



# THE CARAVANER

MESSAGGS FROM THE ROAD RUNNERS

June 2010

## Welcome to Hurkey Creek!



The Roadrunners arrived at Live Oak ready, willing and feeling able to carry out the requirements of this new challenge, that of Caravan Hosts for the month of May.

Tuesday was set up day. All went well under the leadership of Donna and Roger La Porte and their able assistants, Ruthie and Willie Judd. The Host Tent with its needed materials and decorations were ready for the first arrivals on Wednesday, May 5, Cinco de Mayo (or was that Sinko the Mayo?).

Arriving to open the gates it was amazing to see a lineup of rigs waiting to check in and rush off to set up camp in their favorite places. Everything

went well as the day progressed and friends gathered once again to enjoy the amazing fellowship that this club provides. With no events planned it was nice to relax and enjoy the atmosphere, and get ready for the next three days. Thursday was restful, concluding with the movie, "Get Smart", provided by Don and Rosemary Webb and their BIG SCREEN. Road Runners contributed the movie type snacks.

Friday morning Don Richards guided us through the process to have our fire extinguishers serviced. Dan Doran, "The Fire Extinguisher Man", gave a most informative talk on the use of a fire extinguisher. This was followed by a demonstration and time for practice by the club members before the "Washer Toss Mountain Challenge" began.

At 5:00 PM the Cinco de Mayo Potluck, featuring the Road Runner Taco Bar and scrumptious dishes brought by our guests took place in the Pavilion. At meal's end, Joe Gibbs announced that there would be a "Chili Hunt" to locate paper chilies that the Roadrunners placed in nooks, crannies and even in plain sight, all about the Pavilion. The winners would be announced at the General Meeting on Saturday. Everyone appeared to enjoy themselves. If smiles and talk of full tummies was an indicator then we got the job done!

Saturday dawned with yet another beautiful day, with the ever popular Craft Sale then come afternoon the finals for the Mountain Man Washer Toss Tournament and the General Meeting at the Pavilion where all waited to see if their ticket might be the lucky one to win one of the terrific Bucket Raffle prizes.

The Road Runners want to thank everyone for being so supportive and generous with words of appreciation. We left Live Oak a bit tired, but very pleased with our efforts to provide the Caravan Club with an enjoyable and entertaining experience.

Vaya Con Dios, *Joe and Laureta Gibbs*



## LUCKY BUCKET RAFFLE WINNERS

The nine lucky winners sure came away with some very nice prizes. Thanks to all of you who participated in the bucket raffle.

**The following is a list of the winners:**

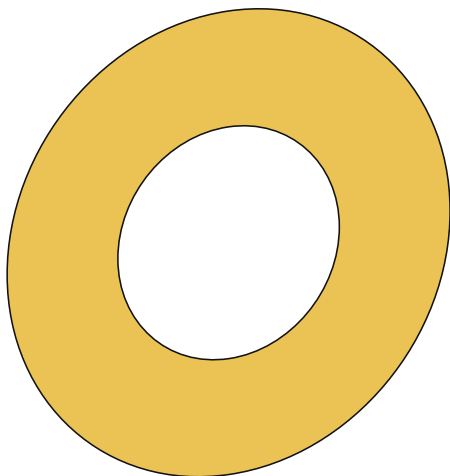
Joe Gibbs - the Roadrunners bucket  
Doris Wren - the Firesiders bucket  
Renee Wade - the At Large bucket  
Allen Mercer - the Class "C" bucket  
Mona Shaner - the Outbacks bucket  
Sue Pantan - the Back Scratchers bucket  
Sue Pantan - the Drifters bucket  
Margaret Skinner - the Past Tents bucket  
John Van Gossen - the No-Mads bucket

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## Find The Golden Washer

The clues for finding the Golden Washer will be posted at the Host Tent beginning on Thursday June 10 at 8:00 A.M. There is only one copy of the clues and they must remain at the Host Tent at all times. You may copy the clues to take with you or simply solve the clues and proceed to track down the Golden Washer.

Good luck



## WE SALUTE YOU

### HOST TENT VOLUNTEERS FOR MAY, 2009

We had our usual terrific group of workers at the Host tent last month. You are all very special.

