

# THE CARAVANER

Lake Perris SRA

January 2011

## MESSAGE FROM THE BACKSCRATCHERS



### Happy New Year Everyone! May 2011 bring more exciting caravans.

The Backscratchers hosted the last of the new 2010 venue of “Rotating Wagonmasters” caravans, proving to everyone involved that change can come about successfully when enthusiasm and hard work come together as one.

A crew of Santa’s Elves arrived one day early at Live Oak Campground to begin decorating the pavilion for our Christmas caravan, and when all was done the feeling of Christmas was definitely “in the air”.

Familiar sleighs began arriving on Wednesday, along with some unfamiliar sleighs, and a couple of brand new sleighs with the latest designs, features and accommodations from Santa’s workshop and the best part was none of them needed rooftops for landing!



A beautiful Christmas tree adorned the pavilion and furry little critters began appearing under the tree in heavenly masses. Santa himself would be proud!

The weather was beautiful and although we had rain it accommodated us by coming overnight with a few drips the following day but it was just enough to keep the dust down. This allowed us to have an enthusiastic game of Washer Toss and everyone had a lot of fun. A wonderful array of foods showed up at the Saturday night finger food fest and everyone must of

enjoyed it because there was very little food left! Later in the evening we had the pleasure of being entertained to the great sounds of the ‘Silver Beat’ band and we closed down the pavilion dancing to some wonderful tunes on Saturday evening. I think we all slept good that night!

We had a great turn out with a total of 117 rigs and along with the regular attendees the Lazy Daze family welcomed a number of guests who appreciated our hospitality and had fun participating in all the festivities.

Respectfully submitted by:

*Zoe Ann Caires*

## A Word From the Backscratchers

The Backscratchers hosted the December caravan at Live Oak and ended their last morning announcement with a special message. If you were unable to attend the December caravan, the message is as follows:

We, the Backscratchers, would like to express to each and everyone of you our sincere thanks in helping the Lazy Daze caravan club survive another year. It was only a year ago we weren't sure at all if we would even have caravans this year but with determination, ingenuity and careful planning we made sure the 54 year legacy of the Lazy Daze caravan club would carry on. We all stepped up to the challenge, rolled up our sleeves, helped each other out when help was needed and we made 2010 a year to remember. By carrying on the tradition and making it a success this year we believe we can only improve on our efforts in 2011. We proved to ourselves we could overcome any challenges that lay before us; from transporting equipment, to setting up the host tent to planning events; attention was paid to every detail and through it all we still had fun. We were also able to continue our spirit of giving to the community and carry on our tradition with ongoing contributions to The Painted Turtle Project, Highway Hugs and helping those less fortunate than us to name a few.

So, right now we ask you to stop what you're doing, give yourself a pat on the back and congratulate yourself for a job well done. You certainly deserve it.

In closing we, the Backscratchers, would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas, the Happiest of New Years and may 2011 be as successful as 2010!



## Goodwill Ambassador Report

In late October, CAROL HURLEY #229 of the Class C Campers was again undergoing chemo.



Road Runner, KAREN BLAIN #2962 has gone through gall bladder surgery.

A former Lazy Dazer from the Renegades, RITA MANSFIELD #1805 passed November 10th.

No Mad, LYDIA GRANGER #2786 has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will start her radiation soon.

Another breast cancer victim, SHEILA BROWN #2972 of the Outback's has had her surgery in October and is now undergoing treatment.

Back Scratcher, JOHN CAIRES #2851 started his cancer treatment on Monday after Live Oak.

There is no way I can make light of the trials that some of our members are going through at this time of the year. So the next time you pass a church say a little prayer for all the above mentioned and those mentioned this past year, who are still going through their treatment regiment. Hopefully, everyone will stay healthy with regular check ups in the coming year.

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

**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)



## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

### **New Years Greetings**

Well Caravaners, we're about to start another great year of camping with the best people on earth, the Lazy Daze Caravan Club. I hope your holidays were as you expected, cheerful and happy and you're eager to have fun at Lake Perris.

I know you all remembered to bring extra leveling blocks. We've been here often enough to know the drill. We've got our usual camping spot and our hosts the No-Mads are sure to have everything in order.

This will be my first opportunity to act as your leader and Chairman. I've been a club member for 10 years and have had the opportunity of camping with Don Nelson, Bill Saunders, Rosemary Webb and Dave Spencer as club leaders. All did a great job and I hope I can continue the tradition. This club is a team effort and we've proved that with our camp hosting rotation and all the volunteers we get for our numerous club activities. If everyone will keep up the good work, my job should be easy. Thanks to you all.

