



President Penny Betcher
president@grandrv.org

Well, I thought last month was our last newsletter so I already said goodbye, have a good summer, safe travels, au revoir, bon voyage, see ya!! So I don't have a lot to say but I will talk about our need for new board members and how difficult it has been to find people to fill the open positions we've had. Granted, this has been an unusual year in that we've had so many positions to fill. But the lack of willingness to participate as a Wagon Master, Committee Member or Board Member will inevitably lead to the failure of the club. We all have fun at the Rallies, the Potlucks and at the Holiday Party. Let's make sure we can continue to enjoy each other's company at these functions. I will continue one more year as the President if someone will shadow me and become the President the following year.

NEXT MEETING

October 16th, 2018
5:00pm
Agua Fria Room
Cimarron Center





Vice President Tony Marotti
vicepresident@grandrv.org
entertainment@grandrv.org

Check out information on weighing your RV later on in this newsletter!

2018 MEETING DATES

October 16th
November 20th

**Mark your calendars for Wednesday,
December 5th, 2018 for our annual
HOLIDAY PARTY!!**



Sharon Navratil
Membership
membership@grandrv.org

We currently have 144 members and 55 of us attended the April meeting. Please help me welcome Jim & Marilyn Torrence our newest members. We look forward to getting to know them.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Lynn Caulfield and my husband, Bill, for helping me at the sign in desk over the past months. Have a safe summer until we meet again in October.



Ann Kronenwetter
Sunshine
sunshine@grandrv.org

Please email me at ckron44@msn.com if you know of any members who need a card sent this summer. It's nice to receive a card when you are ill, have had surgery or in need of a "little sunshine."

Wishing all members a fantastic summer.

Email: ckron44@msn.com
Phone: 623-584-9414



John Stewart
Webmaster
webmaster@grandrv.org

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, Email list and Rally information (including emergency contact information) are all derived from your information on the website.

HOW DO I LOGON TO THE GRAND RVERS 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)

TO CHANGE YOUR INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE:

- 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.

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





Linda Foss
Day Events
 dayevents@grandrv.org

So this will be good bye for the summer! Wow, time goes by so fast! So sad to see our Snowbirds go, but then it will be so nice to welcome them back in the Fall and hear all the exciting things everyone did over the summer!

For all of us who are staying put and braving the heat in town, that doesn't mean that we can't come up with a few Day Event ideas to get us into those air conditioned buildings. Even a simple movie date would be fun for all/some of us to get together. And, as always, we could add a lunch or dinner either before or after the movie. So if you know of an up-coming event or movie that you would like to go to and see and want company, just drop me a line and I will get it out to our members!

I know that Penny or someone (as I was on a trip and not able to attend the April meeting) probably spoke on the April 7th Vulture Mine Tour that a lot of us went on. A GREAT time was had by all. We also had a wonderful lunch at Jake's Spoon afterward!

I am also told that a fun lunch and shopping time was had by all the ladies that went on the "Shopping on a Dime" event that Laure Stewart headed up. In fact, it was so much fun that Laurie is PROPOSING another "SHOPPING ON A DIME" event AGAIN **FOR THE FALL!** So keep tuned in and watch for the notice in our Day Event section of our web page. You won't want to miss out on this!

All other events do not yet have a date attached to them, but take a look and see if anything tickles your fancy and sign up. Better yet, take charge and put your name in as the leader and you can set up the perfect time for you and everyone and everything else.

Here's to a great and wonderful fun summer. Wishing you a fun and safe traveling season.

If I don't see all of you after April, have a wonderful fun summer. Wishing you a fun and safe traveling season.



HELP WANTED! My term as Day Trip Coordinator will be up in the Fall. If anyone would like to take this fun and easy job over, please let either myself or Penny Betcher know.

Below is a short summary of all the Day Events listed on our Day Event page:

High Tea at "The Spicery in our 1895 Home" – Date TBD
Event Leader: Diane Collier
 Glendale

This unique and charming restaurant is located in one of the oldest homes in the historic Catlin Court area of downtown Glendale. The 1895 Home chef's prepare the flavors of yesterday just like our mothers and grandmothers made. Enjoy their homemade fresh baked rolls, chicken salad and quiche, and make sure you save room for one of our delectable desserts.



