

CAMPING CORNER 2018

Stagecoach KOA, Banning CA - Holiday Campout & Officer Installation December, 2018 by Sue Craft

The 2018 holiday campout was held at the Stagecoach KOA in Banning, CA. The event was hosted by the 2018 Officers and their spouses. Attendees included: *Officers -*Lou & *Darla Figueroa, *Linda & Jim Preston, and *Sue & Paul Craft, Dick & Lynne Miller, Phil & Amy MacBride, Mary Holzgang, Bill & Alma DeSmith, Glenn & Charlotte Schmitt, Roger & Carole Kepner, Margie Hoffman, Dan & Adrienne Sherwood, Tom & Carole Kepner, and Bill & Pam Elliott.

Monday

What a joy to be able to gather again with our SRH family! We enjoyed a festive start to the campout at Happy Hour with holiday music, tables covered with poinsettias, and hors d'oeuvres. Darla surprised all the ladies with handmade aprons. Thank you Darla:) There were lots of smiles and laughs when everyone viewed the video SRH 2018 Campout Memories created by Sue & Paul.

Tuesday

The 7:30 AM Barnyard Net question by Lou was —Which 2018 (or other) SRH campout was your most favorite? By far, the Whitney Classic & Boulder Creek campout was the most popular! Margie summed it up quite well. It was her first campout there and she enjoyed the variety of scenery, from the desert floor to the mountains at 10,000 ft. It was a great opportunity to get to know people in our chapter and fun to do group things together. The pizza party was great and it was nice to share all the great things our chapter members do that have a positive impact on our communities.

The Officers provided a delicious continental breakfast.

Lou conducted his very last chapter meeting as our 2018 president. It was a long one because Wagonmaster Sue asked all 2019 camp hosts to promote their events. It's going to be another fun year!

Free time consisted of members geocaching, shopping, visiting Idyllwild, and even relaxing!

Did you know you can take or upgrade your amateur license at some of our events? Adrienne and Dan, Margie, Roger, and Dick were all present to meet the requirements to conduct testing. Congratulations to Bill Elliott who passed the Technician/General, and to Paul Craft who passed the Extra exam!

Happy Hour was extra fun as Dick shared the 2018 Train Mountain Triennial video and stories to entice us all into attending the upcoming SRH campout in June.

Everyone participated in the Dogs for Better Living fundraiser. Members provided loads of goodies for the raffle, including a beautiful hand-made quilt created by Carole. She has been donating quilts for years! Linda was the lucky quilt winner! A total of \$1,580 was raised. 100% of the funds raised has already been sent to the non-profit organization. Thank you to Darla and her helpers for organizing another successful event, and for making the delectable desert (Chocolate Peppermint Roll Cake & Rum Cake).

Wednesday

The Barnyard Net question by Margie was —Do you have any funny phonetics for your call sign? Some involved a lot of love and kissing! KJ6W – Kissing Just 6 Women, W6LMM – Love My Man, N6BFL –Big Fat Lips, WA6HGA – His Girl's Adorable, as well as some funny ones such as KA6VVD – Very Vicious Duck, and KH6OHU – One Happy Unicorn

Breakfast was provided by the Officers – Darla's French Toast, sausage, scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, and coffee.

The ladies participated in Darla's craft project, a beaded snowflake Christmas ornament, while they all chatted away!

The men participated in Show & Tell with Roger sharing his mobile and portable radios, and Paul sharing his software defined radio and spectrum analyzer software. Also, they sat around and told war stories.

Banquet Time! SRH campers polish up really nice when they have a formal event to attend. The men found their suits and ties, and the ladies donned their dressy clothes and jewels. It was truly a special event... a time to recognize and thank the outgoing officers and to welcome in the new! Everyone enjoyed happy hour with Jim & Linda as the bar hosts, the hors d'oeuvres, and the catered Turkey Dinner feast.



