

THE CARAVANER

April 2007

E-mail: rsmith@jetlink.net

A Message from Your Wagon Master,

Welcome Lazy Dazers once again to Stagecoach Trails. Checking the daily schedule, it looks like we'll have a full agenda of activities for you to pick and choose from. Thank you to the Safety Team for conducting our annual Blood Pressure check which will take place on Thursday up in the "Lodge." Hopefully this will help you to keep on top of this important aspect of your health. It is the Safety Teams desire that you take advantage of this free worthwhile service.

We are also holding the annual Caravan "Yard Sale", those of you that have unwanted "treasures," a.k.a. "stuff" that you would like to sell/give away, just display your items at your site all day Friday and then maybe someone will come along that can't live without what you're trying to get rid of.

Steve Tivy, resident communication expert, will give a talk about the CB, along with the all important and proper way to use the mic. Even though there are several of you that have operated a CB for many years, does not exempt you from attending this discussion. I strongly encourage all Lazy Dazers to be present at this very necessary seminar. There are many, no most of us that will definitely benefit from what he has to say; unquestionably making CB communication at a caravan (and on the road) more proficient. This is a much needed talk and I am confident that you will find Steve's input extremely beneficial.

Talk about input – have you brought your cap, beanie, helmet, beret, fedora, tiara, sun-hat, cowboy hat, headdress or as it is better known this time of the year - your Easter Bonnet? At Saturday's General Meeting we will have our annual Easter Bonnet Parade and I hope you came prepared to join in for a fun and zany time. Prizes will be given for the

wackiest as well as the prettiest head piece; just by participating, you could be a winner!

This is a reminder about next months outing at Live Oak - it's time to get ready for the semi-annual Craft Sale. All of you talented crafters see Rosie Reeder to reserve a table for Saturday morning's sale/show. We will also be holding the Raffle; this is our only fund raising effort and your donated new gift item is what makes it a success. This time we will be trying something different; as soon as the General Meeting has concluded those not participating in the Raffle will be excused, those with winning tickets will remain and the same process of calling the winning names and choosing the items will be as in the past. This way it will help to move things along and those not participating will not have to sit through a long meeting. Those donating gifts will be able to display them from Wednesday on at the same location as before. Remember; please donate items that you would want to select for yourself. Unfortunately in the earlier days of the raffle there have been a few items that where rather worn and tired.

One more reminder, next month at Live Oak it will be time to elect one new member to the Executive Council; Don Ashley is retiring after having served two consecutive two year terms. *"Thanks so much Don for your dedication and service to the club!"* If you have a suggestion for someone you think would like to serve a two year term on the Executive Council, please let your Rep know so they can make the nomination at the Reps meeting on Thursday.

While you're here at Stagecoach, get out and enjoy the beautiful desert surroundings and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to share some fun times with the Lazy Daze family.

Stop by and say 'Hi'!

Rosemary

WOMEN'S ONLY MEETING

By Laureta Gibbs (AKA Mama Bear)

We will be having a meeting this month on Friday, April 20, at 2:00 PM, in the clubhouse. Be prepared to answer the question you were left with at our last meeting at Buena Vista. That question is: Of what thing in your life are you most proud? Write it down and be prepared to share (and let's keep these short, OK?) And, YES. You may have more than one item on your list!!!! See you there for some fun, games, and goodies.



HIGHWAY HUGS

By Joe and Laureta Gibbs
(AKA Papa and Mama Bear)

One again we extend our thanks to you all for supporting this great project. Our son and daughter-in-law have moved with their family to the San Diego area. This means a change of office for them (we will continue supporting their former office, Antelope Valley, as well as all other offices previously served). Since Matt was and is a huge help in this project, we have decided to extend the offer of bears to their new office. We can manage this, thanks to all of you who help us so much. The offer has been gratefully accepted. Thank you ... Thank you!!!!



Dancing not singing in the rain!

From Your Assistant Wagon Master

Welcome to Stage Coach. This promises to be an outstanding caravan. Did I miss winter??? Winter! What winter? I am not looking forward to summer. It is going to be a hot one this year. Now spring is here and as you might know it is my favorite time of the year. Could it be yours too? Everything is starting out fresh and new. I especially love the first flush of blooms from the flowers. The flowering trees blossoming and the smells are so intoxicating. Listen to me. I sound so gushy. I just hope it lasts awhile before the dreaded heat comes. Rosemary and I hope that you brought your Easter bonnet to show off in our annual Easter bonnet parade.