Once the date has been set, attendees will need to contact Diane with their desire for lunch OR High Tea. For more information The Spicery website is: 1895Spicery.com. You can look at the prices and menu options. High Tea is \$23 plus tax and tip: \$28.

The restaurant is located near really neat little shops and of course there are the Antique shops on the Main St. Cerreta's Candy is a must place to visit. You can purchase wonderful candy by the pound!

Hurry and sign up for this delightful day!

Desert Botanical Gardens

Event Leader: needed

1201 N. Galvin Parkway
Phoenix, Arizona 85008

Experience and embrace the magnificent beauty of the desert through a variety of tours and activities at the Desert Botanical Garden that will make your visit unforgettable - included with membership or admission. Designed to accommodate individuals of any age and groups of any size. Private tours are available for an additional fee. Please go to their web site for a sampling of some of the events and tours offered.

For a complete listing go to: <https://www.dbg.org/tours-activities>.



Kierland Commons Shopping and Lunch

Event Leader: needed

Scottsdale

If shopping inside a mall isn't your thing, but would still like to go shopping and enjoy a wonderful lunch, how about Kierland Commons? Kierland Commons is a unique, upscale Main Street lifestyle center that artfully blends retail shopping, dining and entertainment. The one-of-a-kind development incorporates over 70 high-end specialty stores that include a distinctive selection of national retail choices and upscale restaurants.

Encanterra, a Trilogy Resort and lunch

Event Leader: needed

San Tan Valley (Wickenburg)

How about a day looking at the latest models in the valley? A visit to the Trilogy Resort located just outside of Wickenburg is a must. View the models and get lots of new decorating and landscaping ideas. (But don't buy – we want you to stay here in SCG!) After all the ooh-ing and ah-ing lets go to lunch in Wickenburg!

Casino day/night at Talking Stick Casino and Resort

Event Leader: needed

9800 Talking Stick Way
Scottsdale, AZ

How about a day or evening out at the beautiful Talking Stick Casino and Resort? Besides hitting the table or slots, enjoy upscale dining and top rate entertainment. Depending on the date of this trip, entertainment can include Engelbert Humperdinck, Alabama, Degree 270, etc. Also available is their luxurious open-air space Spa located on the 14th floor of the resort. It was voted one of the 10 best spas in Scottsdale by USA Today

Butterfly Wonderland - A Rainforest Experience

Event Leader: needed

Scottsdale

Butterfly Wonderland in Scottsdale is a one-of-a-kind experience, and one of the best activities for families and visitors of all ages. It is the largest indoor butterfly pavilion in America



THE VULTURE MINE TOUR - April 7th, 2018

Sharon Navratil

On April 7th 16 members gathered in the middle of nowhere land called Vulture Mine located on the outskirts of Wickenburg. Upon arrival as we signed up and paid for the tour of the old Vulture Mine we knew it was going to be a hot day in the desert. Joyce our "cowgirl" tour guide, a miner herself, walked us through what once was Vulture Mine City. The property was bought recently and they are in the process of restoring many of the buildings and there is active mining of a much smaller scale occurring. The small town contained a guesthouse, various superintendent houses, it's own post office, buildings for blacksmithing, sleeping quarters, kitchen and bar, and it's very own "brothel". The towns "hanging tree" stood in front of Henry Wickenburg's House and the Assay office where the ore was weighed and stored in case you decided to steal a bar or 2 of the goods you didn't have to walk far to the tree. As we weaved through pieces of old mining equipment and buildings for 2 hours Joyce provided us with much history of the mining town that was built in the 1880's and was closed in 1942. We all agreed that the tour was informative, entertaining and would recommend it to others (also wear light clothing, a hat, sunscreen, and an umbrella for sun protection, they do provide cold water along the way). After the tour 14 of us caravanned to Jake's Spoon in Wickenburg Ranch where we had an ice-cold adult beverage and a delicious mid afternoon lunch.



