

THE CARAVANER



Welcome to Stagecoach Trails Resort
Hosted by the NoMads

October 2012



A message from the Outbacks

The Outbacks hosted the September 2012 Caravan at Indian Hill Ranch with an Apple theme. The Outbacks wore red or green tee shirts with an Apple Badge. Catherine Mailliard made the Apple Badges and Sue Mercer created the Apple toffee candy bags. The host tent was efficiently run under the direction of Catherine Mailliard. The two Door Prizes each day for the three days were obtained by Sue Mercer. Joann Watson obtained the Birthday and Anniversary prizes. Barbara Sitts made the "Apple Facts" cross word puzzle and the prize for the correct submission. The weather was warm during the day and pleasantly cool during the night. On Friday, some ventured to Edwards Air Force base to see the Space Shuttle, atop its 747 Transporter, fly by and land on its way to its new home at the California Science Center in Los Angeles. On Saturday morning, the Space Shuttle was visible to the north from our campsite as it flew toward Bakersfield on its California fly by tour. We had 57 rigs, including two First Timer rigs, in camp. The Friday evening Pot Luck was a great way to meet our old friends after the long summer layoff and the Saturday Washer Toss was a great way to make new friends. The Outbacks enjoyed hosting this Caravan and we hope to see you next month at Stage Coach Trails where the Nomads will be hosting.



WE SALUTE YOU

HOST TENT VOLUNTEERS

FOR SEPTEMBER, 2012

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR HOST TENT VOLUNTEERS

Bill Arthur

Betty Boschma

Herb & Carlynn Christian

Jane Farwell

Al & Lydia Granger

Carol Harter

Bob & Jan Hawken

Dan & Jeanie Johnson

Herb & Connie Johnson III

Herb & Darlene Johnson Jr

Bob & LuAnne Lowe

John Mailliard

Don & Verona McCutcheons

Randy & Lynn Murray

Ruben & Jenny Pasillas

Roadrunners

Bob Scmahl

Mike & Marg Skinner

Frances Smith

Laura Techentin

Larry & Sharon Turner

Dudley & Marilyn Varney



DEATH VALLEY IS COMING AROUND AGAIN!

Thought it might be nice to give an early reminder to all caravaners about experiencing New Years in Death Valley.



This will be our sixteenth. If you have any questions, ask Frances Smith, #2206 or Rosemary Webb, #2477. You also can give us a phone call or email your questions.



Melinda Cornwell — Livingston, TX



Ron and Brenda Day — Redondo Beach, CA



Shuttle Endeavor

On Thursday, September 20, 2012, Greg Young took George Watson, Jim Carter, and Terry Tanner into Edwards Air Force Base to witness the landing of the Space Shuttle on its 747 Transporter.

The photos to the right show the Shuttle as it made a fly by before landing and a later photo of it parked on the tarmac.

The photos were taken by Greg Young.

This was a memorable excursion trip from the Caravan campsite at Indian Hill Ranch in Tehachapi.

Terry Tanner

Rig 2779



ICE CREAM SOCIAL



SAFETY TEAM

This Caravan article is a repeat from last Fall, but I thought in case you haven't put carbon monoxide detectors in your home and properties, it would remind us all to do so. Is the detector in your motorhome working?

New Carbon Monoxide Alarm Law

The Carbon Monoxide Prevention Act of 2010 (SB 183) was signed into law on May 7, 2010. SB 183 requires California homeowners to install carbon monoxide detectors in existing single-family homes by July 2011. All remaining homes will have to have carbon monoxide detectors in place by January 1, 2013.

What is carbon monoxide?

Carbon monoxide is a gas produced whenever any fuel, such as gas, oil, kerosene, wood, or charcoal, is burned. Carbon monoxide has no color and no odor, so a person cannot see or smell it. However, at high levels carbon monoxide can kill a person in minutes. In fact, carbon monoxide poisoning is the leading cause of accidental poisoning death in the United States.

What is a carbon monoxide detector?