Those that worked were:

**Vern and Charlene Tutterrow**

**George and Rosie Reeder**

**Cynthia Casebolt**

**Allen and Sue Mercer**

**John and Catherine Mailliard**

**Bill Arthur**

**Betty Boshma**

**Florence Moore**

**Bob & LuAnne Lowe**

**Bob Filler**

**Marlin & Peggy Zabel**

**Mike & Margaret Skinner**

**Norm and Lurlie**

**Class "C" Campers**

**Randy & Lynn Murray**

**Dan & Gretchen Heritage**

**Joe & Laureta Gibbs**

**Paul and Ursula Grinde**

**Larry and Sharon Turner**

**Rueben and Jenny Pasillas**

**Dave and Katherine Spencer**

**Randy and Lynn Murray**

**John and Zoe Caires**

**The Vans**

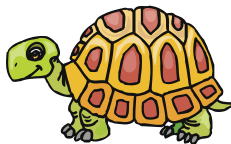
A great big thank you to all of you that helped us out at the host tent.

We couldn't do it without you special people.



# Painted Turtle

TEAM TURTLE is at it again crocheting afghans and sewing colorful turtle pillows. Up to date our Club has made over 40 afghans and about 75 turtle pillows and 30 lbs of craft supplies for the 2010 camping season. If you missed the display during the Live Oak craft sale, you would have seen a sampling of these gifts from Joyce Hirst, Zoe Caires, Laura Techentin and Rosey Reeder. Laura is now dubbed the "mad seamstress" as she presented me with 34 pillows!!!



I hope you all have a wonderful summer and some of you can find time to make afghans, pillows or collect craft supplies for the 2011 camping season. Thank you all again.

Team Turtle Headquarters  
Jane, the Afghan Collector



# HIGHWAY HUGS

Laureta and Joe Gibbs  
(AKA Mama and Papa Bear)



We departed Live Oak with a trunk full of bears and friends provided by some wonderful Lazy Dazers. Words are not enough to convey our thanks to each of you for continuing to support this most worthwhile project. By the time you read this article we will have made another "run" to CHP offices in the eastern high desert areas with about 250 critters, each in its own protective bag, ready to be given to a child in need. Thank you again for your support.

## Goodwill Ambassador Report

Former Lazy Dazer of the Card Shufflers, FRAN MOYNIER #1180, passed away the latter part of April.

Drifter, HERB CODDINGTON # 2505 has had his lung cancer revisit him.

SHARON WHITTROCK #2835 of the Class "C" Campers was seen walking very slowly at Live Oak due to surgery for her hammer toe. If it had been me I wouldn't have been walking at all. Hopefully it wasn't too painful.



Mona Shaner  
[MonaL@sbcglobal.net](mailto:MonaL@sbcglobal.net)

## ANOTHER THANK YOU

from Joe and Laureta Gibbs

We are amazed by the number of Lazy Dazers who continue to inquire as to the health of our son, Greg. To catch all up to date, we are delighted to say that he has made a good recovery, even to the point of being a bit better than the doctor's had predicted. We are pleased and most grateful to all of you for your continuing prayers and support. Thank you.



# Washer Toss

**King of the Mountain:** Vern Tutterrow  
Allen Mercer came in second. We have  
two "Six Time Winners" as targets.





# First Timers



David Ward—#2981, Wrightwood, CA

## WOMEN'S ONLY

Laureta Gibbs (AKA Mama Bear)

Just a quick note to let you know how much I appreciate the many nice comments re: the Women's Only group. There will be no meeting in June as we will already be on the road to see our family in WA. But I do promise, all things being in favor of it, to have a meeting at Indian Hills in September. I already have some good material to share. Oh I know ... it isn't just about the chocolate!!!



# Anniversaries



Gene & Sally Caulfield—150 Caravans



Willie & Ruthie Judd—150 Caravans



Herb & Darlene Johnson—150 Caravans





## Photos by Bob Filler

The bobcat was hunting near the golf green along the access road Friday morning. He ran away before I could get the camera up as I walked out to the highway. He was back in the same location but looking away from me when I returned. He was concentrating on the hunt so much that he didn't notice I was there. As the camera got heavier, I finally made some noise so he would turn around. As he did so, he slowly began to move through the grass, and then sprinted across the road.

## From the Editor

The deadline for articles is the Sunday following each Caravan. Thank you for your continuing support in the production of the Caravan.