SHOPPING ON A DIME - April 12th, 2018
Laurie Stewart

On the morning of April 12th, a group of eight ladies laced up their comfy shoes and began a day of "shop 'til you drop". We started at **Nordstrom's Last Chance** and, after about 10 minutes, we decided that we gave it the last chance and decided to leave and have an early lunch. We had a delicious lunch at the **California Pizza Kitchen** and, with our batteries recharged, we drove to the **Dillard's Outlet** in Metro Center for more discount shopping.

We discovered a few secrets about some of our girlfriends....



Elizabeth Heldele LOVES shoes!



Dreama Wetherell loves SANTA!



Snake Rollo will go to any lengths to get what she wants...including undressing a mannequin!



**Everyone had a GREAT time and would like to go on another shopping trip this fall.
So...stay tuned!**



Mike Holloway
 Trip Director
tripdirector@grandrv.org

Chuck and Ann Kronenwetter have stepped up to be the Wagon Masters for a rally to **Kartchner Caverns** November 12th through 15th. The rally is currently full. However, openings may open up over the summer so be sure to add your name to the rally. You will then be on the “wait” list in case there are any openings.

The **Welcome Back Rally** will be held from October 21st to 25th at the Distant Drums RV Park in the Verde Valley, only 100 miles from Surprise. There is room for 20 rigs!

ARE YOU TRAVELING IN YOUR RV THIS SUMMER?

Now available on our club website is a link to the **SUPERPARKS LIST!** This list was created by John and Laurie Stewart from our club member’s recommendations.

Here is an example page:

SUPERPARKS LIST			
Some Parks have been given a rating from 1-10			
STATE	LOCATION/CITY	RV PARK NAME	SPECIAL FEATURES
Alabama	Montgomery	Capital City RV Park	Large, level gravel sites; all are pull through
	Stone Mountain	Stone Mountain Park	Amazing! Hiking trails, beautiful trees; water; fishing; Huge! Expensive!
Alaska	Fairbanks	Rivers Edge	Convenient, 8
	Fairbanks	Riverview RV Park	Outskirts of town near AFB, RV wash, 8
	Haines	Haines Hitchup RV Park	Very nice for Alaska, outskirts of town, 8
	Homer	Heritage RV Park	Great location on the skit with waterfront sites, 7
	Kenai	Beluga Lookout	Small spots but great view of river and inlet, 8
	Tok	Tok RV Village	OK campground, free RV wash, 8
	Tok	Tundra RV	Nicer than Tok RV Village, 8
	Valdez	Eagle Rest RV Park	Good location, 7
	Arizona	Benson	Butterfield RV Resort
Camp Verde		Distant Drums	Just off of I-17; Good paved interior roads; paved and gravel sites with patios; close to Cliff Castle Casino and Montezuma Castle, 9
Huachuca City		Tombstone Territories RV Park	Close to Karchner Caverns, Tombstone, Bisbee, Sierra Vista, wine country; quiet; level gravel pads; beautiful views
Parker		Buckskin Mountain State Park	On the Colorado River; nice level spots; reservations available for 14 spots
Phoenix		Desert Shadows	Short term sites are nice, long pullthrus, convenient location, 8
Prescott Valley		Orchard Ranch Senior RV Park	Shaded pull-thru, full hook-up sites; resort atmosphere
Show Low		Fool Hallow State Park	Nice concrete level pads in the tall trees; good location for exploring the White Mountains; fishing & canoeing nearby
Tonopah		Saddle Mountain RV Park	Large pull-thrus, great for overnighing
Tucson		Beaudry RV Resort	Very nice, great for sightseeing Tucson, 9

As you can see, the list is organized by states, so this can be a great resource for vetted RV parks across the U.S as you plan your trip.

Also, take a look at the states you have already visited and if you know of a favorite RV park not on the list, send the info to Mike Holloway at mikeholloway5@icloud.com and I will edit the list to include your recommendation.