Thursday

Thank you to all of the 2018 officers and their spouses for providing us all with a wonderful holiday campout!

Finally, check out the photos and videos at www.srhams.org, under Photos & Videos, Photo Albums, 2018 Album. Don't miss the video SRH 2018 Campout Memories!

President Lou Figueroa graciously and individually thanked all the members of the 2018 board, chairpersons, and committee members. It was an honor to have Past President (1994) Bill DeSmith conduct the Installation of 2019 Officers. Congratulations to our 2019 Board: President Margie Hoffman, Vice President Linda Preston, Treasurer Dick Miller, Secretary Pam Elliott, and Wagon Master Sue Craft.

Most everyone packed and hitched up in the rain and wind for the journey home. Hopefully this rain will germinate those wildflowers we all hope to see in Anza Borrego in March!!

Sequoia Campground & Lodge, Three Rivers CA - October 2018 by Sue Craft

Sam's Radio Hams enjoyed the serenity and calm in the foot-hills of Sequoia National Park and stayed at the Sequoia Campground & Lodge at Three Rivers, CA. The campout was hosted by Bill & Pam Elliott. Attendees included: Paul & Sue Craft (co-hosts), Lou & Darla Figueroa, Dick & Lynne Miller, Carl & Beverly Ferree, and Dusty Oess and Loretta Snelson.

Sequoia Campground was a wonderful location for a campout.

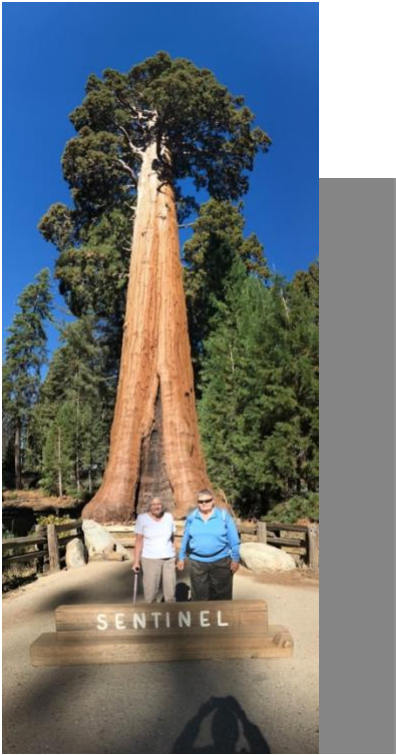
We were right next to the Kaweah River, where the cascading river forks met and merged into a large meandering river. Fall color reflected like a mirror into the calm river, occasionally disturbed by a fish jumping. Here is a summary of our daily activities:

Sunday

- The Elliotts, Crafts, and Millers arrived a day early, and experienced Bill's scenic short cut to Three Rivers via a road that reminded us of the movie —The Long Long Trailer.!!
- We were joined by more early birds, the Ferree's and dined with a view of the river at The Gateway restaurant.
- Campfire at Paul & Sue's.

Monday

- Your hosts & co-hosts scouted out the road to Sequoia National Park. They found that there has been extensive road work all summer & fall with weekday escorted routes up/down on the hour.
- Dick & Lynne hiked to the General Sherman Tree – the largest tree in the world!
- The official campout began at 4pm with Happy Hour at the festive fall themed clubhouse. Bill & Pam provided guests with gift bags and welcome packets provided by the Visalia Chamber of Commerce on local sites to visit.
- Happy Hour with hors d'oeuvres.
- Paul & Sue hosted a gathering around their new —smokeless!! campfire. They were inspired to purchase the —Endless Summer Steel Portable Propane Outdoor Fireplacell by sitting around Lou & Darla's fire at the Lone Pine campout.



