



California FMCA HMC Chapter News and Schedule of Events

26th Year

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Alan Mersereau,



Once again we all had an enjoyable time. It was great to visit with everyone attending the Vista Rally. Because the Blue Angels rally was unfortunately cancelled we had not seen many of our members since November or January.

We wish to thank the trail bosses for providing excellent meals and activities.

We need to appoint a Nominating Committee (at least 2 people) by the September rally. Please consider taking an office.

Please let me know if you are interested

For those of you who are traveling this summer - have a great trip and we will be looking forward to seeing you at our September rally at the San Diego KOA. Also we encourage you to bring friends - we always welcome new members.



2015 FMCA HMC Rallies

September 9-12, 2015 - *Circle the Wagons*
Western Rally , San Diego Metro KoA,
Chula Vista, CA

October 28-31, 2015 *The 'Trick or Treat' Rally*
The Sportsman Club RV Resort,
Joshua Tree, CA

Alan & Judy Mersereau with Robin & Trudy Ririe reveal one of the events of the rally.



Old California Adobes

FROM YOUR TRAILBOSSSES:

GARY RUSSELL, ANN & TOM DANAHER, JOHN HAMILTON, & JEAN KIDNEY

Sixteen Coaches arrived on Tuesday May 5 at the Vista Elks Lodge. The weather was cool but good. Happy Hour was accompanied with Heavy Hors d'oeuvres.

Wednesday after breakfast of Biscuits and Gravy and fruit a few Golfers played a round and no scores were reported. Dinner at the Ciao Italian Restaurant was very delicious.

Thursday after breakfast of Omelets-in-a-bag hash browns and fruit several of us toured the Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum and the Rancho Guajome Adobe. Dinner was a Shrimp Boil with potluck salad and desert. That night it rained .25 to .50 inches.



Dinner at Ciao Italian Restaurant



Will this tractor seat five?



The group touring the Old California Adobes



The welcome banner



Steve Owens lending a hand



The Digs

These are some Happy Campers.



Trail Bosses Cont.

Friday after breakfast of Scrambled Eggs fruit and Sausages several of us toured the Rancho Buena Vista Adobe. Dinner and Dancing was at the Vista Elks Lodge.

Saturday after a breakfast of Leftovers all departed for home.



The Trail bosses and the cooks: Ann & Tom Danaher, Ella & John Hamilton, Barbara Reinhardt, Jean Kidney and Gary Russell had fun and hope every one had a good time.

Roster of Campers:

- David & Vicky Althoff
- Paul & Carol Bostwick
- (Jimmie & Marilyn Carnes without Motorhome)
- Tom & Ann Danaher
- Don & Lotte Duddy
- Ed & Gloria Fernandez
- John & Ella Hamilton
- Terri Hewitt & Bob Peletier
- David & Marie Hilber
- Bob & Pat McMichael
- Alan & Judy Mersereau
- Steve & Barbara Owens
- Ron & Barbara Reinhardt

A Note from your Wagon Master

“Old California Adobes” Rally at The Elks Lodge Vista, CA

First and foremost, I want to thank our Trail Bosses Gary Russell and Jean Kidney, John Hamilton, Tom and Anna Danaher, and Barb Reinhardt for all their efforts in making this an enjoyable rally especially considering the cold rainy weather they had to contend with. You all demonstrated “great team effort”.

Again, considering the inclement weather, it was good that many of you were willing to participate in the various planned activities and outings. Glad to see that many of you ventured out to the Vista Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum. This is a hidden treasure. The Guajome Adobe and Rancho Buena Vista Adobe Tours reveal some of the wonderful old California history.



Trail Bosses Gary Russell, Jean Kidney, John Hamilton, Tom and Anna Danaher



David & Vicky Althoff, Alan & Judy Mersereau, Paul and Carol Bostwick are sitting on the tractor that Vicky’s dad, Leo Metzler, donated to the Museum. Leo is a Founding Member of our Chapter and is a Life Member.