The SUPERPARK LINK can be found on the RV Club website’s home page and on the RALLIES LINK



HERE ARE THE ITINERARIES OF SOME CLUB MEMBERS:

Jim Johnson

- June 24 - July 1 - Dakota Meadows RV Park - Prior Lake, MN
- July 1-15 - Minneapolis NW KOA - Maple Grove, MN
- July 15-29 - Country Camping Isanti, MN
- July 29 - August 15 - Oak Lake Campground – Kerrick, MN
- August 15-31 - Stony Point Resort - Cass Lake, MN
- August 31 - September 12 - Leech Lake Rec Area Federal Dam, MN
- September 12-18 - Rice Creek Chain Of Lakes Campground – Centerville, MN

Mike And Marty Holloway

- June 8 to July 6: Clear Creek RV Park, Golden Colorado
- July 11 to August 10: Blackwell Island RV Park, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
- August 15 to September 14: Mountain Valley RV Park, Heber City Utah



WAGON MASTER MADE EASY

Tips to keep it simple:

1. Choose a rally location closer to home.
2. Limit the number of rigs...maybe 8 or so..
3. Choose a destination where there is an RV park you like.
4. Call the trip director, Mike Holloway, 623-293-0992, for advice and help.
5. Don't think that you have to be the social director and plan rally outings.

NEEDED STEPS/TASKS

1. Decide where and when to go (This one of the perks to being a Wagon Master).
2. Call the RV park to discuss dates and availability of sites and reserve them while finding out how they expect payment.
3. Call the trip director and have him put the rally on the club website.
4. When the rally is full, or nearly so, use the club website link to email participants to have them mail the Trip Application and fee, along with a check for the RV park if needed. Put a deadline on when they have to get the Trip Application and fee you. All checks are made out to the "Grand RV Club".
5. Make a rally booklet (Mike will deliver an example from a previous rally to you and help you make it, if you want).
6. Have a plan to spend the rally fee collected at \$5 per person. Most Wagon Masters plan a meal for the participants; generally it's the first evening as folks are tired from driving. Keep it simple. Precooked pulled pork sandwiches and a couple of sides will do it.
7. Have a pre-rally meeting with your participants. The easiest way to do this is at 4:00pm before the monthly RV Club meeting.

WAGONS
HO!



Responsibilities of Rally Participants

As a fellow RV'er who is going to participate in a rally, you have the responsibility to communicate in a timely manner to allow the Wagon Master to be more efficient.

That means the following:

1. If you put your name on the interest list for a rally and have an email address, please watch your email regularly for contacts from your Wagon Master and respond promptly.
2. As soon as you know you are going on the rally (and not just on the interest list), fill out the Trip Application (available on the website when you click on the rally you are interested in. Click on the **RED** "Print Application" tab) and include your **trip fee** check of \$5 per person made out to "Sun City Grand RV Club" and get it to your Wagon Master by snail mail or in person. The **trip fee** is used by the Wagon Master to cover any club expenses, provide maps, directions, instructions, details about arrangements made and possibly entertainment or a meal at the destination RV park. Feel free to contact the Wagon Master if you have questions or difficulty with getting the application.
3. Promptly respond to requests by your Wagon Master for your preferences, activities you'd like to participate in and any other information he or she needs. The Wagon Master might have a large number of people to provide for and it takes time to coordinate and organize well in advance of your departure.
4. If you have to cancel, make sure you delete your name from the participant list on the website. It's as easy as a couple of clicks after logging in and going to the rally. The wagon master receives an email when someone either signs up for a trip or cancels! As a courtesy, you can call the Wagon Master, but they do get the notice.

And, as always, the club needs YOU to volunteer to be a Wagon Master to share a favorite or new destination with your fellow club members. If you potentially expect many club members to participate in your Rally, it might be more fun to ask another club member to be the assistant Wagon Master to spread the responsibilities out a bit.



"You were right. Maybe I should've checked to see if the GPS was working before we left, because this doesn't look like the Florida Keys."

UPCOMING RALLIES

TEMECULA RALLY

Pechanga Casino RV Park, California

May 15TH-19TH, 2018

Wagon Masters: Bob and Margie Akers

Assistant Wagon Master Dan and Sue Bartolotta



This rally is full. However, there may be cancellations. Add your name to the list on the RV Club website and the wagon master will contact you if there are openings

Rated 10 10 10 by Good Sams Club, the Pechanga RV Resort and Casino is brand new. It is located in the Temecula Valley, Southern California Wine Country. With over 35 wineries offering award-winning wines, great restaurants, and beautiful gift shops, Temecula Valley Wineries have something for everyone. Most all of the wineries are open to the public daily. Wine tasting prices vary by winery; no appointments are needed. San Diego and Oceanside are both less than an hour away. The weather in late April and early May is usually very nice.



ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Balloon Fiesta

October 6th -11th, 2018

Wagon Masters: Linda and Ove Jakobsen

“Space is limited at the camping site and it is first come, first served on reservations, even for clubs so it is important to make your reservations now as the area fills up fast. The sites at the balloon fiesta are dry camping. The cost for 5 nights is

\$175 and if you cancel by July 15, 2018, you only lose \$10, the rest is refunded to you. Although it is early in the planning stages, except for reservations, we plan a trip to Old Town Albuquerque and maybe a day jaunt to the Taos Pueblo and Santa Fe for those who are interested.

Although the rally date says October 6th, which is the date we will enter the balloon site, we will leave October 5th and spend the night enroute in order to arrive at the festival the morning of the 6th.

Make your reservations for standard dry camping by going to balloonfiesta.com

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. Events consist of mass ascensions, balloon glows, fireworks, and much more. The real thrill is when the balloons are right over your rig.

Call Linda Jakobsen with any questions.

KARTCHNER CAVERNS

November 12th - 15th, 2018

Wagon Masters: Chuck and Ann
Kronenwetter

This rally is full. However, there may be cancellations. Add your name to the list on the RV Club website and the wagon master will contact you if there are openings

This Rally is open to 12 rigs.



Kartchner Caverns - Voted the BEST CAVE in the USA

In November 1974 two young cavers, Gary Tenen and Randy Tufts, were exploring the limestone hills at the base of the Whetstone Mountains. In the bottom of a sinkhole they found a narrow crack leading into the hillside. Warm, moist air flowed out, signaling the existence of a cave. After several hours of crawling, they entered a pristine cavern.

The formations that decorate caves are called “speleothems.” Usually formations are composed of layers of calcite called travertine deposited by water. The form a speleothem takes is determined by whether the water drips, flows, seeps, condenses, or pools.

Kartchner Caverns is home to:

- One of the world's longest soda straw stalactites: 21 feet 3 inches (Throne Room)
- The tallest and most massive column in Arizona, Kubla Khan: 58 feet tall (Throne Room)
- The world's most extensive formation of brushite moonmilk (Big Room)
- The first reported occurrence of “turnip” shields (Big Room)
- The first cave occurrence of “birdsnest” needle quartz formations
- Many other unusual formations such as shields, totems, helictites, and rimstone dams.

Other attractions: Tombstone, Bisby, Fort Huachuca Buffalo Soldier Museum



WELCOME BACK RALLY!

October 21st - 25th, 2018

Wagon Masters: Penny and Mike Betcher
Asst. Wagon Masters: Bill and Sharon Navratil

We have room for 20 rigs!

There are many activities available not far from the Distant Drums RV Park. They include:

- Verde Valley Train Ride (\$57.69 per person)
- Shopping/Dining in Sedona and Jerome (Jerome prices are great! If you've not shopped in Sedona's Tlaquepaque...)
- There's a beautiful drive north from Sedona on highway 89A through Oak Creek Canyon. Take the switchbacks up the canyon wall to incredible scenic views and then come out onto I-17 south of Flagstaff. If you've not done this drive (and even if you have), it's a great one!
- Indian Ruins such as Montezumas Castle
- Red Rock State Park
- *(A note from Mike Holloway: "If you are like Marty and I, you have been to Sedona several times...each time getting there via I-17 to state route 179 which is the quickest and a very scenic route. Last summer, we took highway 89A out of Cottonwood to Sedona, passing Red Rock State Park. The scenery along this route is even more breathtaking than Hwy 179!! And Red Rock State Park is in itself very beautiful!! So, if you are planning on going to Sedona, even if you don't stop at the park, you will enjoy the scenery found in this alternate route!")*
- Wine Tasting Tours, self or guided (There are several wineries in and around Cottonwood)
- Out of Africa Wild Life Park (\$60 for a day long pass)
- Jeep Tours of the Sedona Area (\$59-\$95 depending on the length of tour)
- Cliff Castle Casino
- The Outlet Mall in Oak Creek
- Golf at Sedona Golf Resort (\$70-\$105, estimate)
- Hot Air Balloon Ride in Red Rock Country
- Chuckwagon Supper and Western Stage Show at the Blazin' M Ranch (\$35)

WHERE SHALL WE GO????