Tuesday

- Coffee, muffins, fruit & hard-boiled eggs in the clubhouse.
- SRH Meeting at the clubhouse.
- Darla led a ghost/mummy craft where the women decorated candles for Halloween.
- Lou fished the river in his gators and Paul flew his drone photographing Lou fishing.
- The group visited the Kaweah Museum, Heritage Trail, Geo-Cached, stopped at the Ice Cream & Candy Store, and bought Mega Lotto Tickets (the pot was over 600 million dollars!).
- Taco Tuesday! Thank you Pam!
- LRC dice game – Dusty was the winner!

Wednesday

- Coffee & muffins & Taco Tuesday leftovers in Scrambled Eggs. Yummy!
- Free Day to explore - Visits included: Sequoia National Park by the Elliots, Crafts, Dusty/Loretta, & the Ferrees – included the General Sherman Tree, and Morro Rock (over 400 stair steps and 300 feet up!); Visalia by Dick & Lynne to see —The Sequoia Legacy Treell and to the county recorder in search of a certificate of birth for Dick's grandfather.
- Potluck Dinner
- Campfire & the Three Rivers II skit by Paul, Lou, Sue, Pam and Bill. Nope, we did not record...let your imagination run wild!

Thursday

Everyone headed home this day... some close (Antelope Valley) and some far (San Diego)

Total Large Critter Count

- Millers – 4 bears (figures... they live in Big Bear)
- Crafts – 1 bear, 2 raccoons (understandable, they see raccoons in their back yard)
- Ferrees – 1 bear, 2 deer

In conclusion, I think Sequoia Campground & lodge at Three Rivers is a great place to stay for future SRH campouts! There is so much more to do and see that we did not have time to do. Thank you to Bill & Pam Elliott being our campground hosts.

Anyone interested in being host or co-host for a campouts in 2019? Contact your SRH Wagon Master Sue Craft at craft.sue@gmail.com

Whitney Classic - Lone Pine CA, September 2018 by Sue Craft

Sam's Radio Hams participated in the annual Whitney Classic Bike Ride in Lone Pine, CA, followed by a campout at the Boulder Creek RV Park. The communications part of the ride was organized by Dick & Lynne Miller, and the campout was hosted by Lou & Darla Figueroa. Attendees included: Phil & Amy MacBride, Mary Holzgang, Peter & Jane Griffith, Tom & Carol Gleaton, Les & Matthew Cobb, Dan & Adrienne Sherwood, Margie Hoffman, Paul & Sue Craft, and guests Ann & Jack Morgan, and Norm and Kathy Kibby (who joined SRH).

Whitney Classic – Sept 21 - 23

The Whitney Classic is an endurance bicycling fundraiser for Summit Adventure organization. The route is a 115-mile ride with over 20,000 feet of climbing. It starts in Lone Pine, and includes points such as Horseshoe Meadows, Darwin, and ends at the base of Mt Whitney at Whitney Portal. SRH ran a Net Control Station which communicated with 11 different Support and Gear ("SAG") points. Our SRH volunteers were set up with radio communications ranging from walkie talkies to high powered radios and tall antennas for the remote sites so that we could keep track of the riders and report back to Net Control, who was in communication with the organizers of the event. The Summit Adventure folks were very thankful for SRH assistance and provided a spaghetti dinner before the race for all volunteers, as well as an invitation to the closing ceremonies at the Lone Pine park with a pizza lunch. Continuing tradition, the 2017 SRH recipients of the Dick & Lucy Huddy Award (Phil, Amy & Mary) presented the 2018 Huddy Award to Frank & Jan Clements for their 20 plus years (since 1993) of volunteering for the event with SRH. We sure missed having them there this year, but Paul Craft did some creative photography work in Photoshop, and it looks like they were there! We also have a video of the presentation, soon to be posted on the website.

Boulder Creek – September 23 - 26

Boulder Creek was a wonderful location for a campout. In addition to full RV hookup sites, cabins were available for non-RV people. Here is a summary of our daily activities:

Sunday

- Lou & Darla Figueroa welcomed guests with packets of information on local sites to visit.
- Zello Sunday morning check-ins.
- Happy Hour with hors d'oeuvres.
- Lou & Darla hosted a gathering around their "smokeless" campfire.

