

# AUTOMATE RV CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Evette Dilley

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### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Chuck Creevan

Random Thoughts of the President  
The Good and The Bad of the Fall Rally.

#### The Good:

All who attended the fall rally at Paso Robles' Wine Country RV Park had a good time. Some may have had a better time than others but all seemed to enjoy themselves. Richard and Judy Souza deserve a big "Thank You" for the job they and their crew did putting this rally together for the enjoyment of all who attended. I do not think I have seen so much food prepared in such an organized manner. The Friday evening hors-d-oeuvres only seem to get better at each rally. A tip of the cap also goes to Jim Dilley and his crew for the pancake breakfast on Friday morning. Jerry Richichi was the big winner at card bingo so be nice to him and maybe he will buy a round at the spring rally unless he has spent all of his winnings by then.

#### The Bad:

The outside step on Mick and Judy Serra's rig broke and collapsed. This happened before Sandy and I arrived at the rally so this information is passed on from word of mouth. Seems the step collapsed while Mick was exiting and then Judy tried to exit and half way fell. Mick was there to catch her so there luckily were no injuries. This is the third rig that I am aware of that has had the outside steps break so you may want to inspect the steps on your rig and institute a fix if necessary.

#### More of the Bad:

On the way home from the rally, Sandy and I were traveling up I-5 and I noticed an AutoMate at the side of the road on an off ramp. As I proceeded up I-5, I noted John Perry walking back down the off ramp towards his rig. I turned around at the next exit that I could and went back to see that everything was OK. The problem was a blown tire

on the passenger side of the fifth wheel. John and Betty had Good Sam road assistance so Betty contacted them to come and remove the blown tire and put on the spare. Sandy and I left once we knew help was on the way. Tire got changed and John and Betty were on their way. They had only gone a short ways and the other tire on the same side blew out. Getting help this time was more of a problem, so they limped to Santa Nella, left their rig and went home for the night. They returned with a new tire the next day and put it on the trailer and took their fifth wheel home. I saw them initially at approx. 12:30 pm and they did not get home until approximately 8:30 pm. They had a long, hot, tiring day. Betty can tell the story better than I, so ask her at the spring rally. By then she will have cooled down. Good news is nothing happened that could not be fixed. Stay safe my friends.

## FALL RALLY 2016

Richard Souza, his sister & brother in law, Arlene & Jim Peterson, his cousin, Ronnie & Linda Souza and friends Mike & Crystal Cardona and Dave Wright worked their magic and put on a rally extraordinaire. From start to finish the crew served up good food (boy did they serve good food) and good times.

The weather could not have been better allowing us to enjoy the outdoors and for some, the spa.

Thursday evening we had the pot luck hors-d-oeuvres with the spread more than enough to call it dinner.



The decorations were hand decorated wine bottles to fit in with wine country, made by Pat Wach.



Friday morning had Jim Dille, Pam Richichi & Bette Perry cooking up the famous pancakes we have all grown to love.



After breakfast people wondered off, some to gather in groups to visit while others went off sight seeing. But by later afternoon we started to come together outside the club hall for happy hour, or as it became to be call "Margarita time ", with Richard Souza doing the honors with his mean margarita machine.



Once he fired it up people came in to see what it was and stayed to enjoy his wonderful concoction. And what goes good with margaritas? Chips and salsa, of course.



It was so nice to have a covered area that we could all gather in a group to visit all together.



Before the rally, Richard spent the time making tortillas into burrito bowls. His crew went all out preparing the beans, meat and all the stuff that went inside the bowls.



So that night we enjoyed a "fix your own burrito bowl" dinner with meat, beans, onions, salsa, cheese and so much more.



The after dinner entertainment was a rousing game of card Bingo, with Jerry Richichi coming out the BIG winner after winning 5 of the games.



While a large group gathered around the fire pit, Jerry was seen heading back to his rig with a large bag of dimes.

Saturday morning we were treated to hand made meat and egg breakfast burritos and fruit salad. What a way to start another enjoyable day of visiting, sight seeing and winery visiting. But by mid afternoon, Richard started up his magic machine. But this time the "magic machine" was a towed BBQ grill brought in by friends of the Souzas, coming in to work their magic for a Santa Maria BBQ. The hors-d-oeuvres **started** with BBQ'd chicken thighs that were then steamed in beer (that's right, beer), sausages and racks of baby back ribs. Then they got down to some serious cooking when they brought out whole hunks of boneless rib steaks.



## **BAD THINGS TO GOOD THINGS**

### **The Bad Things**

On our way home from Paso Robles, we had the misfortune of blowing 2 tires on the right side of our trailer. The second blowout did the most damage. First, we had 4 new tires put on. then we got an estimate from Don's RV for repairs. They had to order all parts, that would take 10 days to come in, plus freight. Then they would have to squeeze us in to do the repairs.

