

California Heartland Shafter, CA



May 2021
Volume 1, Issue 4



Way out at Wilsons's May 11th– 14th

Another great Rally that Sam and I had to miss. She took a turn for the worse and I took a turn as her nurse. Check out our story on the Hospitality page 8. As Mike Davidson said in his great write up of the rally, This rally was a real Wilson Family affair. They really went all out. Another big "Thank You" to Mike and the rest of the gang for filling in for us.

I took a ride with Woody during a previous visit to the Shafter area which included the rest of Burbank Street and a stop at the old home place. I was struck by his statement that he had lived on the same street just about his entire life. His parents moved to Burbank street when he was only 4, then 14 years later at the age of 18 he wed Louise and they moved up the street and built their own house where they live today...on Burbank Street. The Wilsons celebrated 65 years of marriage last August.



The immediate Wilson Family—Left to Right: (mamma bear) Louise, Randy, Sandy, Keith, and (papa bear) Woody

Thank you all and the rest of your next generation Family for making this such a Special Rally at the only RV Park on Burbank Street.

Congratulations and a warm welcome to our latest new members, Jerry and Barbara Rutch. See our April Newsletter at Paso Robles for a nice bio. Jerry is the pancake guru at Wilsons

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Officers & Directors

- President Dave Mendonca
- Vice President Mike Davidson
- Secretary Sam Mendonca
- Treasurer Melanie Freeman
- Nat'l Director Julie Burger
- Asst. Nat'l Dir Kim Cummings
- Director (open)
- Director Marilyn Peterson
- Director Woody Wilson
- Wagon Master Louise Wilson
- Membership Sam Mendonca

Presidents' Corner
"The Best is yet to come "



Get connected, stay informed, be involved:



Facebook is a great way to stay in the know, share information, and see pictures of our events. **Follow us at** www.facebook.com/californiaheartland

Flickr is where you will find all the event pictures taken, We currently have over 5,800 pictures indexed over 21 Rallies.. Once inside the site, click on the Albums tab.. **Go to** www.flickr.com/photos/caheartland

Western Motor Home Association WMHA Family Western Motor Home Association of FMCA is located at <http://wafmca.com/?> **This website takes you deep inside the 50 chapters represented by the Western Association of FMCA. Check out the newsletters and websites of the chapters. Here's where you can find tons of pictures and histories of past Indio Rallies.**

CALIFORNIA HEARTLAND FMCA - RALLY SCHEDULE 2021-2022

Date	Year	Venue-Address	Trail Boss
June 24-27	2021	Northwest FMCA Rally, Longview, WA	Cancelled by FMCA
July 7-10	2021	Possible FMCA convention, Gillett, WY	FMCA National
August	2021	DARK	
Sept	2021	Draft Horse Classic, Fairgrounds, Grass Valley, CA	Sandy Emersion is coordinating
October	2021		
Nov	2021	Hanford Fairgrounds, Hanford, CA	Mendonca's & Davidsons
Dec 7-10	2021	Orange Grove RV Park, Bakersfield, CA	Julie Burger & Kozachoks'
Jan	2022	Wester Area FMCA Indio, CA	WMHA
February	2022	DARK	
Mar. 8-11	2022	Casa de Fruta RV, Hollister, CA	Steve & Cindy Murray
April	2022	Possibly Golden Village Palms RV, Hemet, CA (The Ramona Pageant takes place Mid-April to Early May each year)	

Call Louise Wilson with comments or concerns: (661) 746-2806 Home
(661) 706-3686 Cell (L)

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR RALLY TRAIL BOSS. CALL IF YOU WANT TO TRAIL BOSS AT A PARTICULAR VENUE OR DATE AND I WILL BOOK IT FOR YOU.

I am pretty sure everyone who attended the Wilson Rally this month would agree, Woody and Louise do a fantastic job of hosting a rally. They offered up their home, and it was amazing to see how their family all pitched in to make this a great, inexpensive rally. The rigs started rolling in Tuesday afternoon and was greeted by Woody in his golf cart to escort them in. The Wilson's grow almonds on their property and had plenty of room for the 12 coaches who attended. They could have easily handled another 15 coaches. (Hint for next time)

Louise had their carport and covered RV parking all decorated and ready as the perfect gathering spots. Seeing how the valley was experiencing unusual high temperatures for early May, the shaded areas were a godsend. Even though it was warm out, being in the shade, with a nice Shafter breeze, was just perfect. It was so good to catch up with one another as we watched hummingbirds sipping nectar. It was such a relaxing atmosphere, I almost forgot to grab my camera to document the event.