I would especially like to see some of our men showing off a creation be it silly, funny, wacky or strange. We had a lot of participants last year with some really neat bonnets and hats. I would hope that this year we have even more. I can't wait to see them. I will have my camera at the ready for that Kodak moment.

We are also going to have our annual Easter egg hunt. It was too easy for you last year so this year our Easter Bunny helpers will do a better job of hiding those eggs. No peeking!!! There will be at least 150 of them to hide. Again there will be prizes for the most eggs found. Each will have something inside be it candy or a prize of some kind. Do come out for it and bring a basket, bag or some kind of container to collect them in. It is a lot of fun.

As always Gary and I are looking forward to another great caravan. Hope you have a good one too. See you around and about.

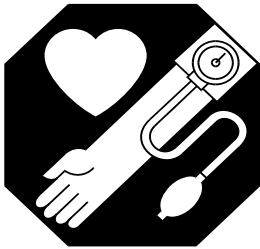
Oh and we wish you a belated Happy Easter.

Linda Greer

Assistant Wagon Master



Beautiful sky and Lazy Dazes!



BLOOD PRESSURE RISK FACTORS

Submitted by Don and Marjorie Richards
Safety Team Officers

The most powerful weapon against health risks is EDUCATION. A Blood Pressure checking program held this month by your Safety Team is planned for the purpose of making you aware of the need for regular checks.

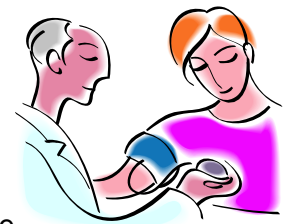
High Blood Pressure (hypertension) is now recognized as the commonest of diseases affecting the heart and blood vessels. A recent survey at Johns Hopkins indicated that more than one third of our population over age 50 has High Blood Pressure, and at least 30% of those are undetected because they are not checked.

What can High Blood Pressure cause?

- Heart attack
- Stroke
- Heart failure
- Damage to the eyes

How high is high?

Systolic (high number)		Diastolic (low number)	
Optimal	Less than 120		Less than 80
Normal	Less than 130		Less than 85
High normal	130 – 139		85 – 89
High	140 or more		90 or more



A repeated high reading (3 or 4 times) requires medical evaluation at once. Your doctor and you will develop a plan to lower the blood pressure starting at once. It is usually accomplished through nutrition changes, medication and exercise.

Ways to Lower Your Risk Factors

- Stop smoking
- Lower High Blood Cholesterol
- Control Diabetes
- Lose weight if overweight
- Exercise moderately most days of the week

Once medication is prescribed, do not reduce dose or stop taking it without consulting your health care provider.

Please take time to come for a Blood Pressure check by your Safety Team, and for more specific information, consult Web Site: www.nhlbi.nih.gov

Gary and Linda received their 50th caravan badge!



CITIZENS BAND RADIO PRESENTATION AT STAGECOACH TRAILS

At the April Caravan at Stagecoach Trails, Mr. Steve Tivy will present a program on good operating practice of citizens band (CB) radios to our Southern California Caravan Club. Weather permitting – and of course, Steve will be responsible for that, too – the presentation will be held in the general meeting assembly area.

Radio became a hobby for Steve at age 10 while listening to police calls when those transmissions could still be heard on the AM broadcast band. He became a CB radio operator about 1970 when you still needed a license to operate one. Steve has been an amateur radio operator for the past 30 years, and achieved the FCC First Class Radiotelephone Operator License with Ship Radar Endorsement. The latter allowed him to legally work on radio transmitters at that time. He graduated from Northrop University with a BSEE degree.



Applying his hobby in his professional career, Steve was employed at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) at the California Institute of Technology in the aerospace communications field involving both the manned and unmanned space missions. He was there when Neil Armstrong first stepped into the de-du (deep dust) of the moon and proclaimed, "*Well, that weather guy at JPL did say it would be cold and dry up here!*"

A high point for Steve while with JPL was on a business trip to the Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex located in the Mojave Desert. While there, he ascended the 210 foot diameter BIG dish pictured below. Today this antenna is capable of tracking a spacecraft traveling more than 10 billion miles from earth. Of course, Steve uses it to keep track of Don and Bobbie Nelson.