Marlin Zabel is our new Assistant Chairman and I know he's anxious to get to work and get his hands dirty. He won't have to try hard since he already has the additional duty of Statistician / record keeper. However, after a quick check, all Executive Board members have extra responsibilities. Terry Tanner provides Tech Talk write-ups, gives demonstrations, and instructs First Timers. Barbara Berrgreen keeps us in the "cloud" as Webmaster, Charlene Tutterow has been our trusted Treasurer for several years, Dave Hurley is the editor of the Caravaner, the rag we love to read, and Donna LaPorte as our club secretary whose title does not begin to describe all that she does. The E-board promises to work hard to make 2011 a fantastic year of camping for all Lazy Dazers.

The Live Oak caravan last month was a lot of fun. The craft sale, the Len Philippi Washer Toss, dancing to the Silverbeat band, the appetizers, and all those teddy bears donated to a good cause made for a great time for all. The highlight for me was the announcement of Donna as Caravaner of the Year. She worked hard and deserved it.

Our Nov/Dec caravan is always a great way to bring in the holiday season. I truly hope all the fun and great times we've had together as a club will carry over into our new year. Donna and I extend best wishes to everyone for a wonderful, safe and healthy New Year!

Happy trails,

*Roger*



## PATHFINDERS?



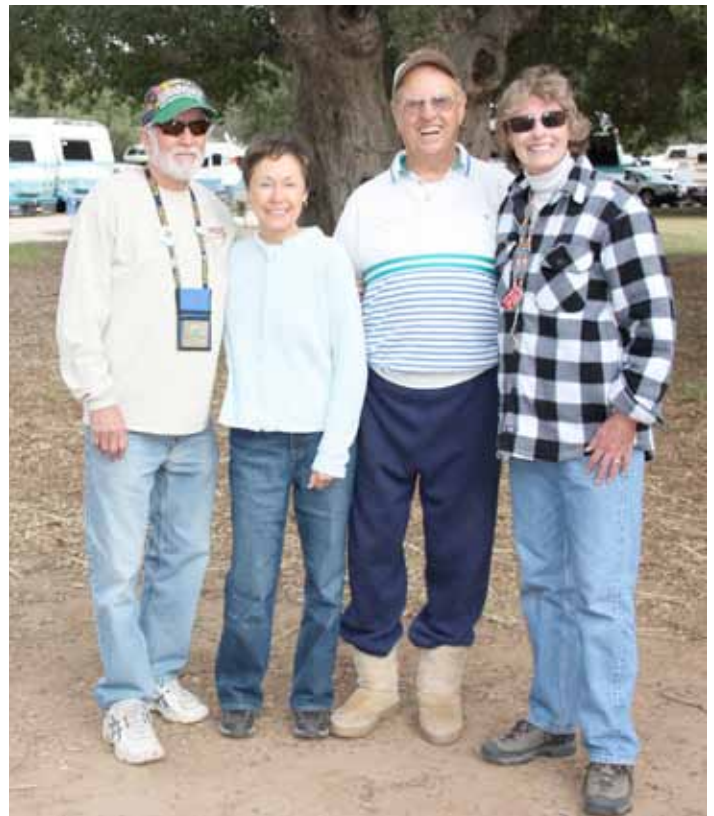
As you probably know by now a small group of caravaners is seeking to restore a ninth sub-group to the Club. This means, of course, that sub-groups would again be asked to host only one venue a year. At this time, the 'core group' for this effort consists of four members. To be a viable sub-group and to meet the Clubs' expectations for sub-group participation we will need to add a few conscientious members to the core. It is our hope that through the change in membership requirements and a small, but continuing, flow of 'new comers' we can build a sub-group of eight to ten in the coming year.

Since this will be the first new sub-group formed in recent times, it will be a new experience for us. We would be appreciative of any interest, suggestions or help you wish to share.

Don and Carol Kratzer ~ Mike and Jan Ludolph

Ken and Linda Palmer ~ Claude and Carol Potts

# Washer Toss Champions



First Place: Don McCutcheon  
Nancy Riley

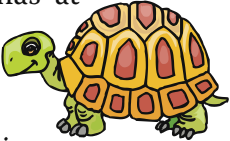
Second Place: Bob Lowe  
Jeanie Phillips

# LIVE OAK SWAPMEET

Photos by Frances Smith & Carole Hurley





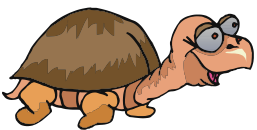
It truly was Christmas at the Live Oak camp out. I was given 12 Afghans and 16 Turtle pillows!  This is a fabulous beginning to help supply these terminally ill children have a colorful, wonderful experience camping at Lake Hughes. These items help decorate the beds of the campers and turn a colorless cabin into a cheerful and happy place.