Call Mike Holloway at 623-293-0992
with your ideas!



PROSPECTIVE RALLIES

Signup on the RV Club website

**Please note: The rallies and their dates listed are just ideas and are not set unless indicated otherwise

BARLEENS ARIZONA OPRY

Superstition RV Park, Apache Junction

Dates to be determined by Wagon Master

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

CIVIL WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST

Picacho Peak RV Park

November 17th-19th, 2018 (Dates are set)

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

ESTES PARK, LEADVILLE, GUNNISON

Colorado Rockies

June 11th, 2018

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

MORO BAY, CALIFORNIA

Explore Central California Coast

July 16th, 2018

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO

Summer Fun in Ski Resort Area

August 13th, 2018

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

RANCHO SEDONA

Sedona, AZ

September 17th, 2018

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

BRANSON, MISSOURI

See the shows

October 15th, 2018

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

KARTCHNER CAVERNS

South of Tucson, AZ

October 29th, 2018

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

DEATH VALLEY

Located on the CA/NV border

January 14th, 2019

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

REMEMBER THE ALAMO

San Antonio, Texas

March 11th, 2019

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

HUNTINGTON BEACH

Huntington Beach, California

April 15th, 2019

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

SANTA FE/TAOS, NEW MEXICO

Explore the oldest settlement in the United States

April 29th, 2019

WAGON MASTER NEEDED

TRAVELING WITH PETS CHECKLIST

It's estimated that over 75% of RV owners travel with some type of pet. In fact, having a pet is one of the reasons people choose RV travel over other types of travel. The hassle of security and boarding at airports, finding pet-friendly hotels and resorts, and dealing with unfamiliar surroundings make RV travel the ideal solution for pet owners who want to take their furry friends along for the ride.

It's relatively easy to travel in an RV with pets, but as with any trip pre-planning is a must. You want to ensure their vaccinations and health check-ups are up to date, and that health records are kept on board. And just like their human counterparts, pets require their own set of supplies to ensure they stay healthy, happy, and safe on the road.

Here is a checklist of important items you can personalize to your pet and refer to each time you head out on the road.

ABOUT MY PET

Name: _____

Breed: _____

Description: _____

Identification number: _____

HEALTH

Vaccinations up to date – make sure to keep records on board

Health checks up to date – make sure to keep certification on board

Medications

First aid kit

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Pet Parents

Home Vet: _____

Emergency Vet: _____

Animal Poison Control: 888-426-4435

SUPPLIES

Travel restraining device

Kennel

Outdoor fence/tie-out

Leash

Collar/harness

Poop bags/potty pads/cat litter

Toys/chews

Grooming supplies

Shampoo

Brush/comb

Food

Brand: _____

Available at: _____

Treats

Water

MOTORHOME BASICS | FMCA

Understanding motorhome weights

The chassis manufacturer establishes weight ratings and limitations based on the major components of the system — the engine, transmission, brakes, axles, tires and frame. These components are designed to accommodate a particular weight, and if they are overloaded, their life expectancy diminishes rapidly.

So, it is important for motorhome owners to understand the various weight definitions used by motorhome and chassis manufacturers. Of course, the next step is to have your motorhome weighed after you have loaded it for travel to make sure it falls within the various ratings.

