



THE CARAVANER

MESSAGE FROM the PATHFINDERS

September 2011

Outing Draws Crowd

By Ernest Lyer

Unassoiated Press

When it comes to international events, the Lazy Daze Caravan Club takes a back seat to no similar organization. Literally tens (56 in all) of beautiful Lazy Daze RVs registered at Hurkey Creek for what some assert to be the “best of the lesser known excursions” on the Caravans annual campout venue. I followed along as the Pathfinders, an extremely likeable group of individuals, set up to welcome caravaners to the festivities. It was obvious to this reporter that much work and planning was required to create the welcoming atmosphere caravaners experienced upon arrival. Just one example was the Chocolate Chip Cookie Fantasy gift each caravaner received upon registering at the Host Tent. So many caravaners, myself included, were clamoring for the recipe and it was briefly feared anarchy might reign until, defeated in protecting their secret concoction, the Pathfinder Ladies agreed to publish the recipe in the September Caravaner to be released at Indian Hills. From cookies to door prizes, birthday and anniversary gifts it was clear the Pathfinders took their hosting responsibilities seriously. I know they made me feel at home.

After a day of visiting, pot lucks, happy hours and travel to Idylwild I was shocked on Friday morning to learn that a valuable and historic art object had been lost. To this point in time, everything was proceeding splendidly. The weather was warm and clear and the forest air refreshing. The loss of the Golden Necklace, or as it is known among antiquity collectors, Cleo’s Treasure, cast a pall over the caravaners. Purportedly, the necklace was a gift to Cleopatra from the actor John Burton. What an object of such inestimable value was doing at this particular venue one can only conjecture. Fortunately, there were sufficient clues to the last known position of the necklace and many caravaners joined in the search to recover the artifact. In the end it was located and recovered by Peggy Zabel. I’m informed that Peggy was suitably rewarded by Lords of London for its recovery. I’m writing an article about the Golden Necklace, with photographs of course, that will appear in the December issue of the National Geographic.

Being somewhat younger, I must report that I was simply amazed at the energy exuding from the mostly senior group that surrounded me daily. There was so much to do I could hardly keep up. The creek jumping contest was challenging and for some rather wet. I found the tree climbing contest just scary. I was reminded of the Barnum and Baily circus acts that gave me such frightening thrills as a child. If I had not met these people I’d swear they were crazy. At the close of the tree climbing event I figured the thrills were over and I could relax. Then they brought out the javelins. Even though I could only watch through the slits in the fingers that covered my eyes the javelin-catching contest was breathtaking! Needless to say, even though much younger in years, I did not compete in any of the foregoing events. I could not fantasize what they might do next. Realizing I was outclassed I chose not to participate in the most taxing challenge of all - the grueling marathon event known as the Mickey and Minnie Mouse Washer Toss Tournament. Orchestrated by Field Marshal John Malliard, teams of Minnies and Mickeys were seamlessly sent into pitched opposition on the field of honor. The battle was so intense the combatants required a respite and sustenance before once again joining the fray and heading to the final confrontation. During this break in action, I joined the revelers for the Great American Hot Dog Cookout. Such a feast, the Lazy Dazers as they call themselves, piled on the food in such proportions I found myself hardly able to move. It was indeed a struggle, having stuffed myself to the brim, to find a suitable situation from which to witness the Champion Minnies confront the Champion Mickeys. All around me were scurrying large eared creatures, likewise seeking the best vantage point. Seemingly, endless volleys of metal rings were tossed across only a six-foot gap between the combatants, neither side giving sway. Exhausted, yet jubilant,



the Mickeys took charge with a desperate final surge to win the contest. I learned later that the winners were not really Mickeys, but Bill Arthur and Marlin Zabel. The Minnies, Verona Mc Cutcheon and Peggy Zabel, took an oath to again enjoin the battle next year.

A further testament to the vitality of these 'young at heart' caravaners is their continued participation in yet a second battle with the metal rings after only one nights rest. I could not believe what I was witnessing, but there they were smiling, laughing, and ready to go. Although the competition was similar, the format had changed to male and female teams. This change seemed to soften the entire event. Even Field Marshal Malliard now referred to himself as a 'facilitator'. Softer feeling perhaps, but no less intense. Emerging victorious was the battle hardened Bill Arthur and his partner Jan Hiemstra. They received a generous round of applause from the gallery of fans.

The editor is pounding on my door so I must close out this article. Before doing so, the Pathfinders have asked me to relay a special thanks to all the good folks who assisted at the Host Tent and in so many ways to make Hurkey Creek a special outing.

In the end, I am thrilled to have been invited to witness this event and to offer this brief article. I hope to be invited again.