Similar to a smoke detector, a carbon monoxide detector signals if there is carbon monoxide in the air. It is a relatively inexpensive device that you can purchase from any reputable hardware store. It can be battery powered, a plug-in device with battery backup, or a device wired into the alternating current power line of the dwelling unit with a secondary battery backup or connected to a system via a panel.

The carbon monoxide device must have been tested and certified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and must display the State Fire Marshal seal. For more information visit the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection website at www.fire.ca.gov and type in "carbon monoxide" in the "search" box.

How many devices do I need? Where do I place them in my home?

It is recommended that you follow the carbon monoxide detector manufacturer's installation requirements included with the detector. Most manufacturers recommend a carbon monoxide detector be centrally located outside of each separate sleeping area, in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. The detector should be located at least 6 inches from an exterior wall and at least 3 feet from supply or return vents.

Joanne Wayne, Chairperson, Safety Team





POTLUCK



Anniversaries



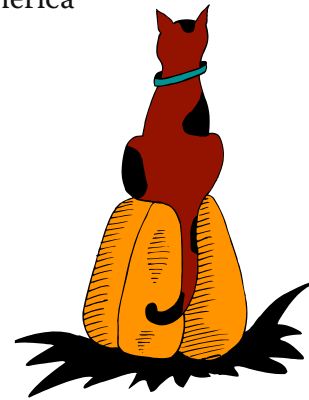
Don and Barbara Sitts — 75 Caravans



Laura Techentin — 75 Caravans



Christine Nordstrom leading us in
God Bless America



Snowball Express Awareness

by Greg Young

Last week at Indian Hills the Outbacks passed out Snowball Express T-shirts to most of our caravan participants. The purpose was to bring awareness to this children's charity. The Outbacks have supported the children of our fallen heroes and Snowball Express since 2006.

The mission statement is listed below. During our first three years these children were hosted in Orange County. For the past four years we have hosted these children in Dallas Tx.

Last year we had 1300 children of the fallen, 400 widows and 12 fathers that have lost their spouses in the war on terror.

The mission of Snowball Express is to create hope and new memories for the children of our fallen military heroes who have died while on active duty since 9/11. We invite you to help us carry out this mission. It is a responsibility that we all share.



WASHER TOSS



1st Place: Joe Fletcher
Brenda Day

2nd Place: Jon Calhoun
Christine Nordstrom



Around the Camp

Photos by John Fisher



Apple in Tehachapi



Reflection



Terry's Tech Talk

Tech Talk Article 69

External Propane Source

10/2012

Most of my camping is dry camping in the same spot in Angeles National Forest. When I get low on propane, it is about an 80 mile round trip that takes most of the day to fill my propane tank. On my 2001 Lazy Daze 27 Rear Bath, I installed a brass fitting in between the fixed propane tank and the pressure regulator that allows me to connect to an external portable propane tank. Lazy Daze complicates the installation by not using a section of flexible tubing in between the regulator and the main copper line, but by eliminating duplicate parts and carefully bending existing the tubing, I was able to make a clean installation. The parts are shown below:



By removing the "Tail" from the fitting and the "Nose" from the regulator and joining them with a ¼ inch brass nipple, I was able to cut the horizontal length to only an extra 1 3/4 inches.

The "A" port accepts a high pressure hose with a ¼" Inverted Male Flare fitting and an Excess Flow Soft Nose P.O.L. on the other end to connect to the portable propane tank. The "B" port connects to a high pressure hose with a Swivel 1"-20 Male Throwaway Thread and a Swivel 1"-20 Female Throwaway Thread on the other end to connect to a propane device such as a grill. The "A" hose is part of the "Standard" kit while both the "A" and "B" hoses are included in the "Deluxe" kit.. I bought the Marshall Products G420P "Extend-A-Stay" fitting by itself for about \$30 and the "A" hose for about \$18. The "Extend-A-Stay" Standard kit runs about \$69 and the Deluxe kit runs about \$102. Similar kits and prices are available from Mr. Heater under the name "Stay-A-While". Another manufacturer is Sturgis. Buying the kit is easier than the buying the fittings and hoses separately. It was a nightmare trying to find the correct ends on the hoses with the numerous threads and connectors out there. Prices vary widely online.



