



PALA RV Resort



Pala, CA

California FMCA HMC Chapter News and Schedule of Events

27th Year

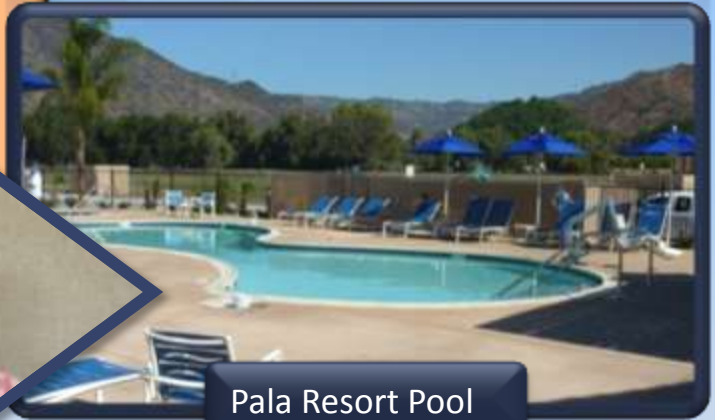
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by David Althoff,

Our rally on June 2-4 was held at the Pala Casino Spa Resort. A new RV park had just been built and we were the first RV group to reserve their park. This was a beautiful park, clean, all concrete, and the staff did everything they could to accommodate us. Their casino rivaled many of those in Las Vegas. My hat is off to our Wagonmaster, Debbie Van Holland. Continued on Next page.



Pala RV Resort



Pala Resort Pool



Trailbosses:
Kathie & Tom King
& Shirley & Bob
Harrington

2016 FMCA HMC Rallies

September 22-25, 2016
*Fall into Fun In
Apple Country*
Ramona Oaks RV Resort
Ramona, CA

November 9-13, 2016
Cattle Call
Brawley, CA



Pala Resort Clubhouse



Our terrific bartender – master of the margarita machine: Bob “Sherky” Scherckenback

President’s Message Cont.
Our last two rallies – Fountain of Youth and Pala (both Parks being a first for us) were very successful. A mighty fine job, Debbie! And I sure can’t give enough thanks to our Trailbosses – Kathie & Tom King and Shirley & Bob Harrington. They did a great job. They were rookies but not now! It seems like our Margarita machine and Bob Scherckenbach were big hits – all 3 nights! Bob is now an expert at making those margaritas and I think we will use his expertise again! Thank you, Tom & Kathie and Richard & Sylvia for the margarita donation. We had 17 coaches. The weather did get pretty warm in the daytime, but really cooled off at night. Looking forward to our next rally at Ramona Oaks RV Resort in Ramona on September 22-25 – again another new place!



Happy faces of Mary Lou, Bobbie and Steve

Sylvia and Sherky



Margarita Trivia question:
Who used 5 bottles of tequila and never sampled any?
Answer revealed at the Ramona Rally



Dave & Alan
Are those margaritas your holding?



Frank with his four o’clock margarita grin





CAFMC Chapter Rally

FROM YOUR TRAILBOSES:

Tom & Kathie King and Bob & Shirley Harrington

The foggy mornings cooled us all off before the heat came in to roast us. There were 17 rigs in all, and one 42 foot Prevost belonging to the Sacketts had to leave early Friday afternoon because their rig used too much electricity for the Pala voltage. The Wheelers came in Friday evening to fill in, so altogether there were 16 campers. Several times we saw fresh smoke from the Pala fire over the hill, but we never did smell the smoke. The evenings were pleasant enough for folks to gather around outside for conversation.



The brand new campground was very nice with wide spaces, concrete for the rigs, grass between. The clubhouse was within walking distance, and we had half of the building with an accordion wall separating the two halves. The kitchen had a side by side refrigerator-freezer, an oven (not too large, however), and two microwaves ovens. Of course there was a sink, but NO HOT WATER!! We let them know, and the next morning, the hot water started flowing, thank goodness!! Continued on next page...



FROM YOUR TRAILBOSES: Cont.