For those who do not know, the Painted Turtle Camp is a year around camping facilities that offer free camping experience for terminally ill children. They attend by similarity of illness for a one week session in the summer time without their parents. (Most of the rest of years the camp is open for families to join their children.) They are offered horseback riding, swimming, fishing, zip lines, crafts, and games of all kinds. The staff is made of volunteer counselors, nurses and doctors. The medical equipment usually found in a hospital is in a building that does not look like a medical facility. All this is to give these kids a unique experience in a non-medical setting. This has often proven to be a blessing and a form of encouragement.

Thank you to Joyce Hirst, Laura Techentin, Connie Williams, Rose Reeder and Zoe Caires for their beautiful creation.

The Afghan Collector, Jane

*Jane Farwell*



## PAINTED TURTLE



# Finger Foods and Dance

Photos by Frances Smith



## Peggy's Hidden Talent

Little did anyone know (even Peggy herself) that she had talents of a stripteaser!



When bandleader, Jimmy Lee, of the Silverbeat Band announced that it was her birthday and urged her up on the stage for us to sing "Happy Birthday"; right on queue at the very first beat she went into a rip-roaring dance with her boa. She brought the house down and now doubt it will be a birthday that she and Marlin will never forget – no matter how hard they'll try.

Peggy – Las Vegas is calling!



## Anniversaries

## Caravaner of The Year



Congratulations to Donna LaPorte



George & Joann Watson—50 Caravans



Dave & Cathrine Spencer—50 Caravans



## HIGHWAY HUGS

Laureta & Joe Gibbs  
(AKA Mama & Papa Bear)

At this writing, we are at the desert preparing to deliver 260 bears & friends to California Highway Patrol offices. At Live Oak we gathered up 223 critters, took them home, and sat in our garage – bagging each one, then putting 15 each in larger bags for distribution to the offices. We totally STUFFED our tow car and on Monday we headed south.

We have been asked what happens to the bears too big for the small plastic bags. The answer: We give them to each of the offices we visit. They are kept near the front desk to be given to children who are brought to the office where they await a pick up by some designated family member or Child Protective Services.

Once again, we thank all of you who so generously contribute to this project.



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## Where Are We?

Submitted by  
Rosemary Webb





MARCUS, Jerry & Ann—Sioux Falls, SD



PALMER, Ken & Linda—Fallbrook, CA



KWAN, Hsu-Lien—Livingston, TX



SMITH, Dwayne & Angela—La Mesa, CA



JOHNSON, Herbert III & Connie—Whittier, CA



BOURGHOLTZER/ZIPLER, Stephen & Nancy—West Hills, CA



FLORES, Carlos & Sharon—Whittier, CA



ALLEN, Barbara—Encinitas, CA

# DEATH VALLEY NEWS!

Article and Photos by Frances Smith



## 2010 DEATH VALLEY NEWS

Neither rain, nor sleet, nor dark of night shall keep  
28 rigs from coming to beautiful Death Valley.

During the day temperatures were in the high sixties. We didn't even have the "W" until the night of the 29th. People scurried around putting chairs away, two tables blew over and an empty ice chest blew quite a ways from the rig. Christine Nordstrom said she saw Dorothy and Toto flying by. In the morning people were out cleaning their dusty/dirty solar panels and washing car windows.



On the 30th thirty-five people went to lunch at Stovepipe Wells. Yes, the restaurant was re-opened after the fire. Some went out exploring the back roads, hiking and some of us just visited and of course practice their washer toss expertise.

"The Muffin Lady", Sarah Blackwood-McAnena, was here and of course we had HOT fresh bran muffins twice. The muffins were delicious, so thanks again "Muffin Lady".

Strong winds couldn't keep John and Catherine Mailliard from coming out here on the 30th. Now that is dedication. Thank goodness John arrived to run our washer toss tournament.

You are not going to believe the winners of our washer toss tournament. First place went to Bob Smith and Catherine Mailliard and second went to Frances Smith and John Mailliard. (Believe it or not it wasn't fixed.)

By the way, GUESS WHAT? There is now cell service in Death Valley. We are not cut off from the world now.

On New Year's Eve we started our big celebration for the evening at 3 PM, just in case wind came up or it was too cold to be out. The food was so good hardly anything was left to nibble on later. The champagne was brought out at 6 to bring in the New Year with Rio de Janeiro. Noise makers were distributed and we made lots of noise. Donna La Porte, Don Webb and Frances Smith played Auld Lang Syne on their little noise makers. We are thinking about taking our act on the road.

On January 1st, Rosemary Webb fed us chorizo and eggs, very good food. That evening the remaining 14 of us went to the Corkscrew Bar and had pizza and beer. WHAT FUN!

A big thanks to our fire host, Don Ashley. If it wasn't for him monitoring the fire we would have done without a nice warm fire. Thanks again Don.

All in all I believe everyone had a great time. See you next year.