Getting back down to earth, Steve spent the next 20 years with Los Angeles County as an engineer designing two way radio systems for government and public safety agencies. He says you know you're getting old when you design replacement systems for the ones you originally installed. But he adds, "There's nothing better than to get paid for enjoying your hobby!"

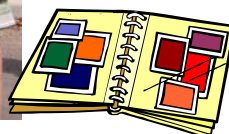
So, bring your chairs, notepad and pencil to get answers to your questions about the CB radios we all depend on, not only at Caravan, but out on the highways and byways enjoying our RV lifestyle. **And let's give one of our own, Steve Tivy, a hearty Southern California Lazy Daze welcome!**



HORSE SHOE WINNERS

Herb Christian #2852

Bob Perdue #2871



Host Tent Volunteers for March

Boy oh boy, does that volunteer list to work the host tent fill up fast. It makes me very happy to know that you like doing it. I always did. It's a good way to meet some of your fellow caravaners that you might now have known before. Your volunteers were:

Vern and Charlene Tutterrow
Allen and Sue Mercer
Bob and Cynthia Casebolt
Bob and Di Filler
Enos and Joyce Hirst
Earl and Florence Moore
Tom and Jan Hiemstra
George and Rosie Reeder
Betty Boschma
Bill Arthur
Don and Carol Ashley
John and Ilene Van Gossen
Paul and Ursula Grinde
Ruben and Jenny Pasillas
Dave and Katharine Spencer
Dale and Doris Wren
Don and Marjorie Richards
Roy Shellabarger
Joe and Jane Fletcher
Gary and Velna Wells
Al and Lydia Granger
Ed and Dottie Carey
John and Zoe Cairns
Howard and Rose Cleek
Jim and Ann Cook
The Roadrunners

Thank you all for your help. If you haven't worked the host tent before, do sign up and give it a try. It is a lot of fun.

Linca Gense



The annual "Lazy Daze Yard Sale" will take place all day this Friday – just set out those treasures you wish to sell or give away at your rig. Who knows? Someone just might be looking for that item you no longer need.



Happy Treasure Hunting !



GOODWILL AMBASSADOR REPORT

March found us sending cards to three of our friends. Gordon Baker of the Bun Warmers said he had a small heart attack. In my book, no heart attack is small and should be taken very seriously. Hopefully he will be back on the road soon.

Joe Gibbs of the Roadrunners suffered a kidney stone attack and had to have it zapped while we were at Lake Perris. From all reports everything went well for him. We hope to see him at Stagecoach in April.

Lynne Mortenson of the No Mads is going through some tests at this time and your personal messages to her would be appreciated.

If there are other members who you feel need cheering up, please pass their names on to me. If you use email make sure you use Lazy Daze on the subject line.

Mona Shaner
MonaL@sbcglobal.net



Correction to Last Month's Caravaner

Joe and Lore Hardcastle received their 175th badge. We reported 150th in error.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CRAFTING?

There has been some who expressed an interest in having occasional craft classes on various ideas. Do you have a special talent that you would like to share with others? These classes could be lecture-demo or hands-on, depending how you would like to conduct them. For starters in October, while we are at Stagecoach, Katharine Spencer will be teaching Beginning Scrapbook 101. If you are interested, bring 6 pictures on the same theme, scissors and a pencil. She will show you how to bring it all together in an attractive way that encourages you to try for more. There are basic supplies that are required for beginners and they will be covered at that time.

Di Filler thinks Mona Shaner should teach her sweatshirt jacket and she would if there was an interest. This project would take several sessions. So if you interested, please let her know. Mona will have samples of her work at the April Caravan.

I understand that the Past Tents are interested in Silk Painting. Would you be interested in learning this technique? These are some of the ideas that have been mentioned for future projects. If you would like to share your ideas, please contact me.

Mona Shaner
Monal@sbcglobal.net



Enos and Joyce are too young for this car!

From the Desk of the Editor
Frances Smith

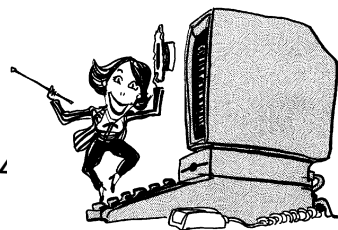
Submit your material for "the Caravaner"
to Frances or Rosemary or to the
following address:

Email: rfsmith@jetlink.net

Please put **LAZY DAZE ON SUBJECT LINE**

Snail mail:

Frances Smith
8995 Denver St.
Ventura, CA 93004



Articles are due the Sunday following
the Caravan outing.

