



www.grandrv.org

SUN CITY GRAND RV CLUB

April 2016



President Laurie Stewart

I always had heard that time zips by faster and faster the older you get and...I think that this is true! I can't comprehend that it is April and that it is once again time to ready ourselves for our upcoming summer adventures. Where will the road take you this year?

Have you ever had that sinking feeling when you drove into what sounded like a wonderful RV park only to realize that it wasn't as advertised? That your sewer hose ran uphill?! Or that you would be lulled to sleep every night by the "clickity clackity" of the train as it ran through the middle of the RV park?



So much for truth in advertising....

Well, you are in luck! As a member of the Grand RVers, you have access to our **"Super Parks"** list which gives you information on RV Parks and campgrounds that have been evaluated and recommended by our members. When used in conjunction with your favorite RVing app or book, you will have peace of mind knowing that you will be staying at the best of the best of RV parks and campgrounds! Our **"Super Parks"** list, which has just been updated, includes recommended RV Parks and campgrounds from Alabama to Washington DC and, in Canada, from Alberta to the Yukon Territories. And how do you find this little gem? Just sign-in on the Grand RVers website (www.grandrv.org) and you will find the list on the "Home" page.

April 19th we will be singing "Happy Trails" to you at our last meeting for the 2015-2016 season. To celebrate, our Entertainment Committee is putting together a BBQ feast of hot dogs and hamburgers with all of the fixin's. And what is the cost for this gourmet meal? **Only \$5.00 per person!!** But you only have a few more days to get your reservation and check in to Dale Rees so that he can purchase enough food to feed the "herd".



Mail your check of \$5.00 per person, payable to "Grand RVers" to:

Dale Rees
18011 W. Tierra Del Sol
Surprise, AZ 85387

Remember ...**your check must be RECEIVED BY APRIL 8TH!**

Since this will be our season ender....let's have a great turnout and wish our friends safe travels. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar....**April 19th at 5:00pm in the Agua Fria Room at the Cimarron Center.** See y'all there!

Next Meeting
Tuesday, April 19, 2016
5:00 p.m.
Agua Fria Room
Cimarron Center
Hot Dogs & Hamburgers
End-of-Season BBQ!!

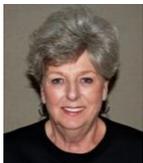


Janet Bluhm Membership

We had 72 members at the March meeting and two guests. The guests were George and Bonnie Cox, who did join that night. Make sure to greet them and say Hello. You never know when you may find them on a rally or day trip with you.

Have a fun and safe summer where ever you go and keep up the recruiting for new members. YOU are who makes our club fun to belong to!

Several of you new members do not have a placard when traveling with our RV club. If you do not have one, please call me at [623-910-6886](tel:623-910-6886) and I will make sure you get one.



Helena Gorden Sunshine

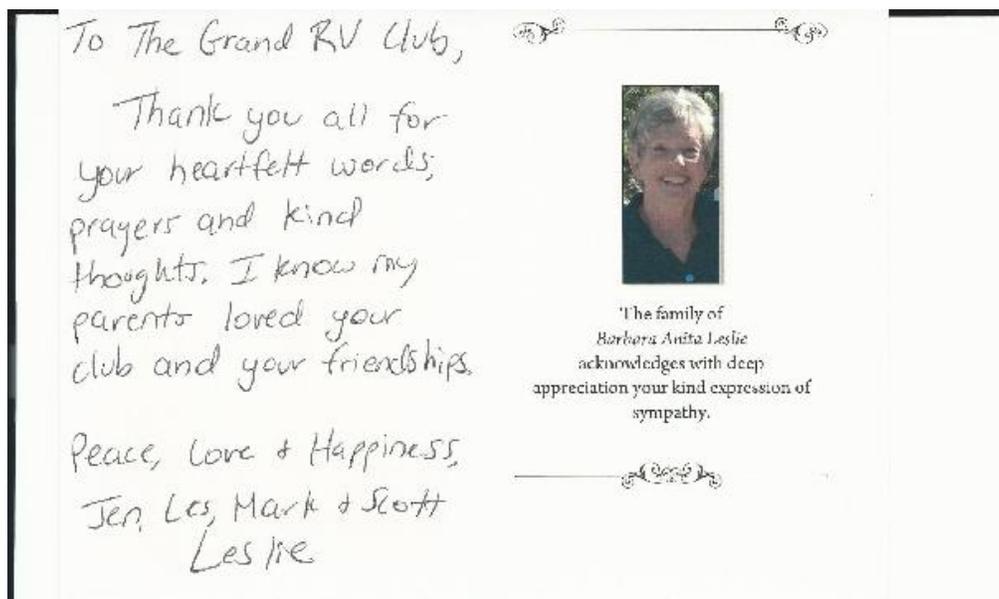
Karen Elliot's shoulder surgery went well on March 9th. Jim Elliot reported she is on the comeback slowly. Jim said he does see a smile once in a while after his duties are done: bed made, washing done, house cleaned, and dinner made. He added Ha ha! "Good for you Jim."