### **The Good Things**

We went to see Bill Wyrick on Friday and told him what our damage was. He had all the parts we needed and told us to bring our rig in the following Monday. We dropped off the rig on Monday afternoon and he completed the repairs and we picked the rig up on Friday morning. He worked us in between all the other work he had. It was done in 3 1/2 days and when we picked it up, it looked as good as new!. We are so HAPPY! Bill had done a wonderful job and did everything to accommodate us.

We will be able to go on our next campout with some friends leaving the 12th of October.

John & Bette Perry

That all was accompanied by salad, garlic bread and dessert. It was wonderful. After dinner some people stayed inside to play card games while many other went outside to enjoy the beautiful weather, more visiting and the warm glow of the fire pit.

Sunday came way too quickly for those of us that had to pack up and go home. But pack up we did, but not without getting a muffin or breakfast roll and some coffee that the rally crew served up.

And so another great rally came to an end, but here's looking forward to the Spring Rally in Lodi, May 11 to 14, 2017. Hosted by Don & Jan Martin

## **RECIPE REQUEST**

### **Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Casserole**

1 big pack King's Hawaiian Rolls  
sliced ham lunch meat of your choice  
sliced Swiss or Havarti cheese  
mayo to taste

Slice whole pack of rolls horizontally. Put bottom 1/2 into 13x9 baking dish. Mayo both cut edges to taste, or not at all.

Lay slices of ham, covering bottom 1/2 of rolls to the thickness of your choice, top with a layer of the cheese. cover with top 1/2 of rolls.

In sauce pan melt 3/4 stick of butter, to this add 1 tsp mustard, 1 tsp Worcestershire sauce, 1 tsp onion powder, heat til butter melts, mix together ( 1 tsp poppy seeds can also be added)

Pour over rolls in pan & cover with foil.

Refrigerate for 3 hours or over night.

Bake @ 350 for 20 minutes, remove foil and bake 5 minutes more. Let set for a few minutes then cut the roll apart and serve.

## **SPRING RALLY 2017**

**May 11-14, 2017**

**Lodi Grape Festival Grounds**

The Spring Rally will be held in Lodi on May 11-14, 2017.

Wagon master Don Martin says he has his committee lined up.

Marie & Ed Andrea will be putting together Friday breakfast.

Jim & Evette Dilley will be doing Saturday breakfast.

Bryant & Alice Hughes will be doing a BBQ steak dinner on Friday night.

Mick Serra & Bob Fugate will be doing dinner Saturday night.

Be sure and mark it on your calendars now so you don't miss out on the fun.

Remember we have our annual member meeting at the Spring Rally.

## **FALL RALLY 2017**

**Sept 21-24, 2017**

### **Sonora Motherlode Fairgrounds**

The Fall Rally will be held Sept 21-24, 2017  
at the Sonora Motherlode Fairgrounds.

Wagon master Chuck Goddard will have a sign up  
sheet at the Spring Rally. Please seek it out and sign  
up to help. If you are not going to be able to make  
the Spring Rally but will be at the Fall Rally and  
would like to sign up to help either contact Chuck  
Goddard at [cwg.mj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cwg.mj@sbcglobal.net).

Thank you

## **AUTOMATE FOR SALE**

### **1996 AutoMate 33ft., 2 slide outs**

New Oak Kitchen floor, 24" flat screen TV, DVD,  
Tailgater KING VQ2510 portable TV Antenna,  
Dish TV Receiver, 2 New Living Room Slideout  
awnings, New Slideout topper awnings for both  
slideouts, New Atwood Propane Range,  
New Microwave, New upgraded faucets for Kitchen  
& Bath, New A/C Shroud, New Magnadyne RV  
Stereo Receiver & CD Player  
Air ride Suspension, Electro-Hydraulic Disc  
Brakes, New PullRite 16K Sliding Hitch,  
New Custom vinyl cover for PullRite Hitch,  
All Roof Seams Re-Caulked, Newer tires with less  
than 5,000 miles, New 2 spare 30Amp Extension  
Cords, Yamaha EF2000iS Generator,  
Excellent Condition, \$12,500.

**2008 Dodge 2500**, 2 wheel drive, Diesel,  
Automatic, Quad cab, short bed, 98K miles,  
New Metallic Red Paint job, New Grill, Exhaust  
Brake, Tow Package, Power Windows and Locks,  
A/C, Tilt wheel, New 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel Tailgate,  
New DualLiner bed Liner, New Toolbox,  
2 New Batteries, New Michelin Defender G rated  
tires, Excellent Condition.  
\$23,500.

Package deal for both Truck and 5th Wheel,  
\$32,500. Photos available upon request  
Rig is located in Yuma, Arizona  
Contact Jack Vincent: (928) 760-3894, or  
email: [jacvin2@gmail.com](mailto:jacvin2@gmail.com)