As for the food, we had chicken pot pies, salads, vegetables and desserts Friday night. And of course we had the Althoff's Margarita Machine, and Bob Scherkenbach did a masterful job of bar tending all three nights!! We were served two hot breakfasts: egg casserole Friday and omelets in a bag on Saturday. Both mornings had hash brown potatoes. Friday night we had heavy hors d'oeuvres and no one went away hungry. Sunday was continental with LOTS of fresh fruits, muffins, sweet rolls, etc., and orange juice, of course. The Saturday main meal was barbecued hamburgers prepared by Tom, Bob Harrington and Richard Grajeda. We also had potato salad and chips.



Trailboss Tom getting ready for those omelets



The grill masters: Tom King and Richard Grajeda



Dave and Judy dishing up the fixin's

Shirley Harrington taught some of the ladies how to play Texas Hold 'Em, so now they're prepared for the next Poker tournament. Many of the people caught the handy shuttle bus over to the Pala Casino to see how it was. A few even played some slots and other games. The casino is huge and busy and new. Tom King flew his kite in erratic wind on Saturday. The Chapmans had to leave for a few hours for a grandson's baseball game.

Sunday many people left early, other people walked around to say their good byes until next time, and we were all checked out by noon.



Tom's better half, Kathie, lends a hand with the kite



Shirley knows her card games



A Note from your Wagon Master

“CAFMCA Chapter Rally”

Pala was great, good weather, good food and great company. Thank you to Kathie and Tom and Shirley and Bob you guys did a wonderful job. Pala is a new campground with a few bugs to work out but I think it was nice to see what they have accomplished so far. They worked with us to move us to the clubhouse with the better A/C and even figured out why we had no hot water. They even worked hard to try to resolve the power issues some were having in the 50 amp spaces. Even though we had a few fires burning close you would not have known if you did not see the news. It was clear and breezy the entire time other than the morning fog. I did not hear of any one winning big in the casino but I also did not hear of any one losing a lot either.

They had a tram that would take us from our coaches to the casino front door, most times we did not even need to call they were making the rounds and picked us up.



Debbie, Judy and Sylvia, learning how the game is played from Shirley

Thank you to Shirley for trying to teach some of us how to play Texas Hold Em, I think Irene was having beginners luck she took all our chips. Continued on next page...



Beginner's LUCK
Irene

Note from your Wagon Master Cont.

Our next outing is September 22-25, 2016 at the Ramona Oaks Campground in Ramona. Dad, mom, Bart and myself drove over to check it out on Friday during our free time. Nice big Oak trees and nicely refurbished facilities. The sites are on levels so make sure to bring your tow vehicle or your walking shoes. Hope to see everyone there and thank you to Irene and Frank Griffin and Dave and Marie Hilber for being our trail bosses for Ramona. They are not saying much but I think Irene and Marie have some great things planned for our rally.



The final outing of 2016 will be our Brawley Cattle call November 9-13 in Brawley of course. Thank you to Vickie and David Althoff and Ellen and Bruce Chapman for being the trail bosses for that one. I know they have already been working on some great ideas. See important dates in Vicky's message below. Hope to see everyone soon.

Debbie VanHolland
Wagon Master



Brawley Cattle Call Rally in November Update

By Vicky



The Cattle Call Rodeo rally in Brawley, CA will be November 9-13. I called Robin, the person in charge of the parking, to see if we could get our names down now as coming, and would we be allowed to come in on Wednesday. General parking is not open until Thursday, but we will be allowed to come in on Wednesday and Robin has initialed us in now. We will park in Tier 1 again and I will try to get the rodeo seating in the same area we did before. Parking on Wednesday through Saturday is \$80 with Sunday being complimentary.



Tickets for the rodeo go on sale on Thursday, September 1

I will send out a signup sheet August 1 to be returned **no later** than August 29

This is a popular yearly event in Brawley, and I **must** buy the rodeo tickets on that day

Our tickets last time were \$14 each, but at this time I don't know what the prices are

So, mark your calendars now if you want to go so you can get it scheduled. I will be sending the signup sheet to all of you early. Once the deadline is over and I have purchased the tickets, there would probably not be a problem about parking, but you would have to purchase your own rodeo tickets, and the seats might not be where everyone is seated.

I will be in contact again with Robin later this summer.

A Note from your Secretary

By Vicky Althoff

I want to thank our member **Bob Gerberick** for his effort in trying to obtain permission for us to go back to El Centro next March for the Blue Angels Show. Although he was in the Navy several years before John McCain was, they did serve on the same carrier. Bob wanted to see if Mr. McCain might be able to use his influence to allow us on Base.