Monday

- Peter Griffith led the 7:30 a. m. Barnyard Net check-in.
- Sue Craft led a trip to the Owens Valley Radio Observatory (OVRO) in Big Pine. The tour culminated with a hike up over 87 steps into the belly of the OVRO 40-meter Telescope.
- Afterwards, many went to the famous European styled Schat's Bakery in Bishop for sandwiches made with the Original Shepherder Bread (introduced to the Owen's Valley during the California Gold Rush by immigrant Basque shepherders) and Chili Cheese Bread.
- Happy Hour with hors d'oeuvres.

Tuesday

- Adrienne Sherwood's 7:30 a.m. Barnyard Net Question of the Day was "What was your most memorable event with a wild animal while camping?" The stories were great! Animals included multiple bears, a troop of skunks, pelicans, a lynx and an orca. No mice or snakes!
 - Coffee & muffins in the clubhouse followed by a "free day" to explore. Visits included: Whitney Portal Café, Lone Pine Western Museum, Mobius Arch in Alabama Hills, Manzanar National Historic Site, and Rock Creek Lake & Mosquito Flats for fall color.
- Potluck dinner at the clubhouse followed by a campfire at the Sherwood's campsite.

Wednesday

- Everyone headed home this day... some close (Antelope Valley) and some far (Sacramento, San Jose, & Arizona). In conclusion, I think Boulder Creek RV park is a great place to stay for future SRH campouts! There is so much more to do and see that we did not have time to do. Thank you to Dick Miller for organizing the Whitney Classic, and Lou & Darla Figueroa for being our campground hosts.

We'll be back again in September 2019, with our same hosts for both events. Anyone interested in being host for a different campout in 2019? Contact your SRH Wagon Master Sue Craft at [craft.sue@gmail.com/](mailto:craft.sue@gmail.com)

Clio CA, August 2018

Clio's Rivers Edge RV Park by Lindsay Eddy

This year's northern California campout was held in Clio CA. The Kepner's, Figueroa's, Smith's and Eddy's all enjoyed their time spent in Clio and the neighboring areas. Here are some of the fun things we did.

The Figueroa's and the Smith's took their watercraft, 2 Kayaks and a canoe, to Mills Pond in downtown Graeagle. A wonderful morning was spent paddling around the clear waters of the pond, taking in the scenery and watching a couple of dogs enjoying the water too.

One evening the entire gang headed into Kromburg to go to Neighbor's Barbeque for a delicious dinner and, as always, we were all stuffed by the time we left. Ribs, ribs, ribs and more ribs!

There was an excursion to Goose Lake one morning when the Figueroa's, Smith's and the Eddy's headed up to the lake to put in kayaks and a canoe. What a beautiful lake with lots of wild life all around. We all paddled around the lake and then headed back to shore. Even Charlie, the Figueroa's dog, enjoyed the paddle around the lake looking for ducks and geese!

Carole and Roger told us about the bucks and some deer that were hanging out in the pasture most evenings. They seemed to like the area just on the other side of the fence at the back of the campground. And sure enough, there they were just munching on the greenery. What beautiful creatures they are.

Biking around Clio, shopping excursions to Portola, Quincy and neighboring towns, a trip to the Brewer's Lair to sample their goods and refill growlers and just hanging around camp and relaxing were just a few of the activities that were enjoyed. The weather was nice and the smoke was not bad. The group was smaller this year but Clio is always a fun place to visit. Until next time!