Now on to my husband Monte. After 25 days in the hospital with pneumonia for the 4th time since September of last year, he is slowly improving. September it was Labor Day week. December it was Christmas night hospitalized for 11 days with the Norovirus which settled in his lungs. January we had only been home from California for 5 days from our Christmas holiday/hospital stay when he went back to the ER and spent another 4 days in Del Webb with double pneumonia. Then February 3rd with pneumonia in his right lung. He has been very ill. He is now showing improvement in strength last week. We take whatever we can get right now. This is going to be a slow process and we are confident Monte will be back fishing and hopefully playing golf again. Then we will be able to RV again. Many thank you's for all your prayers and good thoughts for us.

Did you know every day in the hospital it will take a week to recuperate? This is what we were told.

Please let me know if you know of any member in need of a little "SUNSHINE". You can email me at: sunshine@rvgrand.org. You may also call me; my phone number is in our directory.

A special thanks to Laurie for her time doing my Sunshine reports. You are so loved by many.





Webmaster John Stewart

Be sure that the club has your current information. The information on the website is what the club uses for many things. Our Club Roster, Club Directory, Email list and Rally information (including emergency contact info) are all derived from your information on the website.

To change your information on the website: Go to <http://grandrv.org>

- Log on to the website by clicking the "Log On" button
- Enter your username (firstnamelastname)
- Enter your password (4-digit CAM number)
- Click the "My Info" button
- On that page you can:
 - See your current picture (used for the Club Directory)
 - Change Your Password
 - Edit Your Individual Member Information (Email, Cell Phone, Emergency Contact Info)
 - Edit Your Residence Information (Home Phone and Secondary Address)
 - Edit Your Vehicle Information (Both for your RV and Tow Vehicles)

If you have any questions, need assistance, or see anything that does not appear to be working correctly, please let me know at webmaster@grandrv.org.

NEWSLETTERS / MEETING MINUTES – If you have missed an email for the Newsletter or the Meeting Minutes they are archived on the website under the "Newsletter" button.

Regarding email messages which you receive from the Grand RV Board:

DO NOT HIT REPLY! This will not go back to the person who sent the email. Instead, at the bottom of the email message, the individual sending the message will be putting his or her email address. Click on that link and send the message directly to that person.

If you need any assistance or have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me (webmaster@grandrv.org).



Jan Hatmaker Day Events

It seems like it was just Christmas and already it's April. We'll be saying good-bye for the summer soon. First, however, I want to say a big thank you to Lou and Eileen Provenzano and Dan



Many thanks to all those who attended our Baseball Tailgating party at the Surprise stadium on Friday March 25th. What an exciting baseball game. The Rangers went into the bottom on the ninth inning needing 3 runs to win the game. Two triples and a home run gave them the win 12-11. The game included 8 home runs by both teams. Many thanks to chef Dan and Nancy for helping to set up the event. What a wonderful group of people.

and Nancy Newman for putting on two fantastic tailgate parties with hamburgers, hotdogs and trimmings. They did lots of work and the events were fun and enjoyed by several RVers and guests.

Next up is the trip to Glendale for shopping and lunch on April 8th planned by Laurie Stewart. There is still a little room if you'd like to join us. Just give Laurie a call.

We are cruising Lake Pleasant with dinner before at Dillon's on April 15th. Although tickets are purchased, give me a call if you find you can join us. Jan - 623-476-7987

John Francis is planning to show us the ropes on riding the Light Rail. There are only a few signed up and we'd love to have more join us for a fun experience on April 27th. Just add your name to the list on Day Events.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the BBQ on the 19th.

LAS VEGAS/DEATH VALLEY RALLY

MARCH 14 - 22, 2016



Twelve rigs caravanning in three groups started out from Surprise and headed to Las Vegas in the wee hours of Monday morning. A few rigs decided to go rouge and met us at the Oasis RV Park in Las Vegas. We spent two days and nights in Vegas, which gave us plenty of time to plan our own activities during the day. Some hearty folks went out to the Valley of Fire and reported it was well worth the trip. The Oasis Park staff was outstanding, they provided a place for us to meet the evening we arrived for appetizers and they even opened up their ballroom for us to have breakfast prior to driving over to Death Valley. We had a free day and night in Vegas so some folks met up with old friends, some went to the casino, and some hung out at the RV Park.

After a two-hour drive from Vegas to Death Valley, we arrived at the Furnace Creek RV Park (elevation -178 Ft. below sea level). We all got settled in and met at the wagon master's for a pizza dinner that Louise ordered from the local restaurant. Pizza and salad was great!

All of the rally attendees met before the trip began and received a packet of information full of sites to see and events to attend. We were all free to plan our own day activities. Some folks went on guided tours and some of us wandered on and off road admiring the beauty surrounding us. Some of the places we all went were: The Devil's Golf Course, Zabriskie Point, Salt Creek, Badwater, Artists Drive and Dantes View, just to name a few. Of course, the wildflowers were all over and the park was full of visitors from all over the world photographing flowers.

Since there were so many drives to take, places to see and flowers to look for, each night when we met for a meal or an appetizer we shared our day's experience. Death Valley is a National Park and the Rangers gave educational lectures and tours at the Ranger Station and around the park. This opportunity was enjoyed by many of the rally attendees.