Mr. McCain sent a letter to the Commanding Officer at El Centro and the Commander did send a letter to Bob.

He emphatically said "no", we would only be allowed on Base the day of the Show and would have to leave when the Show was finished. THANKS BOB - YOU TRIED!



I also would like to remind everyone about the **WAFMCA.com** web site. I do have it listed on the second page of our Directory. This is the website for the Western Area which is who we are under. It has many pictures of events happening with the Chapters in this area, and information about FMCA. You can learn who officers are and learn about the benefits of FMCA. I also send a copy of each of our newsletters for them to include on their Website. Try going into it sometime and check it out.

All of you should have received our new 2016-2017 Directory.



PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Many of our members have been on extended trips and others are getting ready to enjoy summer traveling so we wanted to share some of their highlights—



Ella & "Dr." John

"Dr." John and Ella are leaving for Oregon for a memorial service for Ella's sister. After that the fun begins and as Dr. John put it "WE'RE OUT-A-HERE!!!!!"



Gary and Jean are planning to follow the old Route 66 and points beyond.



Jean & Gary



Betty & Joe

Betty, Toby and I left for Louisiana on the 29th of February. On a moment's notice when Betty said "pack up the RV we're going to see our Granddaughter" play softball at LSU in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Arriving there with nothing more than a small problem (The Satellite Dome blew off the roof in Texas). Between rain storms, we attended a month's worth of Fast Pitch Softball games. Even traveling to Georgia to see them play. We left from there to head south to

Florida to visit my cousin's and an old Navy buddy. A month latter, we started going North, stopping in South Carolina, at the Biltmore Estate. (Check that off the bucket list), then on to Virginia to see more relatives. Continuing North, we stop in New Jersey for 3 weeks of sightseeing and of course more relatives.



The trip to Ellis Island was the highlight of the sights we saw. Not wanting to wear out our welcome, and before our belts won't fit (Eating food you grew up on takes it's toll), we move once again North to New York State to see my daughter. Soon we leave to go to Connecticut to visit with, you guessed it, more relatives. Miss you all, and we hope everyone is having a good time (But not too good a time without us).

From the Road;
Joe & Betty + Toby the Traveler, (June 2016)

More Road Trip Memories:

Robin and Trudy were off in April for a final destination of the Canadian Maritimes and on the way---First stop was Mesa, Arizona where Robin was his nieces 'father' for her wedding. (Her Dad and my friend had passed away four years ago). It was a beautiful affair, but the trip home was a disaster. A trip of 6 hours became one of 10. We were caught in the bridge washout on Hwy 10 and it was bumper to bumper from Palm Springs to Alhambra. On our trip again, after replacing 2 batteries, and a late start, headed north on 99 to Coalinga. Thank goodness for Mickey D's—a place to stop for the night and 2 quarter pounders. Next day visited our grandkids and shared a movie, The Jungle Book—(great movie)



Following that visit headed up north to Willets and Crescent City and our date night (which is usually Tuesday but on this trip it's every night) going for clam chowder. Oops, restaurant closed today so next day found us at the Chart Room, the best place in the state for clam chowder. On many trips up north, I always missed the Rhododendrons in bloom. Not this time, they were gorgeous. Next stop Florence, Oregon with their many antique shops and another of our favorite restaurants, the Waterfront Depot and more Rhododendrons.

Leaving Florence we headed to Bend and another wedding—my nephew Nik's. This took place in a park along the Deschutes River, a beautiful setting. By the way, it has rained the entire time we have been here. Next was a trip to Tillamook, Oregon and their famous cheeses and the best ice cream ever. Back through the mountains (a wild trip whether dry or wet as today), but we managed to get to Portland and met up with our friends Ken and Patsy.

We had another bout of rain and when we got up, the coach was flooded. A leak coming down the fans and onto the passenger chair. A trip to Home Depot for a small wet vac to take up the water, but there was too much. A tarp on the roof helped a little as I couldn't get caulk to apply in wet conditions. Leaving the heater on, we had more relatives to visit—Trudy's brother Rudy. We just have to wait for some dry weather. Wet carpet or not we headed for Baker, Oregon for one day and then to Twin Falls, IDA to meet with my son Robin, Jr. and his family. Wondered why our times didn't match—forgot we had entered another time zone. While in Twin Falls, replaced the refrigerator roof cap (the culprit) and spent time with grandson Albert and his wife. On our way to Logan and my sister Eileen's it rained and blew (will it ever stop).