As with all California Heartland gatherings, we ate too much. Happy hour started off with your choice of regular or strawberry margaritas, followed by Meno's Tacos serving up all the beef, chicken, and shrimp tacos you could eat. The shrimp was to die for. I am pretty sure I had at least 5 different tacos trying to decide which one I liked the best. When you add in rice, whole beans, and all the condiments, it was just too much. Even though we were busting at the seams, it did not take much for Woody and Louise to talk us into a Mexican Popsicle for dessert.

Ron Reimer was tasked with the 50/50 raffle, and did a great job working the crowd with his young assistants. I am pretty sure Ron's \$20 arm lengths got longer as the days went on.

As mentioned earlier, this rally was a real Wilson family affair. Family members put up this huge movie screen under the covered RV parking, with a rear projector. Once it got dark, we ate popcorn and watched RV, the Robin Williams movie. I am sure we have all seen this movie before, but it still made us laugh out loud. The black tank mishap gets me every time.

The cool evenings were perfect for sleeping with windows open. I heard a few comments about needing to use a blanket. Woody went above and beyond, getting up early and making a large pot of coffee. I cannot tell you how much I miss having a coffee pot at the rallies. I hope that idea comes back to being. There is just something about everyone relaxing and chatting in the morning over coffee.

Sheldon and Beverly Yost volunteered to prepare breakfast, but it was a real group effort. Elvin and I helped Sheldon crack the eggs, and scrambled them with ham. Beverly worked inside their rig putting together biscuits and gravy. Elvin and Ron cooked the eggs as I flaked out using the old camera excuse to get out of work. Once again we ate way too much.

A group of us headed over to check out Minter Field Air Museum. Minter Field was a major basic training facility for pilots during World War II. The museum is located in the original fire station built in 1941. The Wilson's were able to set up this private tour, and the museum brought in 5 docents to assist us. The docents were extremely knowledgeable, and some even had family members who trained at Minter Field. It was almost like having a one on one tour filled with great personal stories of what Minter Field was really like in the 1940s. If you are ever in the area, I would recommend this stop.



Story continued on page 4

Wilson Rally cont'd from page 3

Wednesday afternoon was spent visiting, playing cards, and maybe even some napping. Once again the Wilson family came together and served a fantastic meal of barbequed tri tip, green beans, potatoes, bread, and salad. Desert was an apple fritter type concoction, with a scoop of vanilla ice-cream, which was very popular with the crowd. Hopefully you will find the recipe for this desert somewhere in this newsletter.

The Wednesday night movie was Bucket List with Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman. This movie did not go over as well as I thought it would. I remembered it being pretty funning, but I think the group found it a little slow. I apologize for the poor choice on my part.

Thursday morning started with Woody's coffee, and rolled right into another Yost breakfast. I forgot to mention earlier, the Yost were kind enough to choose 9:00 AM as time for breakfast. I think we all appreciated that. Once again breakfast was a group effort. Jerry Rutch handled the pancakes, while Sheldon and Jim Terwilligar did up the sausage. Beverly brought out fresh fruit and juices. I have to mention when it was time to reimburse the Yost's for the food they supplied, they refused. Sheldon said he was using his stimulus money to help the economy. I big thank you to the Yost for doing two fantastic breakfasts' free gratis to the members.

Some of the ladies went shopping Thursday while some of the guys played cards. I had the privilege of playing pinochle, a game I had not played in probably 40 years. I must admit it was like riding a bicycle, and came right back to me. Not meaning to brag, but I even shot the moon one hand. OK, I guess I am bragging, sorry.

The Wilson family put the barbeque to work again Thursday evening, providing some fantastic boneless chicken, with rice pilaf, carrots, salad, and French bread. I understand the carrots were cooked in 7Up, yum yum. Desert was cheese cake with fresh strawberries. It was so fun having the Wilson clan join in with their kids. One little guy really bonded with Sheldon. Julie was the Secret Sheriff, and passed the cup around on the honor system. \$28 dollars of pig money was collected to add to our annual charity fund. Glen Gee won the 50/50 raffle and received \$110. He tried to give the money to Woody, but Woody would not hear of it. A second 50/50 ticket was drawn and Elvin Kozachenko won the RV DVD. The Thursday night movie was Paint Your Wagon staring Lee Marvin and Clint Eastwood.

Friday morning, Woody had coffee and donuts ready for our final gathering. Louise laid out all the leftover food and encouraged everyone to take some with them. Hugs, handshakes, and final waves occurred as rigs slowly left the rally. We look forward to seeing everyone again real soon.