San Juan Capistrano CA, July 2018 Luncheon Trevor's at the Tracks by Sue Craft

Sam's Radio Hams attended a luncheon at Trevor's at the Tracks in San Juan Capistrano, which was hosted by Phil & Amy MacBride. Twenty members attended the luncheon: Paul & Sue Craft, Margie Hoffman, Mary Holzgang, Larry & Linda Johnston, Phil & Amy MacBride, Dick & Lynne Miller, Dan & Adrienne Sherwood, Bill & Pam Elliott, and associate members Bill & Alma DeSmith, Ron & Joan Malanosky, and Glenn & Char-lotte Schmitt. Lou & Darla Figueroa were missed as Lou broke a tooth the night before and had to visit the dentist instead.

Half the group came from the Antelope Valley via the Metrolink. Most started their adventure at 5:30 AM from the Palmdale Station with the morning commuters. We were a happy chipper group! We had to transfer trains at Union Station in Los Angeles and arrived in San Juan Capistrano at 9:30 AM. Phil and Amy were there to greet the group and provided information and maps to places to see nearby.

We ventured to the beautiful Mission San Juan Capistrano and took a walking tour, guided by audio phones. We also enjoyed shopping, visiting the Los Rios Historic District, and even found a few geo-caches. The luncheon was lovely! Trevor's at the Tracks is located adjacent to the train tracks at the San Juan Capistrano historic train depot. The food was amazing! One needed to come with a hearty appetite. The Signature Cocktail menu was entertaining with cocktail names such as Don't Throw Mama From the Train, The Girl on the Train, and Derailed. Everyone enjoyed the birthday cake, in honor of Bill DeSmith's 90th birthday!

A short SRH meeting was conducted by the only officer present, Wagonmaster Sue Craft.

Some of the group from the Antelope Valley decided to catch an earlier train home, and rode the Amtrak to Union Station. Compared to the Metrolink, it was like riding 1st class with all the leg room, and a great working air conditioning system. Dick Miller had fun tracking the speed on his cell phone and announced that we briefly hit 90 mph! We had to transfer at Union Station, back to the Metrolink. We boarded, waited, watched policemen and security board the train, waited some more, and finally gave up and caught the next train. Ends up a homeless person had boarded the train and locked himself in the bathroom. Security was not allowed to open the door to get him out.

In conclusion, it was a delightful adventure to a beautiful place with wonderful friends to share it with. Thank you to Phil & Amy for arranging the luncheon.

Vista CA, June 2018 Antique Engine & Tractor Show Campout by Sue Craft

The Sam's Radio Hams attended a campout at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum in Vista, which was hosted by Ed & Glenda Schnelbach and Lou & Darla Figueroa. Twelve members attended the campout: Ed & Glenda Schnelbach, Lou & Darla Figueroa, Jim & Linda Preston, Paul & Sue Craft, Dusty Oess & Lorretta, and Phil & Amy McBride (visited for a day).

Everyone enjoyed stepping back in time and viewing the antiques. The gas and steam engines, both stationary and moving, were popping, belching smoke, and puffing out steam. The aroma (smell) of engine fuel & oil wafted in the air. Exhibits and live demonstrations included: Running Steam Traction Engines, Stationary Steam Engines, Short Track Railroad (N scale model railroad club), Blacksmithing, Weaving & Spinning, Wheelwrights, Grist Mill, West Coast Clock & Watch Museum, Farmhouse Kitchen, and Schoolhouse. The Gem & Mineral Society and Mini Maker Faire events were also there. The highlight each day was the after-noon Tractor Parade!

Lou reported that "It was a relaxing campout, not far from home, where we got to save gas, still get together as a group, and communicate". Lou entertained us with his musical skills on the Dulcimer. Both Darla and Sue purchased Lap Harps from Mrs. Whipplewart of the "School of Times Past." She started teaching at 17 years old and taught in a one-room schoolhouse. She was the "Mermaid" in the parade, riding in a swing hung from the top of a moving crane. Fun fact, Mrs. Whipplewart used to be a licensed FBI investigator. Dusty and Loretta enjoyed their visit to the Short Track Railroad club house with the N scale layouts and were able to actually run and control a train and found the volunteers to be very helpful. Jim enjoyed seeing the machines and all the yummy festival food. Paul enjoyed the Mini Maker Faire (viewing more "Arduino" projects), the Short Track Railroad, and of course the kettle corn!