WEIGHT DEFINITIONS

- **GVWR (gross vehicle weight rating)** The maximum permissible weight of the fully loaded motorhome, including liquids, passengers and cargo. The GVWR is equal to or greater than the sum of the unloaded vehicle weight (UVW) plus the net carrying capacity (NCC).
- **GCWR (gross combination weight rating)** The value specified by the motorhome manufacturer as the maximum allowable combined weight of the motorhome and the attached towed vehicle.
- **GAWR (gross axle weight rating)** The maximum allowable weight each axle assembly is designed to carry, as measured at the tires, including the weight of the assembly itself. GAWR is established by considering the rating of each of its components (tires, wheels, springs and axle) and rating the axle on its weakest link. The GAWR assumes that the load is equal on each side of the vehicle.
- **RVIA weight label** In September 1996, the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA) established a requirement for its RV manufacturer members to disclose weight carrying information that would assist both a buyer and an owner in understanding and complying with weight limitations of motorhomes. The following terms and their associated weights are reflected on a label, found in a cabinet inside the coach.
- **UVW (unloaded vehicle weight)** The weight of the motorhome as built at the factory with full fuel, engine oil and coolants. The UVW does NOT include cargo, fresh water, LP gas, occupants or dealer-installed accessories.
- **NCC (net carrying capacity)** The maximum weight of all occupants including the driver, food, tools, LP gas, fresh water, personal belongings, dealer-installed accessories, and the tongue weight of the towed vehicle that can be carried by this motorhome. (NCC can be determined by subtracting the UVW from the GVWR.)

It's important to look at the definition of each term, particularly the UVW and NCC. Note that UVW is defined as leaving the factory with full fuel, oil and coolants. The NCC represents how much "stuff," including fresh water, the motorhome can carry.

The UVW does not include the weight of any dealer-installed accessories, which means the buyer must deduct the weight of these accessories from the NCC.

Keep in mind that NCC is the total carrying capacity. However, the distribution of the weight plays a role. So, it may not be possible to load a motorhome to its NCC without exceeding an axle or tire rating. Weighing your motorhome by individual wheel position after you have loaded it is the only way to be certain that you are not exceeding any limitations.

In September 2000, the RVIA modified the label to provide more detail for the buyer/owner. The term NCC is no longer used. Two new terms are found on the label, along with their associated weights:

- **SCWR (sleeping capacity weight rating)** The manufacturer's designated number of sleeping positions multiplied by 154 pounds (70 kilograms).
- **CCC (cargo carrying capacity)** The GVWR minus each of the following: UVW, full fresh (potable) water weight (including water heater), full LP-gas weight, and SCWR.

This new label permits the buyer/owner to determine the carrying capacity (CCC) based on a personal calculation of actual passengers carried, the amount of fresh water onboard, and the amount of LP-gas carried.

Use the RVIA label as a guide to narrow your selection of vehicles, but keep in mind its limitations.

This information was provided by A'Weigh We Go, a national weight safety program that is now a service of the Recreation Vehicle Safety Education Foundation (RVSEF). The Foundation sponsors nine RV safety programs and conducts educational seminars.

SmartWeigh

Are you overweight? The Escapees SmartWeigh program is an RV educational program created by the Escapees RV Club for the exclusive purpose of enhancing safety, enjoyment, and the overall success of the RV lifestyle. SmartWeigh provides critical RV weight safety and load management information in a highly accurate and usable format. The individual wheel weights determined and provided to RVers under the auspices of this program will be highly accurate as a result of using very high-quality scales, which are annually tested, only suitable weighing sites, and highly trained personnel.

- **Towable RV & Tow Vehicle** **\$55**
- **Truck Camper & Truck** **\$45**
- **Motorhome – All classes** **\$45**
- **Towed Vehicle – Any vehicle** **\$10**

Why SmartWeigh

SmartWeigh differs from commonly found truck scales in several ways:

- Truck scales are platform scales, which only give you the weight per axle. Individual wheel weights are necessary to identify and resolve side-to-side balance and tire loading issues. Truck platform scales can actually give you a false "safe" indication and allow you to operate with one or more tires overloaded.
- Our fees for SmartWeigh are higher than truck scales because of this extra effort, as well as the one-on-one consultation you receive with each weighing.
- Within a single appointment, you can have your tow vehicle weighed, your trailer weighed, and the weight when your trailer is hitched to your tow vehicle. The same method can be used with motorhome and towed vehicles.
- Because of our unique method of weighing, you are able determine the tongue weight of your tow vehicle using the data we give you.

What You Get with SmartWeigh:

- Personal attention throughout the duration of your appointment
- An individual consultation following your weighing when your weighmaster discusses your results and suggestions for correcting an imbalance or overweight issue if needed.
- A discount on your re-weigh, if it is determined that you need to make changes to your weight distribution. You have 180 days to return to any SmartWeigh site after your initial weigh to take advantage of this discount. You must provide a copy of your original weight sheet.