Thank you Woody and Louise for a great rally. And a big thank you to all your family members who chipped in to make this such a nice rally. Until next time, safe travels!!!



Head BBQ Master, **Deric Kirschenmann**, (Kenney's Son) shows his skills on the Pits. Wednesday night dinner Tri/Tip and Thursday evening it was Chicken. East, Eat, Eat... Yum, Yum, Yum

CALIFORNIA HEARTLAND CHAPTER - FMCA
Treasurer's Report 5/15/2021

Beginning Balance	Checkbook Balance as of April 9, 2021	6,637.67
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Monies Received and Deposited

04/12/2021	Dues	Membership Dues	12.00
02/14/2021	Rally	Wine Country Rally	30.00
05/14/2021	Rally	Wilson Rally	720.00
05/14/2021	Rally	50/50 Raffle	110.00
05/14/2021	Rally	Advance Return	21.00
05/14/2021	Rally	Pig Money	28.00

	Total Received	921.00	921.00
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Disbursements

04/15/2021	3134	Louise Wilson, Rally Advance	300.00
05/13/2021	3135	Julia Kirschenmann, Rally Meals	832.81

	Total Expenses	1,132.81	(1,132.81)
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	Checkbook Balance	6,425.86
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NOTES TO STATEMENT:

Wilson Rally Breakdown

Rally Money Received	720.00
50/50 Raffle	110.00

Total Received: 830.00

Expenses

Catered Meals	832.81
Food	263.38
Recognition Gifts	16.00

Total Expenses: 1,112.19

	Rally Profit / Loss - 282.19
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Advance deposits paid pending:

Orange Grove RV cancellation-roll over, 4/12/2019
Old Floating Deposit on file for Hanford Rallies
Casa De Fruta RV Park (\$50)

California Heartland FMCA General Meeting Minutes

DATE: May 13, 2021

LOCATION: Wilson's in Shafter, CA

Number of rigs – 11

Number of Members – 20

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Vice-President Mike Davidson, due to the absence of President Dave Mendonca, @ 10 : 10 A.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE : Led by Mike Davidson **SONG:** God Bless America – Ron Reimer

PRAYER: Julie Burger

ACTING SECRETARY: Louise Wilson: The prior minutes were, read, approved and published in the Newsletter to be read by the Membership.

TREASURER: Melanie Freeman: Reported the balance at this time is \$6,637.67

WAGON MASTER: Louise Wilson: Read the current list of future Rallies which will be printed in the Newsletter. The accuracy of this schedule depends on the interest, need 10 rigs going as well as having a trailboss other than Louise. If these two things don't happen the rally will be cancelled. As Trail Boss for this Rally she thanked everyone, especially Sheldon & Beverly Yost for their help here. Louise will send Thank You notes to the nephews, Kenny & Julie, Derric & Elliott Kirschenmann who did the arranging for and cooking of the Dinners. Sheldon & Beverly Yost did a super job of the Two Breakfasts and refused repayment of their cost. Secret Sheriff, Julie Burger decided that since there were so many infractions and we have not gotten money for our end of year Charity Donation we would all donate to the Pink Pig, again, so the hat was passed & donations made. Woody & Louise, Sheldon & Beverly & Jerry Rutch got Thank you.

ASST WAGON MASTER : Sandy Emerson: Absent

NATIONAL DIRECTOR: Julie Burger: National is in July at Gillette, WY, she will be attending. Julie will be voting for National Officers, representing Heartland Chapter so she gave us some pertinent information about the candidates for National President: John Reynolds and Rhett Porter. Their Bios are in the FMCA RV Magazine for us to read. Julie will send a ballot via email in June to you members at large to help her vote with the majority for Heartland.

DIRECTOR: Woody Wilson : no Report. Marilyn Peterson : Absent, Jerry Olson: Deceased

NEWS LETTER EDITOR: Newly Elected Editor, Dave Mendonca, was absent. Sending the message that he must receive all news for the Newsletter within 7 days after this Rally. Mike suggested a few more recipes as that section in the last Newsletter was well received.

HOSPITALITY: Julie Burger distributed 3 cards to be signed by all attendees, one for SAM Mendonca, Lee & Arlon Schubert, & Sandy Emerson to be mailed to them.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON: Due to the untimely death of Jerry Olson, our Chairperson, SAM Mendonca will assume those duties.

OLD BUSINESS: Reminded everyone, again, to use Heartland's Facebook which is updated regularly: www.facebook.com/californiaheartland or www.flickr.com/photos/caheartland or <http://wafmca.com/>. Mike Davidson also discussed the process of doing more paperwork online, such as Forms that need to be read, signed and returned, with no Postal Service mailing. Also our banking could all be done online, such as Rally Registrations, reimbursements of monies spent, etc. This would be a process that he would teach us all!