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# Mickey & Minnie



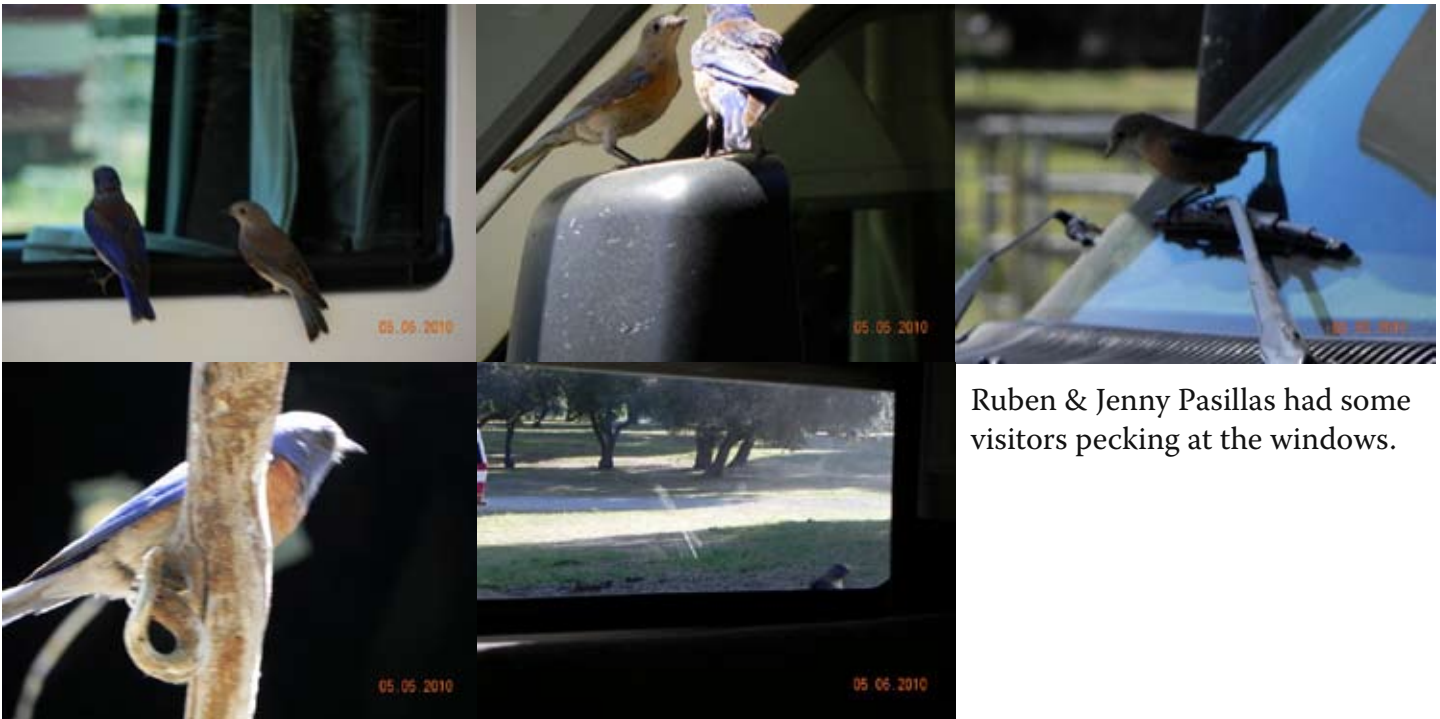
## Washer Toss!

Hosted by Frances Smith & Sue Mercer

Don't be Goofey! Come out and Play!

Friday at 1:PM at Hurkey Creek

See You There!



Ruben & Jenny Pasillas had some visitors pecking at the windows.





# Craft Sale





# Cinco de Mayo

Photos by Donna LaPorte



# Terry's Tech Talk

Tech Talk Article 51

Xantrex 1000 Watt Pure Sine Wave Inverter

06/2010

I recently replaced my 1000 watt "Modified Sine Wave" inverter with a pure "Sine Wave" inverter. The original installation is documented in the "Techsnoz" article "Inverter.pdf". At the time of the original installation, a pure sine wave inverter was many times more expensive than the equivalent modified sine wave inverter that I installed. Xantrex recently introduced the PROwatt SW series inverters that are more reasonably priced. Product information is shown on the Xantrex web site:

<http://www.xantrex.com/web/id/297/p/1/pt/7/product.asp>.

I found that my HP DeskJet 5650 printer would not work at all on the modified sine wave inverter. My HDTV seemed to work satisfactorily, but the pure sine wave is supposed to be "easier" on sophisticated electronic devices. The 1000 watt PROwatt SW retails at \$350 at Camping World. An exhaustive internet search found a cost of \$249 for the inverter and \$20 for the wired remote switch at [www.iMarineUSA.com](http://www.iMarineUSA.com). iMarine ships from New Jersey, but the company is California based so California sales tax was added to my bill along with a \$10 shipping charge. Delivery from New Jersey to California took 5 business days .



Since this was just a "swap" of the old inverter for the new inverter and both were about the same size, I thought the installation would be easy. On the old inverter, the stripped end of the battery cable slip into a hole and is secured with a set screw. On the new inverter, the connection is a threaded stud requiring a lug connector. So it was off to Home Depot to find the connectors.