The beautiful gardens at Rancho Buena Vista Adobe.

A Note from your Wagon Master Cont.

I think the Golf foursome (Gloria Fernandez, Dave Hilber, Don Duddy and Ron Reinhardt) had a good time at the Lawrence Welk Resort Golf Course. There was only one problem with this outing...they all said they lost their scorecards.



It was obvious that the big hit of the rally was the wonderful "Gary's Shrimp Boil" put on by Gary Russell and his team. Marilyn and Jimmie Carnes (knowing how good this 'shrimp boil' had been in the past) made the effort to join us for this evening dinner.

Of special note, let's hope Jimmie Carnes' health improves so that he and Marilyn can continue participating in future rallies. I also hope that Frank Griffin feels better soon. Sorry you had to cancel. We missed you and Irene.

Finally, a hearty welcome to our guests Terri Hewitt and Bob Peletier. We hope to see in our upcoming rallies.

Here are the dates and sites for the rest of 2015. Please note the site change for the September rally. As usual, sign up sheets will be forthcoming with more details.



Jimmy Carnes



Terri Hewitt & Bob Peletier

September 9, 10, 11, 12, 2015

*'Circle the Wagons' Western Rally Marie & Dave Hilber Trail Bosses
San Diego Metro KoA Chula Vista, CA*

October 28, 29, 30, 31, 2015

*The 'Trick or Treat' Rally John Hamilton Trail Boss
The Sportsman's Club RV Resort Joshua Tree, CA*

"Be Safe, Be Happy and Stay Healthy"

Ed Fernandez



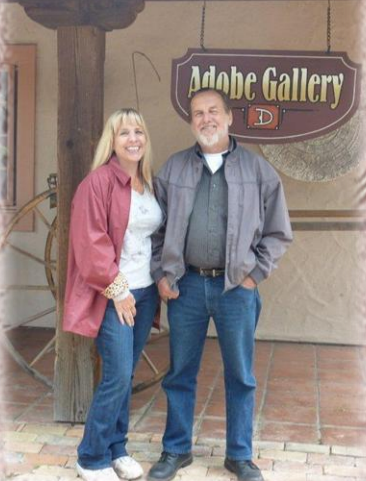
Flag Retirement Ceremony

Hello...Remember me?
 Some people call me "Ole Glory"
 Others call me the "Star Spangled Banner"
 But...whatever they call me, I am your flag.
 The Flag of the United States of America.
 Something has been bothering me, so I thought I might talk it over with you...because its about you...and me.
 I remember some time ago people lined up on both sides of the street and watch a parade, and I was leading every parade, proudly waving in the breeze. When your Dad saw me coming, he immediately removed his hat and placed it against his left shoulder, so his hand was directly over his heart...remember? And you, I remember you, standing there straight as a soldier. You didn't have a hat, but you were giving the right salute...remember little sister? Not to be out done, she was saluting the same as you, with her hand over her heart... remember?
 What happened? I'm still the same old flag. Oh, I have a few more stars now and a lot more blood has been shed since those days long ago. But now I don't feel as proud as I used to. When I come down the street you just stand there with your hands in your pockets and I may get a small glance, but then

you look away.
 Then I see children running around and shouting... they don't seem to know who I am... I say one man take off his hat, then look around and saw no one else with their hat off, so he quickly put his back on. Is it a sin to be Patriotic now? Have you forgotten what I stand for?... And where I've been... Anzio... Normandy... Iwo Jima... Korea...Vietnam...Iran...and ...Afghanistan.
 Take a look at the Memorial Honor Rolls some time. Note the names of those that didn't come home;...They died to keep this Republic free... One Nation under God.
 When you salute me... you are actually saluting them.
 Well, it won't be long now until I'll be coming down your street again... so when you see me, stand straight, place your right hand over your heart and I'll salute you by waving back... and I'll know... YOU REMEMBER ME...