Our Itinerary:

Thursday - The "Early Birds" arrived for the festival a day early and enjoyed Happy Hour together.

Friday - It was a great day to relax, explore the festival grounds as the displays were set up, explore the area surrounding Vista, and to end with a Hot Dog dinner and ice cream, and visiting with SRH friends.

Saturday - Breakfast was available at the festival. Chapter Meeting at 4pm. Our unofficial "Barnyard Net" question of the day was "What is your favorite dump station?" Roger Kepner sent a text message that Lou shared with the group wishing all the guys a Happy Father's Day. Lou decided we needed to top that and send him back a video of all the men gathered around wishing Roger the best!

Sunday - Happy Father's Day!! Potluck breakfast! Sunday morning Zello Check-ins broke new records and firsts! We had a 26 check-ins! Check-ins covered 4 states – CA, OR, WA, and NV. We had reports from 4 elected Officers and 5 appointed Chairpersons! The Sunday morning Zello net-control took place at the campout.

Monday - All of the campers headed home. Some were happy to find that there was a dump station right on the festival grounds.

In conclusion, I think the Vista Antique Engine and Tractor Show is a great place to stay for a future SRH campout. There is so much more to do and see that we did not have time to do.

Buellton CA, May 2018

Flying flags RV Resort by Sue Craft

The Sam's Radio Hams attended campout at the Flying Flags RV Resort in Buellton, which was hosted by Dick & Lynne Miller and co-hosted by Paul and Sue Craft. We had 25 attendees! I give Flying Flags a 5-star rating for places to stay. Long time members Lou & Darla first camped there almost 20 years ago, back when much of the facility was a dirt lot. It's been transformed! In addition to full RV hookup sites, they have other rental spaces for non-RV people such as cabins, Airstream trailers, and fancy tents available for rental. Here is a summary of our daily activities:

Monday

- Lynne and Sue welcomed guests with goodie bags
- Happy Hour with hors d'oeuvres
- Paul Craft gave an introduction to Geocaching
- Birthday cake for Les Cobb, Mary Holzang & Lou Figueroa
- The ladies gathered for a dominoes game called Spinners

Tuesday

- Lou Figueroa's Barnyard Net Question of the Day was "What is your favorite place to camp (mountains, desert, or beach/lake) and why? The best answer came from Linda Preston when she said "Anywhere Sam's Radio Hams are "
- Dick & Lynne Miller led a trip to Jalama Beach where the group experienced the famous "Jalama Burger." Dusty & Lorretta were amazed by all the brilliant Mustard plants covering the hillsides. Matthew Cobb had a great time wandering up the beach collecting rocks.
- Paul & Sue Craft led a trip to the La Purisima Mission State Park. The mission is considered to be the most completely restored Spanish mission in California. A few members hiked to the cross at the top and found geocaches along the way. Pam Elliott and Sue Craft purchased *El Camino Real de California Pilgrim Credential* booklets and stickers to record their journey and goal of visiting all 21 missions.
- We welcomed our guests and now new members Peter and Jane Griffith at our chapter meeting.

Wednesday

- Dick Miller's Barnyard Net Question of the Day was "How did you meet your spouse, and how many years have you been married?" It was surprising to hear how many couples actually met in high school! Doris and Max Smith will celebrate 63 years of marriage in November! Phil and Amy McBride met while in junior high and have been married 62 years! Bill and Alma DeSmith 60 years! Jim and Linda Preston will be celebrating their 50 years in October. They said one of their secrets to happiness is to often say "I Love You" and "Yes Dear."
- We had a group breakfast and made Omelets-in-a-Bag.
- Sue Craft organized a tour of Flag is Up Farms. We enjoyed a demonstration of Monty Roberts' force free training method and the value of a trust-based relationship and communication with horses. You can view an excellent 15-minute tour of the farm led by Monty himself at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fi22vFXTEzg>
- We had a great attendance at the Great American Melodrama in Oceano and laughed our way through the evening show *Les Miserable*. Those that stayed behind went to dinner together.
- The ladies gathered again for another round of the game Spinners. We're not sure what the men did since we did not see them. Were they asleep? Or did they have a special gathering to discuss Arduinos, Rasp-berry Pi, 4G and LTE? We'll never know.