One last thing, if you missed it, you really missed it!!!



Chocolate Chip Fantasy Cookies As promised:

2 1/4 cups flour	1 teaspoon soda	1 teaspoon salt
1 cup butter	3/4 cup granulated sugar	3/4 cup packed brown sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract	2 large eggs	2 cups chocolate chips
2 cups toasted/chopped pecans (or nuts of choice)		

Combine flour, soda, and salt in small bowl. Beat butter, sugars, and vanilla in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add eggs and mix well. Gradually add flour mixture. Stir in chips and nuts. Chill mixture for two hours or overnight. Use a table spoon to form balls and drop onto ungreased baking sheets. Bake in oven pre-heated to 375 degrees for 9-11 minutes or until lightly brown. Cool on wire racks. Enjoy.

Goodwill Ambassador Report

JAN HAWKEN #2790 of the Outback's recently dropped me a note and saying was doing fine but her strength has not recovered as fast as she would like it to do.



Pathfinder JAN LUDOLPH #2095 lost her mother on May 14th due a severe stroke.

MIKE LUDOLPH has been diagnosed with a very serious illness. Prayer would be appreciated as he battles this disease. You could also send cards to his home address listed in your roster.

Back Scratcher URSULA VOBECK #2589 did major damage to her right leg on our last caravan at Live Oak. She fell in their rig and as she put it, 'her foot went north and her butt went east'. Her doctor said she would have been better off breaking the leg rather than what she did to it. She is looking at four weeks of physical therapy, so we may not see her for awhile.

Road Runner KATHIE HERBERT #2008 fell and broke her hip or was it she broke her hip and fell, which in some cases that is possible. While she was recovering from her fall her husband, CHUCK HERBERT died.

At Large, JOHN WILCOX #1458 suffered a stroke on May 29th that led to his death on June 6th. His graveside service was conducted in Iowa.

Well, here is a little bit of news on me your friendly goodwill person. I had cataract surgery the last of May. As this was my second eye, I thought it would be a piece of cake. NOT!!! It hurt like no tomorrow. It seems that some second surgeries are very painful. Per my doctor, she said there are papers written on this problem. Nobody knows why, but it happens occasionally. Lucky me.



Mona Shaner
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HOST TENT VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE, 2011

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR
HOST TENT VOLUNTEERS

Marlin & Peggy Zabel

Vern & Charlene Tutterrow

John Mailliard

Bob Filler

Roadrunners

Betty Boschma

Bill Arthur

Joe & Jane Fletcher

Dave & Laura Techentin

Howard & Rose Cleek

Bob & LuAnne Lowe

Herb Johnson

Dave & Katharine Spencer

Herb III & Connie Johnson

Mike & Margaret Skinner

Rod & Michelle Murphy

Larry & Sharon Turner

Al & Lydia Granger

Paul & Ursula Grinde

Jim & Marilyn Ramey

Earl & Florence Moore

Bob & Pat Perdue

Washer Toss



Washer Toss Winners

1st: Bill Arthur and Jan Hiemstra

2nd: Vern Tutterrow and Katherine Spencer



Minnie and Mickey Washer Toss Winners:

1st: Marlin Zabel and Bill Arthur

2nd: Verona McCutcheon and Peggy Zabel



Wedding Anniversaries



Golden Necklace Winner



Birthdays



Pot of Gold



Peaceful setting at Hurkey Creek



General Meeting



First Timers



Dean & Sherron Ansley — La Quinta, CA

Caravan Anniversary



Earl and Florence Moore — 200 Caravans

Terry's Tech Talk

Tech Talk Article 61

Transmission Failure - 2001 Ford E-450

09/2011

I was driving my 2001 27 foot Lazy Daze Rear Bath while towing my Jeep Wrangler down Angeles Crest Highway in the mountains just north of Los Angeles as I do almost every week in the summer. I downshifted from 3rd gear to 2nd gear on a downgrade and immediately noticed that I had no engine braking. I looked at my tachometer and the reading was about 1,000 RPM instead of the expected 3,000 RPM. This was not good as I had to depend on the brakes alone to maintain a safe speed on the downgrades. I also noticed limited engine braking when downshifting from 2nd gear to 1st gear and almost no retardation in shifting from overdrive to 3rd gear. I took the rig to Peck Road Ford and left it overnight for diagnosis. I called Gear Vendors and asked them if my problem could be related to my aftermarket overdrive and they said it could be a reverse clutch failure in the overdrive. Peck Road Ford took my rig on a 15 mile test drive and could not detect anything "wrong" with the transmission performance and also ran pressure checks on the transmission and found everything normal. For this they billed me \$156.20.