Written by:
 Bryan Black... a Boy Scout

More Old California Adobe Rally Photos



CA FMCA HMC TIMES

An Important Notice

The rally at the Sportsman’s Club RV Resort in Joshua Tree on October 28–31, 2015, is also our election rally. If anyone wants to run for an office, please email or call one of our Nominating Committee members:

Irene Griffin

951-943-8452

figriffin@verizon.net

Ellen Chapman

951-809-5545

brucemncm@aol.com



Nominating Committee

All current officers and directors will be going out of office and will need to be re-elected if they wish to continue in their office. Term is 2 years, new election will be at our October rally in 2015.

Officers: President
Vice President
Vice President Wagonmaster
Secretary
Treasurer
FMCA Natl. Director
FMCA Alternate Natl. Director

Alan Mersereau
David Althoff
Ed Fernandez
Vicky Althoff
Judy Mersereau
Robin Ririe
Joe Kloss

Directors: Jerry Cale
Betty Kloss
Alan Mersereau
Ellen Chapman
Carol Bostwick
Linda Macken



At our election, the Nominating Committee Chairman will give the names of the candidates and also ask if anyone wants to run for any of the offices.

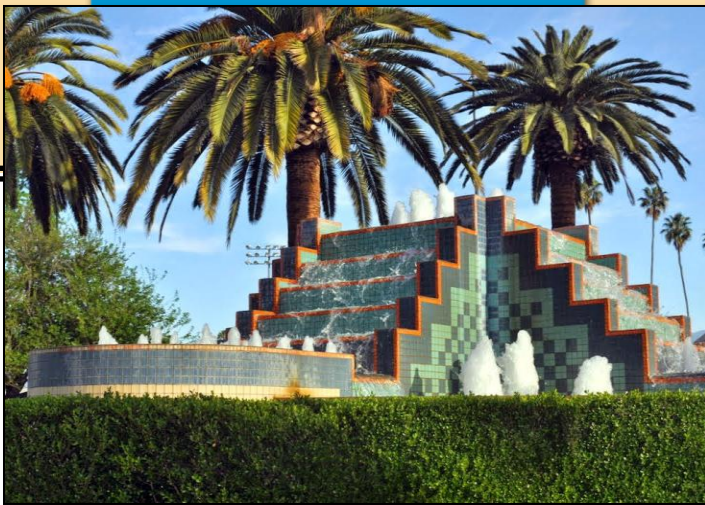
Winners of the 50/50 Drawing were:
Alan Mersereau-50%
David Althoff – 30%
David Hilber – 20%

<< HIGHLIGHTS FROM EARLIER EVENTS >>

Just ended --
The 91st Family Reunion
and Motorhome Showcase

California Gold

March 26-29, 2015



**Fairplex, Pomona, California
welcomed FMCA**

A Note from your Secretary Vicky Althoff

There were approximately 1200 motor homes attending the 91st Motorhome Showcase in Pomona. The weather was good, (a little on the warm side), but bearable. Our

Chapter was well represented at Pomona, volunteering on the parking committee, the Maestros, and the handicap carts. The entertainment was really good and I think everyone there really enjoyed a group most of us will remember - the Herman's Hermits. They really put on a great show. Sunday night's closing entertainment was a beautiful tribute to our military and performed by the Maestros. The Show started with the "Presentation of the Colors" by the ROTC from Cal Poly, followed by the National Anthem. In closing, one of our retired Marines played Taps. The next FMCA Convention is "Escape to Wisconsin" held in Madison, Wisconsin, on July 29-August 1. These Conventions are a lot of fun and there are many things to do. If you ever get the chance, please try to attend one of these! You will have a great time. If you want to view the pictures, go to: www.fmca.com or www.wafmca.com

Recap of Alan and Judy Mercereau's Southern Exposure Tour

We left California on February 12th to meet up with 21 motor homes in Pensacola, FL, to begin a 39 day RV tour of the southern united states. In Pensacola we had a guided tour of the National Naval Air Museum – home of the Blue Angles!