Thursday

- Everyone headed out this day...some North, some South, some for extended trips, and some for home. Your hosts (Dick & Lynne Miller) and co-hosts (Paul and Sue Craft) thank you all for contributing to Happy Hour, pot luck dinner, the breakfasts, and the assistance in the record-breaking time to clean the clubhouse.
 - In conclusion, I think Flying Flags is a great place to stay for an SRH campout! There is so much more to do and see that we did not have time to do. I think it's worthy of another visit for SRH! Anyone interested in being host for another campout here for 2019? Contact your SRH Wagon Master Sue Craft at craft.sue@gmail.com
 - Finally, check out the photos and videos at www.samsradio.org, under Photos & Videos, Photo Albums, 2018 Album.
-

Joshua Tree CA, March 2018, Joshua Tree Lake RV Park Campout by Sue Craft

The Sam's Radio Hams attended a joint campout with the Big Bear Sam's group, on invitation by hosts Bob and Norma Grimes of the Big Bear Sam's. The campout was well attended! We had 17 SRH members, plus two guests, and about as many Big Bear members. It was great meeting our new friends from Big Bear and a few of them were even hams. Here is a summary of the daily activities:

Monday - The Happy Hour with hors d'oeuvres was like a mini feast. When everyone was gathered in the big circle, Norma brought out a roll of toilet paper (LOL) and asked us to rip off whatever we think we might need! It ended up that each of us needed to tell a story about ourselves for each square we unrolled. It was a great way to get to know fellow campers!

Paul Craft gave a demo on how to use an app called Zello on our smart phones. While the SRH group has been using it for a few months, the Big Bear group saw how it could enhance their communication among their group. Paul also set up a couple more SRH members with Zello.

Our evening consisted of gathering around the campfire and watching the classic movie "The Long Long Trailer". If you've never seen it before, it's a must for RV owners!

Tuesday - The highlight of the day was visiting the Joshua Tree Southern Railroad Museum (courtesy of Brett Minor from the Big Bear group), where everyone had the opportunity to ride on Dick Miller's new toy, a 7 ••• gauge train. He took everyone on rides through the scenic grounds.

Chapter Meetings – We welcomed new members Rick Fritz and Barb Dowdy and guests Barry and Delrae Weathersby.

Our potluck dinner was followed by campfire time. We had so many people in attendance that we needed to light two fire pits!

Wednesday - Sue Craft organized a tour of Gubler Orchids in Landers, CA. What a surprise to see a huge orchid farm out in the middle of the desert! Over 20 of us went on the tour and some came home with beautiful orchids to nurture. Individuals can go on a free tour most anytime.

As Happy Hour approached, the weather took a change and the wind kicked up, gusting to 30 mph, and raindrops started to fall. Joshua Tree Lake RV Park was able to accommodate us into what looked like a mostly unused clubhouse, but we were happy!

Thursday - We had a group breakfast where everyone brought a couple of eggs and something to share to add to an omelet to make it yummy! We made Omelets-in-a-Bag! Bob & Norma and Paul & Sue tended the pots of boiling water to cook the omelets in the Ziploc bags. They were delicious! The recipe is on the SRH website under Campouts/Favorite Campout Recipes.

Our last group gathering was at Gadi's Restaurant in Yucca Valley for a buffet dinner.