Camp Host—Mr. Roadrunner



Lots of snacks



Colorful Death Valley



**Washer Toss Winners:**

First Place—Bob Smith & Catherine Mailliard  
Second Place—Frances Smith & John Mailliard

# Terry's Tech Talk

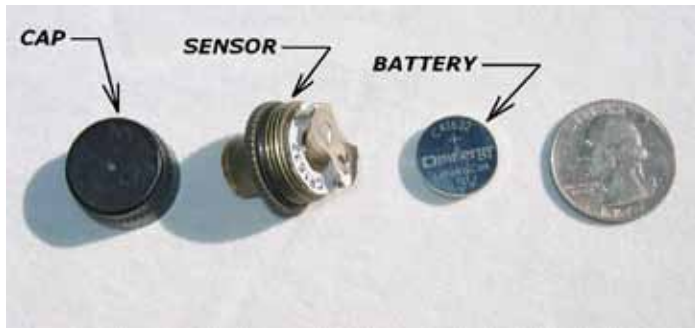
Tech Talk Article 55

Tire Pressure Monitoring System

01/2011

A tire blow out is not a pleasant event and often is triggered by low tire pressure. It is very important to check your tire pressure each morning and to make an inspection of your tires during the travelling day. A low inside dual tire often escapes detection and any tire on the rig or towed vehicle could lose tire pressure while you are underway and go undetected. A **Tire Pressure Monitoring System** (TPMS) can warn you of a developing problem and give you time to take action before a tire blowout with loss of control and/or damage to the coach body happens. I have always wanted a TPMS on my rig and "toad", but I was always leery of the inconvenience and expense of demounting the tire and/or having to exchange sensors when the batteries fail. When I found out about the "Tire Traker" – that is not a misspelling as there is no "c" in "Traker" – with user replaceable batteries, I was ready to try it out.

The sensors are large valve stem caps that are just smaller in diameter than a quarter and the monitor/receiver is about 2 inches wide by 3.5 inches high by an inch thick. A disassembled sensor and the monitor are shown below:



I bought the ten sensor system so that I could monitor the six tires on my motor home and the four tires on my Jeep Wrangler toad. The total cost was \$478 from [www.tiretraker.com](http://www.tiretraker.com) (936) 329-2364. The ten sensor package was \$429 and I bought the hard wired 12 volt signal booster for \$49. The package included a 12 volt charger for the Monitor and an elaborate suction cup monitor holder. The system was shipped from Texas with free shipping and no sales tax. I ordered late on a Friday evening and it was in my mail box the following Monday afternoon. Customer service was excellent as they answered my many e-mailed questions promptly and completely. Replacement batteries are \$1.50 each. Camping World (CW) sells the identical product under the name "Tire Minder". The CW 4 sensor package is listed for \$280. The extra 2 sensor item is \$75 so I would need 3 of these for \$225. The hard wired booster is \$65. Total cost of the equivalent 10 sensor Tire Traker bundle that I bought is \$570 plus shipping plus tax – over a \$100 more at CW.

The system installs easily. First you set the "base" pressure at each tire location. Then you go to the tire location shown on the monitor and install a sensor onto the valve stem and the sensor is assigned to that tire location automatically. Easy!

The monitor alarms by beeping and flashing a red LED above the monitor screen for several levels of low pressure, high pressure, high temperature, low battery, or loss of sensor signal. The sensors go to "sleep" to extend battery life after the tires stop rotating. The sensors "awaken" after 5 to 10 minutes of driving and update every few minutes. An "alarm" seems to be sounded as it happens.

Techsnoz, the "Tech Talk" website.

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

Terry Tanner Rig #2779

# GUESS WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN AT THE MAY CARAVAN!

With the "At Large" non-group hosting the May caravan we wanted to give everyone a heads up on what is going to happen.

First off, we thought it would be nice to have a pancake breakfast. The Outbacks graciously agreed to co-host this fabulous breakfast. At this time the menu will be pancakes, sausage, ham, orange juice, scrambled eggs and coffee. (Menu subject to change.)

The cost to eat this scrumptious food is only \$2 per person. Tickets will go on sell during March and April's caravan. In pre-selling tickets we will have an idea on how many people to plan for. As far as we know, the breakfast will be held on Friday from 8:30 – 10:00 AM.

Also, during May's caravan there will be a photo contest. More information to follow so start taking those pictures.



## From the Editor

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

David Hurley Rig #229  
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d.churley@verizon.net



**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**



## WOMEN ONLY

*Laureta Gibbs (Mama Bear)*

We had a great meeting at Live Oak. With 40 in attendance, the back room was filled to capacity. We had lots of laughs and shared information on some health issues. It was wonderful. A big thank you to all of the very special ladies who attend and help maintain this program with input and super energy.

There will be no meeting in January.



the Caravaner