HAPPY STAMPERS

Greeting Cards 101 Class with Caryl Fisher
Price \$3.00

Hand made greeting cards are so special to
receive and so much fun to create.

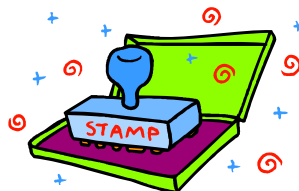
Join me for an hour of "Make N Take" and I'll
help you learn or perfect basic techniques to make
several cards for someone special.

You could bring the following if you have any
of these items (Basic Class Kit):

- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Smile

Space is limited and there will be a signup
sheet at the Host Tent the day before class.

Submitted by
Caryl Fisher #2886



A PERSONAL OBSERVATION

By Laureta and Joe Gibbs



WOW! We have a Lazy Daze! Maybe we will try the Caravan Club. We did ... and we liked what we found. Buying our LD was one of the best and smartest things we ever did. We have a great home away from home, and we are away a lot of the time. It serves our needs better than we ever anticipated. What we did not anticipate was what we have found throughout the years as we have become more and more involved with The Club.

We have developed friendships that have gone beyond the realm of our imaginations. We thought we would find good people and ones whose company we would enjoy at camp, but never ... NEVER did we anticipate the level of friendships we now enjoy, friendships that have developed into a wonderful, close, caring and supportive family.

This became more apparent than ever when we found ourselves at the mercy of doctors and at a hospital with which we were unfamiliar. Fish out of water, for sure. Fortunately we had friends in the area who were of great help in getting us/me where we needed to be and helping otherwise in the beginning. Then we needed help from our LD family, and everyone was there ready to assist in any way possible. Never have I been so frightened! This was an extremely serious illness. Gary Wells came and helped one day when the rig needed to be moved to an alternate spot at the RV Park. With all of my concern over Joe, I was in no condition to do any of it.

That done we had two more days of Joe being in the hospital and then he was back "home" in our RV. Sweet relief!!! When it came time to go to our son's home in San Diego, Chuck and Kathie Herbert drove from Yucca Valley to help us out. I dumped and put things away while Joe supervised and then hooked up the tow car. We were thrilled to see the Herberts arrive. They even brought lunch! We had two more days for Joe to continue to recuperate and then it was time to head for home. Gene and Sally Caulfield drove from Santa Paula to get us and the LD home again. Thank you ... Thank you to these people who put aside their personal business and truly came to our aid in a time of need. We never had to ask. This help, and more, was offered! How did we ever get so lucky?

Buying the Lazy Daze was a good idea, but the HUGE BONUS was the family we have acquired as a result. We are blessed in a way that is absolutely indescribable. Thank you everyone for all of your cards, your calls, your concern and support. Words are inadequate to express our deepest feelings.

Birthday boy – Vern Tutterrow



WASHER TOSS WINNERS!



Allen and Sue Mercer – 1st Place Winners
Gary Wells & Lurlie Edgecomb – 2nd Place Winners

MOTHER NATURE'S REPORT

Submitted by:
Lurlie Edgecomb #2285

A Nature Ride



As Mother Nature, I was a little capricious at Lake Perris in March. A short, but lively, rain on Wednesday didn't stop our Lazy Dazers for long. Then on Thursday, a whirling dervish must have gotten into me. At least one twister visited camp. Several Outbacks had camping chairs levitating and spinning. My baby turtles had their first flight as they were sunbathing in their plastic container on top of the picnic table when they ended up against another blue Dazey. Sand, leaves and pine needles were stinging us as we grabbed for flying objects. The 6-month-old box turtles were fine and still in the open container even though all their tan bark had been sucked out. Some of the debris had flown into our rigs through open doors and vents. No permanent damage, but it did make us mindful of how small this event was compared to what we know people living in the Midwest can have happen to them.