In between all the scheduled events, members enjoyed relaxing, reading, card playing, bird-watching, geocaching, drone flying, visiting some of the local restaurants and tourist locations, and venturing into nearby Joshua Tree National Park to sightsee and hike.

Your hosts (Bob & Norma of the Big Bear Sam's) and co-hosts (Paul & Sue) would like to thank all of you who helped make this a GREAT campout!!! Your contributions to Happy Hour, the breakfast, firewood and fire-tending duties were greatly appreciated!

Check out the photos and videos at www.samsradio.org, under Photos & Videos, Photo Albums, 2018 Album.

Quartzsite AZ, January 2018, Quartzsite Camp Out by Sue Craft & Lindsay Eddy

This was the 21st Anniversary of the annual week-long ham radio, camping, learning and living event known as QuartzFest. According to the QuartzFest Facebook posts, the event broke an attendance record this year with 853 people! Of those, 44 of them included 39 SRH members, and our 4 guests. This year there were 118 seminars! A sample of the seminars/events that were attended by our members included: Pass that Ham Test, Beading, Raspberry Pi, Rough Rider Jeep Tour, Special Tribute to Silent Key Dick Bruno, and the Hobo Stew. The official 2018 SRH campout dates were Monday, January 22nd through Wednesday, January 24th. Fun fact: Did you know that Lou Figueroa attended his first SRH QuartzFest campout in 1985? We had a few early arrivals, but most members arrived on Sunday and left on Thursday. Attendees had so many fun things to do! There was the big RV Show under the tent, the huge ice cream cones, the rock & gem show, and all of the shopping events around town. Some of our activities included:

Monday

- Barnyard Net with Lou Figueroa
- Happy Hour with light hors d'oeuvres.

Tuesday

- Barnyard Net with Dan Sherwood
- Special Event recognition for Dick Bruno, attended by over 36 members, where Linda Preston shared a special tribute to Dick Bruno.
- Board Meeting, followed by a 3:30pm Chapter Meeting
- Happy Hour with Wahdingers! The Wahdingers were Pillsbury crescents wrapped around a stick, roasted over the campfire, and filled with everything you'd ever want to put into a taco.
- Campfire time! As we were sitting around the campfire telling stories, we saw the Space Station pass overhead!

Wednesday

- Barnyard Net with Linda Preston
- Breakfast with 96 fresh scrambled eggs of all colors from Lynne's sister's chickens, and yummy sausage, ham, fruit, homemade bread, muffins, and juice provided by attendees.
- Jeep ride! Dick and Lynne, with Paul & Sue in the back seat, took their jeep on it's maiden journey on the Rough Rider Jeep Tour, with 35 other jeeps!
- Happy Hour!
- Campfire time, with 3 fire pits blazing away, and another pass of the Space Station. This evening it appeared to pass right between us and the moon! We watched a few illegal Sky Lanterns sailing through the night sky and wondered where they all were going to come down?

Thursday

Steve & Lindsay discovered that a Sky Lantern came down last night right between their jeep and motorhome! Supposedly they are made of "bio-degradable" paper, however the big bright orange one that came down overnight was fully intact (minus a couple of burned holes). Upon inspection, its construction included the use of wire parts – clearly not biodegradable.

In between all the scheduled QuartzFest and SRH events, members enjoyed bike riding, exploring, jeeping, riding ATV's, shopping, rock hounding, flying drones, getting set up on Zello, sharing RV tips, visiting and relaxing.

Most of the group headed home Thursday, but a few stayed longer to enjoy socializing and attending the rest of the QuartzFest events.

Your hosts, Paul & Sue Craft and Steve & Lindsay Eddy would like to thank all of you who helped make this a GREAT campout!!! Your contributions to Happy Hour, the breakfast, firewood and fire-tending duties, and the morning net were greatly appreciated! Thanks to all that brought guests and welcome to all our new members. It's great to see our chapter growing!

Check out all the photos and videos at www.srhams.org, under Photos & Videos, Photo Albums, 2018 Album.