From there we traveled to the state capital – Tallahassee. To the “Horse Capital of the World”– Ocala; then on to Tampa – where we saw many manatees and went on a sponge boat tour with a diver. We also had a great Greek dinner in Tarpon Springs.

The Thomas Edison & Henry ford Estates in Ft. Meyers were very informative. From there we headed but stopped en rout for an air boat ride in the Everglades and an alligator show at Miccosukee Indian Village.

We took an item off Alan’s bucket list and finally got to Key West; saw six toed cats at Hemmingway’s mansion; went up 88 stairs in a lighthouse (Judy made it up 22), and had a fabulous sunset dinner cruise.

Ft. Lauderdale/Miami included a “Jungle Queen” riverboat sight seeing and inland dinner show.

On to Orlando for several days – one of those spent at Epcot Center. We ate dinner at Capones (a gangster style dinner show).

The Kennedy Space Center in Titusville was loaded with many things we had heard about or seen in the news.

St. Augustine is the home of the “Fountain of Youth” discovered by Ponce De Leon – now we all seem younger. (The water tasted like sulfur/rotten eggs!!!)

Georgia included a boat cruise and lunch at the Okefenokee Swamp and a trip to Jekyll island for a Sunday champagne brunch. In Savannah another river boat cruise and lunch.

Charleston, S.C. was loaded with historical facts from Ft. Jackson to Ft Pulaski to Ft. Sumter – a lot of Civil War history.

Our final stop was the Biltmore Estate in Ashville, N.c. and is the largest residence in America. 135,000 sq. ft. on 8,500 acres and still owned by the Vanderbilt’s. There we ate again! This time in the Stable restaurant.

This was a fantastic tour. It included 7 boat cruises, meals, tours of historic cities etc. We drove a total of 6,549 miles, had mostly nice weather and met great people. We were gone a total of 2 months.



Indio Rally Additional News

The CA FMCA HMC Chapter was well represented at the Western Area Rally in January at Indio. Vicky Althoff, and Jeanne Belew, performed with the Maestros, Vice-President David Althoff, Charlie Belew, Tom King, and Bob Harrington parked all the coaches in the volunteer section. Paul Bostwick, with the help of our President Alan Mersereau, was in charge of parking all the exhibit coaches—a really, really big job. Of course, there was the usual helping to set-up and take down (many times) of all the tables and chairs in the main entertainment hall—lots of hands make easy work!

The entertainment as usual was enjoyed by all—from a John Denver tribute, to Rock and Roll, to a magician—something for everyone.



The parade was very creative for the theme “Out of This World”—don’t know where the chapters get all their great ideas. The parade can be seen on the WAFMCA website under photos.

The awards ceremony produced a special surprise. Our Chapter captured the best newsletter award for our editor, Susan Cardella. It was accepted by our Vice-President David Althoff.



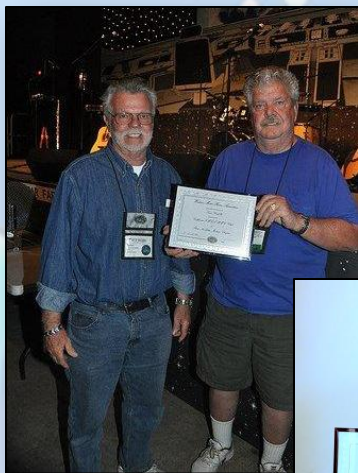
The Maestros



The Magician & Luigi the Parrot



John Denver Interpreter



Susan Cardella - Editor



2014–2015 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, Linda Macken, Dave Hilber, Betty Kloss
Hospitality.....	Betty Kloss
Newsletter Editor.....	Susan Cardella
Membership Chairman.....	Irene Griffin