We had fairly nice days with cooler breezes as the sun set; several days there were pretty pink sunsets. Early Sunday there was a low fog that may have covered the approach of a young mountain lion reported to be at Site 230. It was gone when Mother got there and, after a while, the bunnies came out so I knew the coast (hillside?) was clear. A docent at the Indian Museum told me that the lion has been reported on the other side of the lake and has not been a problem. I did see a road runner while up at the Museum. Nice view, very good displays, informative docents.

Three Lazy Dazers joined me on bikes and we rode part way around the lake away from the dam. We were disturbed by the almost total lack of green. Even the wild mustard is stunted. The willows at the lake's shore are lightly leaved. A small gopher snake was sunning itself on the bike path and little alligator lizards scurried away at our approach. We observed an osprey, 3 red-tailed hawks, also 3 great blue herons and two nests, and on our return ride a great egret swooped in front of us onto the lawn of the BBQ area. On the lake we had spotted western grebes, coots and lesser scaups. A very few, smaller, perching birds made appearances briefly: towhees, sparrows and house finches.

As far as the eye could see from the bike path, almost nothing is greening or growing. The lack of plant life and rain bodes ill for the food chain. Look around the Anza-Borrego area as we visit Stagecoach Trails this month. Are the cacti coping? Was there a spring bloom? Keep your eyes open and be my Nature Reporters.



Morning announcement "Groupies"



Holding the host tent down!



THE PAINTED TURTLE

Submitted by Jane Farwell, #2445

What a wonderful surprise to receive yet another 11 afghans for the Painted Turtle 2007 Camp. Thank you goes to Carol Lucas, Linda Geneser, Elizabeth Cook, Joyce Hirst, Marilyn Newton, Mary Moffett and Dottie Kuntz. I just wish there was a good way to show all of you the beautiful designs and colors and patterns these gals created. They are all a labor of love and the kids will be so happy to have them.

Another thank you goes to Catherine Mailliard for craft supplies that include kits, stickers, ribbons and all sorts of materials to glue and sew. Please check the Wish List to see if you have anything you would like to contribute if making afghans is not your thing.

I have been asked about the Painted Turtle pillow pattern. I will try to have understandable directions for you as I have now seen a sample and have figured out how they are put together. I hope to find a compatible speaker for my lap top so you can see a short DVD of the activities at the camp and what the Painted Turtle mission really is. This also helps understand what is meant by the Hole in the Wall Gang.

Members of TEAM TURTLE, once again I salute you and again thank you.

Jane, the Afghan Collector



Are we level yet?



Al Melendrez cooking in the rain



Joe Fletcher wins \$50.00!



We have a leprechaun in our midst!

WELCOME FIRST TIMERS AND ONE AND A HALF FIRST TIMER!



Norann Kay
Palm Desert, CA



Jon and Loni Calhoun
Pacific Palisades, CA



John and Eileen White
Carver, MA



Fred and Dottie Kuntz
Laguna Niguel, CA

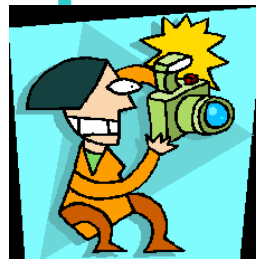
FYI RE: RINCON

By Joe and Laureta Gibbs

We have just returned from a few restful days at RINCON and noticed that, as of April 1, the rates are increasing. Cost per night is now going to be \$25.00. The place is packed regardless of the price. It's all about the view, isn't it?



Photographers to the Caravaner



Bob Filler
Donna La Porte
Frances Smith



TERRY TANNER'S TECH TALK

Driving my 2001 Lazy Daze 26RB always left me with an uncomfortable feeling every time I checked my side view mirrors. The small stick-on wide angle mirrors always seemed inadequate to tell me what was nearby and I would some times miss somebody driving in the blind spot. I fixed that by installing replacement Deluxe mirror heads from Velvac. The Deluxe mirror heads are larger than the original mirror heads. The flat glass mirror areas on the original and the Deluxe are about the same, but the wide angle portion on the Deluxe is about three times larger. Each section of the Deluxe mirror head is independently adjustable in two planes while the stock mirror is adjustable in only one plane. The Deluxe mirror heads deliver a remarkably improved view from the driver's seat. A source for the Deluxe mirror heads is www.ryderfleetproducts.com at (800) 759-6479. Their part numbers are (Left) U80 714579 and (Right) U80 714580. Each mirror costs about \$71 plus shipping charges. In some cases, the mirror can be installed on the opposite mirror arm to reduce the overall width between mirrors. Installation is quick and easy and it is detailed in "Velvac.pdf" on the Techsnoz site. Older Lazy Daze models with "West Coast" mirrors and "early" Velvac mirror arms with two screws visible in the end of the mirror arm are not compatible with the deluxe mirror head. The Deluxe mirror heads are now standard equipment on the 2007 Lazy Daze models.