First I connected the regulator with the "Extend-A-Stay" to the copper tubing. Then I connected the Extend-A-Stay to the tank, hoping that there would be less chance of kinking the copper tubing.

Jose Silva at Pasadena Propane, 250 N Altadena Dr. in Pasadena , CA (626) 584-6041 was most helpful and had a good selection of

fittings. This is also a good place to get propane as it is "easy in and easy out".

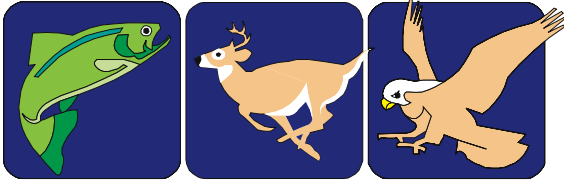
I checked for leaks and then put back the plastic cover over the regulator.

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

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

Terry Tanner Rig #2779





Lurlie Edgecomb #2285 aka Mother Nature

Tuesday and Wednesday at Indian Hill Campground in September, we were thrilled to see flocks of western bluebirds, an adult golden eagle, and a great-blue heron. As we filled in the open spaces, they seemed to move on. Undaunted, the acorn woodpeckers were plentiful and noisy as they flashed shiny black and white feathers in flight and as they landed you could see red on their heads. The western pocket gophers and California ground squirrels continued their construction/destruction projects which we had to avoid or risk a broken ankle.

Another woodpecker family member occasionally seen was the red-shafted flicker whose under-wings are orange and rump is white. Usually solitary, it enjoys ripping up anthills with its beak while using the sticky tongue to lap up ants. It uses that tongue on tree trunks also. One green-tailed towhee was seen by C.F. on the upper slope probably looking for insects. Many of you saw deer along the roads either on an early walk or returning to camp at dusk. We all heard the burros braying. A few saw, and many heard, the great-horned owl. The Winnie-the-Pooh tree, uphill from the bathhouse, was a favorite site for it with a big branch for perching and a huge cavity to retreat to for the day. Strangely, there was very little duck activity on the lakes, ponds really. Colorful dragonflies zoomed around us as we did the Walk. B.H. caught and released ten fish in one day! A big catfish got away. His story, not mine.

Saturday while Washer Toss was in the semi-finals, I could hear hawk calls the other side of my rig. I spotted three very big birds, circling with little effort. I used my binoculars to concentrate on the noisy one and looked for identifying marks.....broad, black band on tail at the tip and white above that, dark body and wings except out at the base of the primaries, which had a patch of white. In Peterson's Field Guide to Western Birds, I first found a black hawk, but kept looking because it isn't usually found this far west. In the end, I decided I had seen a juvenile golden eagle. The other two possibly were parents telling him it was time to find his own territory. On my way home, along Tehachapi-Willow Springs Road, I had the pleasure of seeing an adult golden eagle in flight--what a wing spread!

A small yellow bird that could have been a yellow warbler was reported to me. A flock of small gray birds was busy on the rabbit brush (which blooms late summer and fall) plucking seeds. They sounded like bushtits and chattered away as they worked right side up and upside down. I saw, and others reported, seeing plump cottontails in several locations. A deer came down to drink at the far side of the very low, second pond. No reports of bats or barn swallows this year.....perhaps, not enough bugs? There were fewer wasps. The light breezes helped keep bugs away and also felt good. A few hot hours mid-day gave us nice evenings, good sleeping weather, and pleasant mornings.

Mother Nature
aka Lurlie Edgecomb #2285



Happy Anniversary To:



Bill and Frances Surbrook



Herb and Susan Pyle



Lydia Granger won the cross word puzzle contest



Melinda Cornwell speaking at the Meeting



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



From the Editor

The deadline for articles is the Sunday following each Caravan. Please e-mail articles as Word documents or in Text format when possible. Clean hard copy prints can also be submitted but I don't guarantee spelling and punctuation after I scan and run my OCR (optical character recognition) program on them.

Thank you for your continuing support in the production of the Caravaner.

David Hurley Rig #229
PO Box 3155
Ontario, CA 91761-0916
d.churley@verizon.net



Terry Tanner is back with his very popular Tech Talk