NEW BUSINESS: Welcomed New Members Jerry & Barbara Rucker.
Jon Bailey. No Anniversaries in May.

BIRTHDAYS: Celebrated: Linda Kozachenko &

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:11 A.M. Louise Wilson Acting Secretary, California Heartland



8 HOURS
bottle
to  **throttle**



IRISH TOAST
THERE ARE GOOD SHIPS,
AND THERE ARE WOOD
SHIPS, THE SHIPS THAT
SAIL THE SEA.
BUT THE BEST SHIPS
ARE FRIENDSHIPS, AND
MAY THEY ALWAYS BE.
irelandcalling.ie

Borrowed from Visalia Elks,
Vagabonds Newsletter.



Hospitality

Sandy Emerson has agreed to take over the Hospitality chair for California Heartland RV. She will compile a report to be included in the current Newsletters. Please let her know when our members and club friends have reportable medical issues. I'm sure the rest of our RV Family would like to keep up. Please keep in mind that you must have the persons permission before we can publish. Contact Sandy at:

gsemersonangels@aol.com Email

Cell Ph: (209) 401-1593

Shirley (Sam) Mendonca underwent a 2.5 hour surgery to the upper neck Vertebrae on Sunday, May 9th. (Mothers day no less) Sam has been in a lot of pain with dizziness and vertigo for better than month prior. Finally, after every test you can imagine and MRI, she was diagnosed with two damaged Vertebrae that had worm away the padding between them. She's a bona fide Bionic woman now with Titanium inserts. Sam was released to home recouperation on May 12th. She's wearing an uncomfortable neck brace and under a lot of restrictions for perhaps another 1-2 months.

Meanwhile, Nurse Nightingale, Dave, is coping with a lot of domestic issues. Both patient and attendee are extremely anxious to get back on the road again.

Dick Gibbs Celebration of Life :

The gathering and celebration of Dick's life will be held Saturday, June 26, 2021

It will be held at the Community Center across the street from New Life Church in Pismo Beach (just past the post office) Ceremonies begin at 2:00 PM

Contact Char Gibbs : chargibbs10@gmail.com Phone (805) 354-3557



Note from the Editor:

Sorry Gang. No Food Recipes for this issue. Louise couldn't get em ready. She had to rush off to ride ATVs in Utah. Imagine that! I wanna go. Will include some next time.

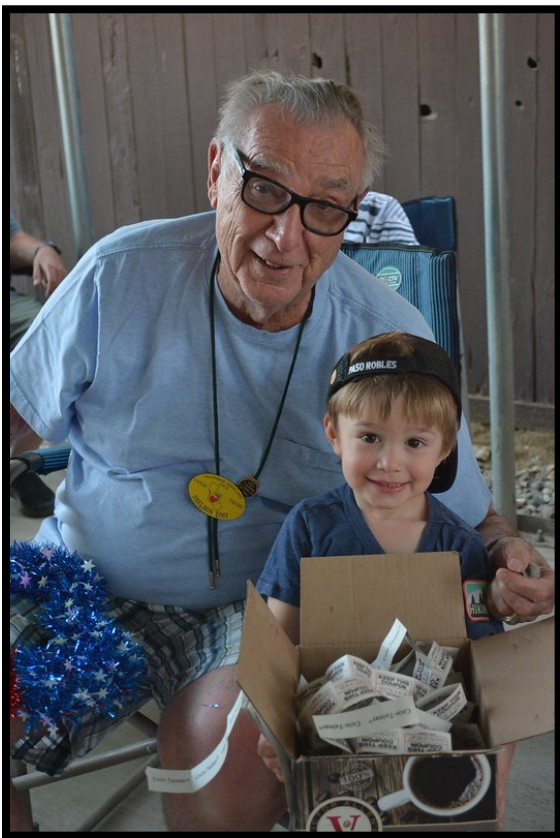


Want Ads page (maybe) next issue— This time 50/50 Raffle at Wilsons

Ron Reimer had a great time running the 50-50 Raffle. His main helper that cute kid shown below , Andrew.



Look closely: that's a \$100 bill in Glen Gee's Hand. Actually, I think the split was \$110



Ticket collector, Andrew Kirschenmann with his new buddy, Sheldon Yost.



Olivia Kirschenmann draws the winning ticket while Kallie Kirschenmann makes sure no peeking

Julie Burger and Velda Johnston
“now that’s a pancake”