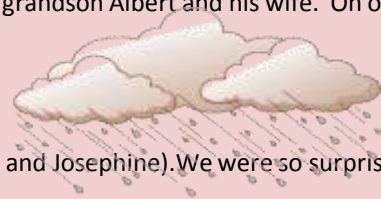
For those who don't know, I am a member of the Mormon Church and my goal is to visit as many Temples as I can on this trip and I have been rewarded with many.

On to Bountiful and a get together with some old police buddies (Charlie and Josephine). We were so surprised when Josephine presented us with a quilt she had made—what a gift.

Would you believe, more wind and rain as we headed to Wyoming--First to Rock Springs and then to Cheyenne for visits with a cousin. Trudy DROVE THE COACH on the only stretch of road with no construction. She left that to me.

Denver, next stop to visit Trudy's sister, Marleen, and my niece and cousin—we seem, to have relatives all over. Marleen is recovering from a serious illness and was fitted with a prosthesis. I helped her with the tools she needed to remove the leg by herself and now she can be more independent.

The second half of our trip is starting and we will be traveling across Colorado, Kansas and next stop, Hannibal, MO. Hopefully without so much rain. So more later.



Some Insights to the Pala Band of Mission Indians

The Pala band of Mission Indians were once referred to as the Cupeños, a Spanish term meaning: one who come from Kupa. The tribe, however, originally called themselves Kuupangaxwicheh which translates to "people who slept here". The Cupans were one of the smallest native American tribes in Southern California. It is unlikely that they ever numbered more than 1,000 in size. They once occupied a territory 10 square miles in diameter in a mountainous region at the headwaters of the San Luis Rey River in the valley of San Jose de Valle. Many of the Pala Indians trace their heritage back to Cupa. Today, more than 90 years after having been expelled from their native homeland, the Cupeños call Pala home and live as one among the Luiseño tribe.



Before 1810, the Cupans had very little contact with outsiders — Spanish or otherwise. The land they had lived on for countless generations, including the medicinal hot springs and the village called Cupa was controlled and used for the exclusion of the Cupans by Americans who displaced them. As the Spanish, Mexicans and, later, the American trailblazers grew in number in the region, the Cupans began to work in serf-like relations to the newcomers.

Tensions mounted when pioneers frequently used a trail that ran directly through Cupan territory and San Diego officials assessed a \$600 tax begrudgingly paid by the villagers.

Shortly after California was made a state in 1848, a Cupeno Net named Antonio Garra attempted to unite Southern California Indians against all foreigners by organizing a revolt. Garra, his son and a renegade American sailor were able to unify many of the Indian tribes of the region. But just moments before a grand attack was to commence, a pro-American chief leading the Cahuilla tribe opted out of the coalition to sue for peace. This dissolution of unity was Garra's undoing and within days, Garra was executed and the village of Cupa was burned.

By the late 1800's the hot sulfur springs found on the Cupa territories were becoming very popular and attracting visitors from Los Angeles and San Diego. The popularity of the destination and the growing California population began the events which ultimately led to the expulsion of the Cupans from their homeland.

Four years after California became a state, a land survey commission was formed, and cattleman Juan Jose Warner claimed 47,500 acres of what is now Warner Springs. Warner Springs makes up the majority of the Cupan homeland. The property was later purchased by former California Governor John Downey in 1880. Downey then filed a lawsuit — later pursued by his heirs after his death — claiming title to the land and demanding eviction of the Cupenos from the property. The Cupas argued before the courts that Mexican law, as well as the peace treaty that ended the war between Mexico and the United States, ensured Indian rights and precluded the hostile takeover of their land. They argued to no avail. The California courts agreed with Downey and in 1901 the United States Supreme Court affirmed the judgment ordering removal of the Indians.

President Rutherford Hayes, prompted by the Supreme Court holding, declared the Indians "trespassers" and ordered the tribe relocated to Pala, California, just beyond the Palomar Mountains where a 10,000-acre reservation had been established. Pala was a Luiseno reservation then, not Cupa. This act marked the first time in U.S. history that two distinct Indian tribes were herded together in one reservation. This was a blemish upon a nation that prided itself on leading the world into the 20th Century and the cultural and political renaissance that accompanied such a transition.

