



BLUE ANGELS

2014

Newsletter



California FMCA HMC Chapter News and Schedule of Events

25th Year

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Alan Mersereau,

As usual we all enjoyed the Blue Angels at the Naval Air Station in Seeley, California.

We enjoyed socializing with our members and guests.

We had 32 coaches in attendance. We would like to welcome 5 new members to our Club.

A **BIG** thank you to our parking crew Joe Kloss and Robin Ririe and also to our FANTASTIC Trail bosses – David & Vicky Althoff, Bruce & Ellen Chapman and Bart & Debbie Van Holland.

Hope to see everyone at our next Rally in May at Flying Flags in Buelton.



Blue Angels – NAS El Centro

March 12-15, 2014

by Vicky Althoff

. Trail Bosses: David & Vicky Althoff, Bruce & Ellen Chapman, & Bart & Debbie Van Holland

Oh, those Blue Angels! Such a thrill to watch them and to know that they, and all our military forces, are there to fight for our freedom in this great country of ours! And how can anyone, being parked as close as we are to the flagpole, not stand in complete silence and gratitude every morning at 8:00 am, watching the solemn march of the Color Guard carrying our Flag to the pole, and raising it as our National Anthem is being played. This year a new flag pole was erected, and the Naval Air Base had installed new speakers that can be heard throughout the Base. And to watch all cars stopping wherever they are to salute – very stirring!

continued on page 2

2014 FMCA HMC Rallies

March 14-17: *The Missions & Wines Rally*, Flying Flags RV Resort, Buellton, CA

September 8-10: *The Beach Party Rally*, Pismo Coastal Village RV Resort, Pismo Beach, CA

November 12-15: *Sittin' On The Dock by the Bay Rally*, Chula Vista RV and Marina Resort, Chula Vista, CA



Blue Angels

Continued from page 1

Our rally began on **Wednesday**, March 12, with 65 Blue Angel admirers. In attendance were: David & Vicky Althoff, Bruce & Ellen Chapman, Bart & Debbie Van Holland, Alan & Judy Mersereau, Ed & Gloria Fernandez, Ray & Linda Macken, Frank & Irene Griffin, Phil & Shirlee Griffin, Bob Valpey, Joe & Betty Kloss, Robin & Trudy Ririe, Jim & Marilyn Carnes, Richard & Teresa Catton, Thomas & Anna Danaher, George & MaryLou Crafton, Richard Grieser, Robert Gerberick & Eileen Kotula, John & Ella Hamilton, Bob & Shirley Harrington, Edward Hamlin & Sylvia Mailer, David & Marie Hilber, Robert & Lydia Ishler, Tom & Kathie King, Cliff & Sharla Merritt, Larry & Patty McBride, Robert & Geri Scherkenbach, Stephen & Barbara Owens, Paul & Joan Sabourin, William & Pamela Rowland, Vicki Smith, Scott & Susan Stave, Gary Russell & Jean Kidney, Robert & Yvonne Wheeler, and Robert & Patsy McMichael.



No spaghetti left on those plates!!

After all coaches had arrived and settled in on Wednesday, we gathered in the patio behind the Chaplain's office for our Happy Hour, a Spaghetti dinner, and shared desserts brought from our members. It was great to get together, update us all on our experiences since our last time together, and to meet guests and new members. Something special - Bart & Debbie provided margaritas for us.



Trail bosses: Ellen Chapman, David Althoff, Vicky Althoff, Debbie Van Holland, Bruce Chapman, and Bart Van Holland

Thursday morning began at 9:00 am with a breakfast of sausage gravy and biscuits. During the day we watched the Blue Angels practice, sitting under the shade trees in the grass next to our coaches. That evening we all journeyed a short distance to the Navy's Mirage Club Banquet Room where we had a great dinner of country fried steaks. It was really nice to have the banquet room all to ourselves.



Tom King and his magic kite

Our **Friday's** breakfast was Famous Ray's breakfast by Ray & Linda Macken, and again we watched the Blue Angels practice. At 5:30 that evening, most of us went to Hanger 6 and attended a Food Fest. We sampled food from local Imperial Valley restaurants, and were entertained by a music group. After the Blue Angels were introduced, they wandered in the audience where you could meet them, talk to them, take pictures with them, and get their autographs. What a feeling to know you had actually talked to a Blue Angel!!!! And the fireworks? Probably the best you would ever see!

Continued on page 3

Blue Angels

Continued from page 2



Saturday was a pancake breakfast, and then the anticipated Blue Angel performance. It was great. That evening we grilled hamburgers, which again included dessert brought by some of our members. Again, thanks to Bart & Debbie – more margaritas. And **Sunday?** Continental Breakfast and our goodbyes until the Missions and Wine rally, May 14.



