 – 11, 2015** in the quaint, small old west town of Mariposa, CA at the Mariposa Fairgrounds. The fairground is located south of town on Highway 49 & Fairground Road. It's about 45 minutes from the Yosemite National Park entrance and about 30 minutes from Merced, off Hwy 99. The town of Mariposa has some cute shops and restaurants to visit.

Coming to the rally we strongly suggest that you take Hwy 140 out of Merced. Trying to go from another route will be very difficult. There's a sign that says Mariposa-Yosemite at Hwy 140 & 99. There was some construction at that junction the last time we were there, so, you might have to take a slight detour. The four closest sites to the clubhouse are "Electric Only", if you don't need water and would like one of these closer sites, please indicate it on your form, first come first serve. There is a central dump as per Lodi.

We are still looking for a host for the Friday breakfast. On Saturday night we will have a "White Elephant" gift exchange, so remember to bring a new or 'slightly used' wrapped gift to participate in the exchange. Thursday night welcome is potluck hors d'oeuvres so please bring enough for 8-10 people. Liquid refreshments will be provided.

If you would like to help, please contact Jerry or Pam at 209-529-7230 or 209-404-2959.

It should be fun to explore some place new. So mark your calendar and we hope to see you there

The Newsletter is late, here's why

There comes times when situations come along that not only disrupt but takes over our lives. Well we have had not just one, but 3 such events not just in a row but overlapping each other, come along that have not just affected our lives but taken control over us. The first was just before Halloween when I awoke one Sunday morning and realized that I needed to go to the emergency room. After some tests it was decided that I needed to stay for even more tests. After 2 days of such tests, I decided to check myself out and wait for the results at home. Because I volunteer at the hospital, I was able to talk with a doctor I had gotten to know and trust and finally faced the reality that I needed to have major lung surgery, he then recommended the surgeon that several others had told me about. By this time it was Dec. and I wanted to wait until after the holidays. I was not allowed to do this as my friends at the hospital (one being the surgery scheduling person) took over for me (out of love) and scheduled my surgery for Dec. 18th, giving me 2 days notice. Good thing, because it didn't give me time to think about it. My surgery went well, I spent one day in ICU and 5 more days in the hospital before coming home to recover. While still under doctor's care, on March 28th, Jim took me and the RV to my daughter's so that I could be with her for the 2 weeks around the birth of our granddaughter. During that time our tenants, who were moving out of our rental house, called to inform us that there had been a leak and the bathroom and bedroom closet floors were under water. In the weeks between April 18 & July 11, except for our Spring Rally and 4 of July weekend, we have spent every Sat. & Sun., with me going every Fri. and Mon. too, cleaning and painting and repairing that house. So now, finally, our daughter and baby are doing fine, we have a new tenant and except for a yearly CT scan and doctor checkup, I am doing well and for now, we have our lives back and I have been able get to the Newsletter.

I'm sorry for the delay and I thank you all for your patience.

Evette

AUTOMATE FOR SALE

2002 AutoMate 33' 5th wheel

original price \$65,000

Loaded with everything, excellent condition,

no smokers, no pets: Newly installed air ride suspension with 2 heavy duty axles with 16 inch tires this alone cost \$7,000: double insulated, new 6 gallon water heater, new Norcold gas/electric refrigerator with freeze, new Onan Marquis gold 5500 LP generator 60 amps with a Parallax 50 amp transfer switch 120/240 VAC, microwave, TV & stereo both living room & bedroom, oak paneling throughout, ceiling paddle fan in living room, 2 flex-steel rockers/recliners in living room with overhead reading lights, lots of storage in living room & bedroom & underneath coach, Hide-a-bed sofa in living room with storage drawer underneath, full queen-size bed, toilet separate from 38" x 38" shower, incandescent lights throughout, 3 ceiling exhaust fans, rubber roof, roof rack & ladder, window awnings, 8500 A & E side awning, deluxe tilted windows, twin motor landing gear, dual battery slide out tray: 50 amp 12 volt converter with battery charger, 51 gallon freshwater capacity with heater, dual 30 gallon propane tanks, TV antenna with amplifier, wired for cable TV, skyline with sunshade in bathroom, porcelain galley kitchen sinks with covers, single lever kitchen faucets, water filtering system, deluxe roller drawer guides, slide out pantry, smoke & gas detectors, free standing dinette table with 4 chairs, full width mirrored wardrobe in bedroom, shirt closet, space under shirt closet for a freezer or washing machine 21¼" W x 33¼" H x 25¼"D, 3 brass ceiling lights, air-conditioner 15,000 BTU with wall thermostat & ducting throughout, accordion door between bedroom & living room, deluxe window treatment inside with day & night shades, 4 deluxe wall lamps.

Located Athens, Tennessee

Price \$15,900

Ronald L. Lyons

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