On the morning of May 12, 1903, Indian Bureau agent James Jenkins arrived with 44 armed teamsters to carry out the eviction. Rosinda Nolasquez — the last survivor of the expulsion — later testified that "Many carts stood there by the doors. People came from La Mesa, from Santa Ysabel, from Wilakal, from San Ignacio to see their relatives. They cried a lot. And they just threw our belongings, our clothes, into carts."

The 40-mile journey from Cupa to Pala took three days. The Cupeños call it their "Trail of Tears."



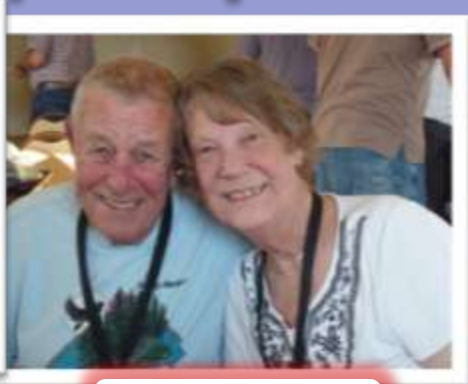
Some of our Pala Rally Couples



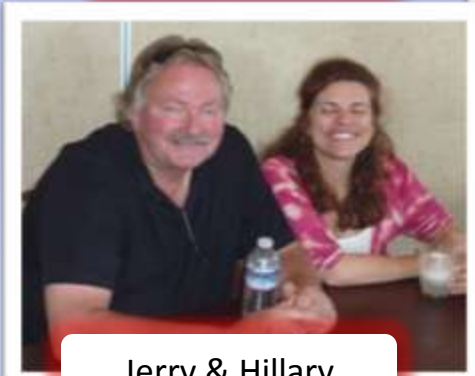
Bobbie & Steve



Annie & Tom



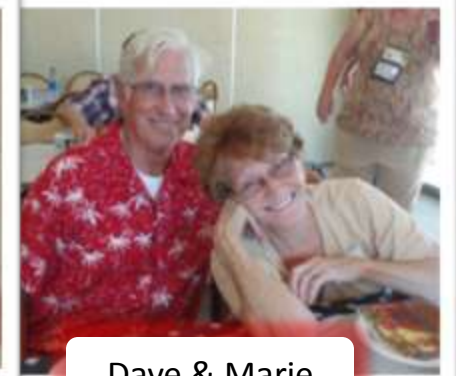
Gary & Jean



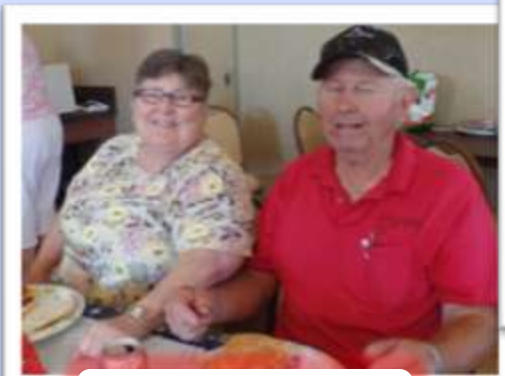
Jerry & Hillary



Richard & Sylvia



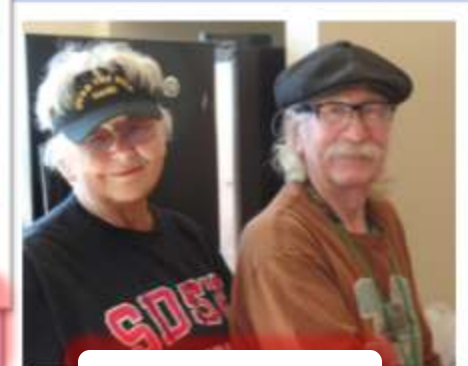
Dave & Marie



Shirley & Tom



Yvonne & Rob



Geri & Sherky



More Rally Memories



Bart, we need those eggs!



The gang's all here



President Dave making sure to capture the fun with his camera



The extended Grajeda family joined us



Tom, our professional kite flyer extraordinaire



2016-2017 Officers California FMCA HMC Chapter

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