Scotty's Castle, one of Death Valley's main tourist attractions, was severely damaged by a flood in October 2015 so it was closed to visitors. It is not expected to re-open for 5 to 10 years. We were all disappointed that we couldn't visit this well-known attraction.

We all had a great time and enjoyed meeting new members and making new friends. The weather was great until the last day when the wind decided to make itself known



Ray Granzow
Trip Director



Mike Schwab
Trip Director

We are looking for Rally idea locations for next year. We currently don't have any rallies planned. We will need wagon masters for those rallies. If you are hesitant to sign up as the wagon master, there are many who will guide you and answer questions. The club's trip directors listed at the beginning of this article and past wagon masters are resources for new wagon masters. Past wagon masters can be identified at club events by the smiley faces on their name tags.

For those finding the rally sign-up a bit intimidating, here are the directions:

- log into the club website www.grandrv.org
- press the "Rallies" tab at the top of the Home page
- find the rally you want to attend and press the "Details" box next to that rally
- information on that rally will appear. Press on the "Add me" red box on the left side of the page. You and your spouse/significant other will join the interest list.
- you can also print the trip application form by pressing the "Print Application " box on this same page. The wagon master will notify you when the application and deposit are due.



Mexico here we come. March 1, 2016, four rigs leaving Sam's Club parking lot at 0700. Breakfast in Gila Bend, and one more rig joining the group. Border crossing into Mexico was just a wave and straight on thru.

Playa Bonita RV Park was home for the next four nights. The park was almost full (300 sites) and parking was a true test of how well you know your rig and how much you trust your spotter.

Dinner meals were at the Playa Bonita Resort, Al Capone's, and a great sunset cruise with fish tacos and all the margaritas and beer you could drink. Also homemade spaghetti and salad one night at the rigs followed by a campfire and s'mores.

Fisherman's Pier for shopping and lunch is always fun. The ladies went shopping on Rodeo Drive in beautiful uptown Puerto Penasco.

Rigs were washed and waxed (1.50 per foot) and one was painted around the top cap. Another truck had a large dent repaired and painted. Not a USA body shop but good quality work and happy customers.

Great weather, great company, and good food always makes Rocky Point a super rally.

Roger & Janice Porter

UPCOMING RALLIES



**WAHWEAP RV CAMPGROUND
LAKE POWELL, AZ
DATE: MAY 1-6, 2016
WAGON MASTER: CHUCK & SANDIE COOK
ASSISTANT WAGON MASTER: DALE & CARROLL REES**

At the southwest end of Lake Powell is Wahweap RV Campground, which is just a few miles from the town of Page, Arizona. In Page, you'll find restaurants, shops and conveniences like the Super Walmart, as well as the John Wesley Powell Memorial Museum. Near the campground, you'll find its most impressive feature: The Glen Canyon Dam, which is open year-round for tours. It is also where many expedition and excursion companies have their home base for mountain biking, 4X4 tours, horseback riding and scenic air tours. The campground offers full hook-ups with 30 and 50-amp service. Sites accommodate over 45', most up to 70'. We will be limiting the Rally to 20 units.

The trip application is past due so contact the wagon master if you are interested in attending.



**BALLOON FIESTA
ALBUQUERQUE, NM
DATE: OCT 5-10, 2016
WAGON MASTER: TIMM & LYNN BURKE**

Attend one of the premier gathering in the United States with hot air balloons from across the US as well as many foreign countries, it is a real spectacle. Event consist of mass ascensions, balloon glows, fireworks and much more.

The real thrill is when the balloons are right over your unit!!!! There are 2 openings. If you are interested, contact the wagon master.

The trip application is past due so contact the wagon master if you are interested in attending.



**WELCOME BACK RALLY
SADDLE MOUNTAIN RV PARK IN TONOPAH, AZ
DATE: OCT 20-22, 2016
WAGON MASTER: JOHN & LAURIE STEWART**

This is our 2016 Welcome Back Rally. The nightly rate may increase in May. There will be a catered meal from Dillon's. **It is limited to 35 rigs.** Maximum of 2 pets per rig. A committee will be formed to help with events.



**CHULA VISTA RV RESORT
SAN DIEGO, CA
DATE: NOV 2-9, 2016
WAGON MASTER: MIKE & TRISH SCHWAB
ASSISTANT WAGON MASTER: PAT & RAY GRANZOW**

Come and enjoy the San Diego area with its beautiful sites, scenery, parks, restaurants and shopping. Some things to see: USS Midway, Sea World, Old Town, Balboa Park, San Diego Zoo, Old Town, and ride the Trolley to view the whole area.

We have 20 sites reserved for 7 nights at a cost of \$352.10 plus \$10 club fee. There will be more information posted as it becomes available.

The maximum number of rigs have signed up for the rally. However, if you are interested, be sure to sign up and your name will be put on a waiting list. The trip is more than 7 months away and there will be cancellations.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Note: Only Grand RV members may submit RV-related items for sale and such items must be submitted by one week prior to the end of any month to be considered for inclusion in the issue scheduled for the first of the month. Send your ads to newsletter@grandrv.org.