Request an Appointment

Rainbow's End RV Park

Livingston, Texas

Appointments available

Monday-Friday, 8:00-10:00 AM

Call 888-757-2582 to reserve a time slot, or come by Headquarters at least a day in advance to sign up.

Sumter Oaks RV Park

Bushnell, Florida

Appointments available

Monday-Tuesday 10:30 AM -3:30 PM

Wednesday-Friday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

NOTE: This site will be closed from 4/9/2018 to 9/20/2018.

North Ranch RV Park

Congress, Arizona

Appointments available

Monday -Friday, 9:00– 11:00 AM

Call George Wickholm, the onsite Weighmaster, at **509-999-4429** to make a reservation.

*****For more information, please go to:
<https://www.escapees.com/education/smartweigh/>**



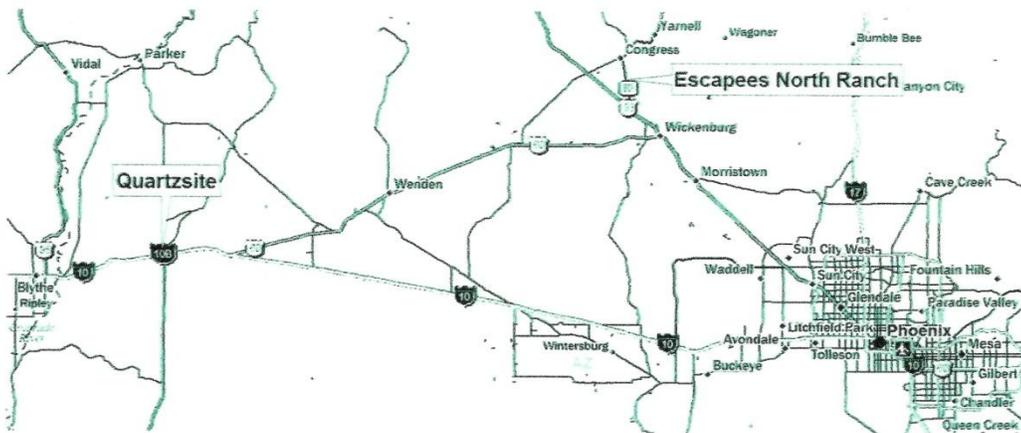
Thank you for signing up to have your RV weighed!
There are a few things you must do before you
arrive for your appointment.

1. Complete your "RV Weight Information Sheet" (please fill out two copies)
 - Your personal information
 - Your vehicle information, obtained from vehicle, manuals, and dataplates
 - Your tire information, obtained from the sidewall of the tire

2. Assure that your RV is in the correct configuration for weighing!
 - Normal passenger load
 - Normal load of personal property (stuff)
 - Full fresh water
 - Full fuel and propane
 - No gray or black water
 - Towed vehicle in place

Take vehicle(s) to the weighing site where the "Escapees SmartWeigh" volunteer will do the hard work. (Please remain alert and follow the volunteer's verbal and hand signals carefully for safety.) Upon completion of the physical weighing process, you may be instructed to move your RV to a convenient out-of-the-way location and return to pick up your weighing results.

How to find us: Weighing will take place at Escapees North Ranch RV Park, 30625 Highway 89, Congress, AZ 85332. Park office phone: 928-427-3657



From the Quartzsite area, head east on I-10 to exit 31 (US 60). Continue east on US 60 to Wickenburg. From Wickenburg, proceed north on Hwy. 93 approximately 6 miles toward Kingman and Prescott. When you get to the Prescott turnoff, bear right onto Arizona Hwy. 89 about 6 miles. The park entrance is on the right after milepost 263. Follow the SmartWeigh signs to the scale area.



Winegard PA-6002 Pathway X2 RV Satellite Antenna for DISH (Dual-Arc Satellite Dish, Larger Reflector, Multi-Receiver Satellite System)

Price: \$ 300.00

**Contact: Jim Johnson
Cell: 623-202-8678**

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.

FREE

RV roof vent w/screen and all parts --installed ref and had to remove. Less than one year old

Price: \$ 0.00

**Contact: Dale Rees
Phone: 623-979-6347
Cell: 602-576-5216**