The new remote is larger than the old one so I enlarged the cut-out for it. Then I pulled all of the 12 volt fuses including the CB and CD Radio ones under the hood, disconnected the house batteries, Negative terminal first, and then removed the old inverter. The fit for the inverter is tight, especially for plugging into the GFI outlet so I mounted the new inverter on a piece of plywood figuring it would be easier to position the plywood in the cabinet and secure it. I reconnected the house batteries, Positive (+) terminal first, and checked the new inverter and found that it had 12 volts going in and nothing going out and no display. Working the On/Off switch did not help. So it was ship the defective inverter back to New Jersey (\$19) and wait another week for a new, and hopefully functional, replacement. The replacement inverter worked. My printer worked. The HDTV worked. The refrigerator worked.

In my Rear Bath, the inverter is installed under the forward dinette seat next to the battery compartment. I used a utility knife to cut a hole in the cabinet paneling to provide access to the GFI plug and ventilation for the inverter. With an awkward under the table maneuver, I can peek at the display panel voltage/amp readout.

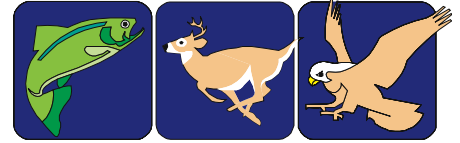
[Techsnoz](http://www.techsnoz.com), the "Tech Talk" website.

Check it out at: <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/Techsnoz/>  
Terry Tanner Rig #2779



# Mother Nature

Lurlie Edgecomb #2285



Spring has sprung! The birds and bees were at it at Live Oak in early May. Nest building was going on in the old oak branches. The ceiling of the Pavilion already had nests with babies being fed. Flowers were blooming especially blue and lavender ones. Among these were forget-me-nots, checkerbloom (a mallow), filaree (heron's bill), sage (mint family), baby blue eyes, vetch, notched leaf phacelia, blue dick (wild hyacinth), and milk thistle. Other bright colors were found in a buttercup, a penstemon and miner's lettuce.

Small, crawling creatures were to be found: tons of lady bird beetles (ladybugs), darkling beetles (stink bugs), velvet ants, a furry but small caterpillar, and an alligator lizard who would like to invite them to lunch. The larger, four-legged types included many ground squirrels ( a good year for babies), western pocket gophers, mule deer, and a bobcat photographed by Bob Filler on an early morning walk. Near the creek, carp could be seen swimming thanks to water in the Santa Ynez River and a great blue heron who had high hopes for something coming his way. Evenings, bullfrogs and killdeer could be heard by those camped along this bluff area.



On the Nature Walk, we were able to identify oak titmice, western bluebirds, violet-green swallows, acorn woodpeckers, house finches, western scrub jays, Cooper's hawk, red-tailed hawk, turkey vulture, quail, and black phoebes. Mother pointed out areas to return to early or late in the day if the dozen Lazy Dazers and friends wished to look for turkey and deer on their own.

In camp we had two surprise visits. On Thursday many of us got to see the five turkeys as they came up from the river area and passed between the shower building and the Pavilion--two toms and three hens. They were still hanging together on Sunday. Saturday we had a low-level flyover by a pair of Canada geese. They honked as they came uphill, turned east and then did a 180 and headed over and beyond the corral still honking as they headed toward Lake Cachuma. Grackles thought they could join us for the Taco Fiesta and did get into the cookies by the coffee pots most days. I'm sure I heard an Audubon's warbler several times up in my favorite oak tree.

Altogether this was a marvelous outing. The extra rains have brought forth abundant flowers and grasses. It has been a good year for wildlife whether flora or fauna. Let's hope and pray that this area is spared from wildfires so we can return to find our furred and feathered friends unharmed.

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My Mother's Day gift from my Matt is a new CB with weather channels and he installed it yesterday. It is so easy now to switch channels. I expect to hear at Hurkey Creek that you can all hear me now! Hope you all had a good day also. We never did get to walk out Seal Beach's pier and go to Ruby's for dinner as the Cambodian horde of youngsters came over and swooped Matt and I up and took us to their BBQ for the mothers in their family (they have told me before that I am one of them). So later we went for a walk in the park and fed the ducks, etc (including one gosling from a pair of Canada geese), watched the snowy egret doing a mating dance, and could see pond turtles getting out of the way of coots, mallards, and black-crowned night herons.

A good day.

Lurlie



▶ **PLEASE REMEMBER** ◀  
**To Park So You Don't  
Block The Exit Of  
Another Rig**

**? EMERGENCY ?**  
Call on CB Channel 30  
**CODE RED: FIRE/GAS LEAK**  
**CODE BLUE: MEDICAL**  
**PLEASE Do Not Use the CB Until  
The 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](http://www.lazydazecaravanclub.org)



# The Dump Station Blues