I took the rig into Unitrax in Anaheim. The technician took the rig for a test drive and got it up to speed and then downshifted from 3rd to 2nd gear and immediately noticed no engine braking and said it was "scary". He ran a series of tests and he was sure the Gear Vendors Overdrive was not the problem. I brought it back the next day for normal service for the overdrive for \$80. They assured me the overdrive was working normal and was not the problem.

I took the rig to Sunset Transmission in Los Angeles and the owner took the rig for a drive. The transmission shifted just fine when going "up the gears" but there was no engine braking when down shifting. The rig went up on the rack and the fluid was normal and no metal was found in the bottom of the pan. The only thing to do was take the transmission apart, which is basically rebuilding the transmission.

They found that the "snap ring" (about 5 inches in diameter) had come out of its retaining groove. There are a series of parts mounted on the shaft that goes through the center of the part shown in the picture. The cost of the transmission rebuild was \$2800 which included 27 quarts of synthetic ATF (Automatic Transmission Fluid) at \$15 per quart. This failure occurred at only 47,200 miles. I took the offending part back to Peck Road Ford and showed it to them. I was refunded the amount that they charged me for their incorrect diagnosis.



[Techsnoz](http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/Techsnoz/), the "Tech Talk" website.

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

Terry Tanner Rig #2779



HURKEY CREEK HOTDOG FEAST



LAZY DAZE CARAVAN CLUB

2012 CAMPING SCHEDULE

JANUARY 18 - 22 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>Past Tents</i>	LAKE PERRIS STATE PARK 17801 Lake Perris Blvd. Perris, CA 92571	Water & Electric Hook-ups Dump Station Bring extra leveling blocks!	(951) 657-0676 1658 Ft. Elevation
FEBRUARY 15 - 19 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>Drifters</i>	BUENA VISTA AQUATIC REC. AREA Hwy 119 & Hwy 43 Just W of I-5 Bakersfield, CA 93301	Full Hook-ups 2 Rigs per site	(661) 868-7000 301 Ft. Elevation
MARCH 14 - 18 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>Roadrunners</i>	VAIL LAKE RESORT 38000 Highway 79 South Temecula, CA 92589	Full Hook-ups Arroyo Seco area	(951) 303-0173 1510 Ft. Elevation
APRIL 18 - 22 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>Firesiders</i>	TUCALOTA SPRINGS RV PARK 41601 Benton Road Sage, CA 92544	Full Hook-ups	(951) 767-0604 2345 Ft. Elevation
MAY 16 - 20 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>Pathfinders</i>	LIVE OAK CAMP Star Route, Hwy 154 Santa Barbara, CA 93105 No Limit on Guests	Dry Camping Water & Dump @ Cachuma Lake Club Pot Luck	(805) 686-5055 810 Ft. Elevation
JUNE 20 - 24 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>Backscratchers</i>	HURKEY CREEK Loops C & D 56375 Hwy. 74 Lake Hemet, CA 92561	Dry Camping Dump Station in Hemet Hot Dog Cookout	(951) 659-2050 4382 Ft. Elevation
SEPTEMBER 19 - 23 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>Outbacks</i>	INDIAN HILL RANCH 18061 Arosa Rd. Tehachapi, CA 93561	Dry Camping Dump Station Club Pot Luck	(661) 822-6613 5270 Ft. Elevation
OCTOBER 17 - 21 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>No Mads</i>	BUTTERFIELD RANCH 14925 Great S. Overland Rte. Julian, CA 92036	Full Hook-ups Halloween Theme w/ Pumpkins & Costumes	(760) 765-1463 2042 Ft. Elevation
November 28 - Dec. 2 <i>Hosting Group</i> <i>Past Tents</i>	LIVE OAK CAMP Star Route, Hwy 154 Santa Barbara, CA 93105 No Limit on Guests	Dry Camping Water & Dump @ Cachuma Lake Christmas Party	(805) 686-5055 810 Ft. Elevation

Wake Up and Smell the Coffee!

Lazy Daze Caravan Club's 1st Coffee Pot



THAT was THEN, this is NOW!



Welcome to Indian Hill Ranch and to your first cup of our Famous Lazy Daze Caravan Primo Coffee since the Hurkey Creek outing. Herb Johnson came through for members once again transporting the coffee pots after storing them for two months. It sure would be nice if another coffee drinker would step up and volunteer for duty for the October caravan or for the Nov/Dec caravan.

Donna LaPorte





Craft Class



Our Caravan Musicians

▶ **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**



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.

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



Art & Barbara Berggreen #2771
www.lazydazecaravanclub.org