The tail lights on most Lazy Daze rigs are surprisingly dim. Part of the reason is that the inside of the tail light cans are painted the same color as the coach. One easy way to make a small positive change in light output is to cut an aluminum pie plate, a peanut can pull top lid, or a piece of sheet metal to fit in the back of the tail light can. This will reflect more light off of the back of the tail light can. A far better but more costly solution is to replace the antiquated incandescent bulbs with modern Light Emitting Diode (LED) tail lights. The LEDs are bright and reach full brilliance in milliseconds thus getting the attention of the drivers behind you. The retail cost of parts for the LED tail lights runs between about \$180 for Maxxima LEDs to \$240 for Peterson LEDs. There are several articles on Techsnoz about LED tail lights and how to install them. The upgrade to LEDs makes a notable difference in the courtesy of adjacent drivers and in your overall visibility and safety while traveling. If everyone continually asks the "Factory" about LED tail lights, maybe someday they too will be "standard" equipment.

Adding a 3rd Brake light to the spare tire cover is another way to improve your visibility and safety. There are also articles on Techsnoz about how to accomplish this installation.

Adding turn signal lamps to the mirror arms is a labor intensive and patience testing job, but well worth it. These turn signals alert those driving alongside of you to your intentions to change lanes or turn. Detailed instructions as to how to make this improvement are on Techsnoz.

On the pre-2004 Ford V10 chassis, the voltage at the rear of the rig is typically under 10 volts at the trailer plug. This makes for very dim clearance, brake, and turn signal lamps, especially when towing a dinghy, and for a dangerous scenario when the engine stalls and you need the four-way emergency flashers to warn others. This problem can be fixed by using relays and direct heavy gauge wires to the chassis battery to power the tail lights and the trailer plug. This is also discussed and detailed in a series of articles on Techsnoz.

Techsnoz, the "Tech Talk" website.

Check it out at: <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/Techsnoz/>

SEARCHERS AND SCRAPPERS

Do you have photos stored away in several boxes or stashed in a couple of drawers? Are you sensitive to their potential value? Have you prepared a safe environment for their long-term storage? If not, you may be losing your “family history” gradually day-by-day as your ancestors images fade away. A photograph has been said to capture 1/100 of a second of our lives—frozen in time for as long as the image exists.

These small treasures can lead us to discover nuggets of information about long lost events and stories of weddings, births and celebrations. We can place these photos together and watch as time goes by and our family ages, and are gone. As we hold the tools within our hands, we now have a mission to uncover why these photos were taken in the first place. Is the photo a really old photo? Where was it found? Who made the decision to protect this photo? If it is now in your possession—you now must make a decision. Will you keep it, store it, protect it, or toss it in the trash? Will you place it in a scrapbook? What will you do? These are pieces of history—NOW WHAT?

In March our group looked at how to be a successful “Photo Detective”. We considered how you might identify individual people within a large group photo. We discussed how you might even discover a young “woman” wearing pants in an “all male” environment. We looked at more resources to locate the photographer’s identity as a way to narrow down a particular time when a photo might have been taken.

Whether it’s a newly located website or an interesting book, we all are challenged to try new ways to learn fascinating facts about our ancestry. Even finding the infamous “horse thief” within the branches of your family tree can be used to spur interest to look further.

Join us at 11 AM on Saturday whether you are a beginner or an experienced genealogist. Everyone is welcome. If you are a first-timer we will award you a notebook to begin your study. Come and share an hour with your Lazy Daze friends who are searching just like you. See you Saturday.

Jan Hawken #2790



EMERGENCY: Call on CB Ch 30

CODE RED: FIRE/GAS LEAK

CODE BLUE: MEDICAL

Please Do Not Use CB Ch 30 Until

ALL CLEAR Is Sounded

**Keep in the KNOW!
Pick up the latest news – from the
Lazy Daze website!**



Art & Barbara Berggreen #2771
www.lazydazecaravanclub.org