For those of you who don't know, Bob & Shirley Harrington, Tom & Kathie King, and Bob & Geri Scherkenbach are also the "Over the Hill Gang" car club. Their antique cars were on display at Saturday's Air Show.

David & I, Bruce & Ellen, and Bart & Debbie want to thank everyone who helped make this rally such a big success. A big hand to our Parking Crew, Robin & Trudy Ririe and Joe & Betty Kloss for the tremendous job they did in parking all 33 of our coaches. Thanks to Shirley Harrington, Geri Scherkenbach, and Kathie King for preparing the tomatoes and slicing the onions, to Judy Mersereau for preparing the lettuce, Gloria Fernandez for taking care of the chips, and Irene Griffin for seeing that we had fruit juice every morning. Our grillers were Bart, Bruce, Richard Grieser, and Ray Macken. Thanks so much!

Oh yes – we had three lucky couples. We had a 50-50 drawing!
Debbie & Bart Van Holland won \$122.50,
Ellen & Bruce Chapman won \$73.50 and
Frank & Irene Griffin won \$49.00.

A special thanks to so many more who helped clean the patio when we arrived, and to all those who volunteered their refrigerators. A dry camp rally is a little harder to put on than some. We have so many great and special people in our Chapter who are always there to help whenever and wherever we need them. Again, David & I, Bruce & Ellen, and Bart & Debbie thank all of you.



HOSPITALITY NOTE

by Betty Kloss:

Jerry and Cybil Cale spent 10 days in Tahiti and missed the Blue Angels but we look forward to welcoming them back at the next rally and can't wait to hear all about their trip.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our new member Lotte Duddy who suffered a stroke while on Don and Lotte's return trip from Africa. We wish her a speedy and complete recovery.

Just before coming to the Rally, Marie Hilber came down with shingles but she came anyway. Anyone who has had those know how painful they are. We wish her much needed relief.



Our Parking crew – Joe & Robin – after parking 33 RV's

A Note from your 2014 Wagon Master

by Ed Fernandez

2014 Rallies:

Blue Angels Rally....this was the club's 8th Annual rally in the El Centro Naval Air Facility. Thanks to Marilyn and Jimmie Carnes for organizing the first event in 2007.

This year the weather was perfect, our trail bosses did an outstanding job with the breakfasts and dinners again and we signed up several new members.

Now let's carry the excitement, friendship and fun to the rallies we have planned for the rest of the year as listed below. Official sign up sheets for the next rally in May will follow via email and/or postal service. Be on the look out for an email with the sign up sheet from our secretary Vicky Althoff.

May 14,15,16,17, 2014

The Missions & Wines Rally

Flying Flags RV Resort

Buellton, CA

Trail Bosses: David and Marie Hilber
Jerry and Cybil Cale

September 8, 9,10, 2014

The Beach Party Rally

Pismo Coastal Village RV Resort

Pismo Beach, CA

November 12, 13, 14, 15, 2014

Sittin' On The Dock by the Bay Rally

Chula Vista RV & Marina Resort

Chula Vista, CA

Mark your calendars, save the dates and plan to "build friendships and have fun" at our rallies.

Please note: I need volunteer Trail Bosses for the September and November Rallies.

Keep On Cruisin'



Bart says "Ill fix anything!"



Shirley decided to pose for our new calendar??

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Irene Griffin

Our membership keeps on growing. We have 47 active members. Among those, we welcomed 6 new members this year:



Robert & Patsy McMichael



Gary Russell & Jean Kidney



Tom & Anna Danaher



John & Ella Hamilton

Scott and Sue Stave




and Don and Lotte Duddy, pictured in Winter 2013 edition.

And for their years of support and service to the Club, we now have three lifetime members:

Bob Valpey,
Leo and Louise Metzler, and
Marwilda Wilson.







2013–2014 Officers California FMCA HMC Chapter

President.....	Alan Mersereau
Vice President.....	David Althoff
VP–Wagonmaster.....	Ed Fernandez
Secretary.....	Vicky Althoff
Treasurer.....	Judy Mersereau
FMCA National Dir.....	Robin Ririe
FMCA Alternate Dir.....	Joe Kloss
Directors.....	Carol Bostwick, Jerry Cale, Ellen Chapman, Gary Ferweda, Dave Hilber, Betty Kloss
Hospitality.....	Betty Kloss
Newsletter Editor.....	Susan Cardella
Membership Chairman.....	Irene Griffin

