

## CAMPING CORNER 2020

### Sequoia Campground & Lodge - Three Rivers CA - October 19 - 21, 2020 by Maureen Bush

The SRH Campout for October was held at Sequoia Campground and Lodge in Three Rivers, California near Sequoia and Kings National Parks. Our hosts, Bill and Pam Elliott, arranged for beautiful weather for the eleven RVs totaling 20 adults and one happy granddaughter. The setting was perfect with a large grassy area that seemed like it was perfect for us overlooking a sandy beach and a river that had more water than I expected to see.

Attendees included Bill & Pam Elliott, Margie Hoffman, Ron & Kelley Michel (guests of the Elliott's and their granddaughter, Sarine), Bill Penn, Dan & Adrienne Sherwood, Ray & Maureen Bush, Carl & Beverly Feree, Peter & Jane Griffith, Dick & Lynne Miller, Paul & Sue Craft and Tom & Carol Gleaton.

Those that arrived on Sunday had a day to setup and relax before the remaining RVs arrived on Monday. Bill Elliott provided morning coffee for the early risers. Later in the day appetizers were supplied by Pam to start off our Monday happy hour in plastic containers as we were all trying to do our best at limiting the hands in/on the food. During happy hour Pam passed out a goodie bag to all of us that included a list of all the attendees which helped this poor soul who doesn't know everyone's names and call letters plus it even told the campsite. There was also an itinerary and Things to See and Do near Three Rivers. I think our wagon master, Sue Craft, was the behind the scenes publisher. Pam topped off the goodie bags with a cute Harvest decoration and one raffle ticket for each of us.

Margie, KG6TBR, began Tuesday morning with the barnyard net while Bill & Pam Elliott had coffee brewing with muffins at their site for all. Her question was "If you could have chosen any other profession....what would it have been?" Many liked the jobs they retired from but just wish they would have started in that profession years earlier. I'm sure that it didn't surprise any of us that most men were interested in electronics, engineering or jobs that they could use their hands to build things. The women's answers varied as a few would have liked to explore geology or archeology, legal field, pursuing their current hobbies into a profession such as illustration or art, photography, sewing, chef, or therapist. Others thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to stay home raising the family. No one had any regrets! Paul Craft added another little twist to our barnyard nets which included allowing other SRH members that weren't attending the campout to listen in on zello and they could add their response to the question for others to hear. Members that participated via zello over both days included Jim & Linda Preston, Paul Stewart, Bob Abolafia, Les Cobb, and Mary Holzgang. Hopefully we made you feel like you were with us. This question had lengthy responses as some individuals shared all the different occupations they had over their lifetime. However, we did learn a lot about the history of our members.

Everyone had their own individual plans on what they wanted to do during the three-day campout. Some went to Sequoia National Park to view the giant Sequoias or take a hike to the General Sherman tree. Some went hiking and exploring in the local area. Others drove to nearby Exeter to visit the antique shops, view the numerous murals on the buildings or grab a bite to eat. We enjoyed the Whistle Stop Café that allowed inside dining while social distancing. Sue and Paul broke the law as they crossed the "Keep Out" boundary when they attempted to locate a geocaching site. They were warned that they could be fined as they were in a closed staging area that was being used to support the nearby fire.

Later in the afternoon there were four brave souls, Sue Craft, Maureen Bush, and Peter & Jane Griffith, who took the river plunge! The following day Cody and Lacy, Elliotts' English Springer Spaniels, got their exercise and swim in the river. We can't forget Bill Elliott who eventually removed his shoes and rolled up his pants to play lifeguard ensuring that Cody was safely enjoying his first swim since surgery. Cody did great fetching but Lacy made it a little challenging when trying to intercept the ball. Dogs were well represented at this campout with Fiona & Piper, Minnie, Penny & Gypsy plus Cody and Lacy.

The Elliotts prepared a great Taco Tuesday dinner as servers wore their protective gear when preparing and serving. Thanks to all who assisted in the preparation of this dinner and especially to Bill and Pam. No one should have gone away hungry as between the appetizers and the taco dinner there was plenty for all of us. Appetizers were supplied by individuals for Tuesday and Wednesday happy hours keeping in mind that items should be individually wrapped and safe for all to enjoy....everyone is getting creative regarding packaging. Campfires happened every night at Three Rivers and some remembered to participate in the zoom campfire with Ann Morgan as the host. As for me, I forgot about zoom campfire as I was urging the Dodgers to make it to the World Series which they won...YEA!

Wednesday net control was Ray Bush, WB6PBZ.....he had a two part question "Have you ever done anything special for Halloween or had a favorite costume?" Peter had an employee that loved to decorate the office, every room had a different theme and they invited all the kids to wear their costumes to a party. Beverly went trick or treating and came

home with a baby boy? Some dressed up to hand out candy to check out the kids in costumes. Other memories included spiders in hair, a conductor coming out of coffin dressed as Dracula, sewing kids costumes, Trick or treating in the snow, some won contests, one was scary without a costume, some didn't dress up, carving pumpkins. One was a cross-dresser and I'm still waiting to see that picture! Others are worried about the people that dress up for Thanksgiving?

Secondly...."What is your favorite holiday and why?" Thanksgiving was popular for many reasons. Everyone agreed that they were thankful for all their blessings and they enjoyed sharing all the turkey, fixings and cooking with family and friends. Some of us also enjoy have a full tummy then relaxing and watching football before rising to get our pumpkin pie. Friendsgiving is a common term as friends become your family. Many have family in other parts of the country or they have passed on so we often celebrate with our Friends and establish new traditions. Christmas is special because it is Christ's birthday and some enjoy attending their religious services; it is known as the most beautiful time of the year and is magical. Some are fortunate to have smaller children during Christmas time and there is nothing more special than watching them on Christmas morning as they open their presents. Decorating for Christmas was enjoyed by many and my partner has memories of being Santa for Christmas. Other memories include snow on the ground, playing music or listening to Christmas music, buying the right gift for people, and memories of family and friends from the past. New Years was also mentioned as one to start a new year and straighten out your priorities. I'm sure we will all agree that we'd like to move on from 2020! Covid has changed how we've known life and holidays in the past but we need to make them special regardless.

While the net was going on Bill Elliott was preparing his famous spam breakfast sandwiches. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to bring suggested items! They were delicious as usual and monetary donations were given to our charity, Dogs for Better Lives.

Our chapter meeting was held afterwards. All were encouraged to wear their red vests or clothing for a group picture after the morning meeting. The board had invited the SoCal state director of Good Sam, Roger Strickland, and his wife, Flora, to join us in the afternoon to meet our chapter members, get to know them and their role and have them share what's going on regarding the chapters. They had never been invited to share with a chapter off-site like this in the past; they never attend a group unless invited. Roger presented a certificate for our 40-year anniversary of our chapter to Margie and group and also posed for a group photo. It was an enjoyable afternoon visit.

Wednesday happy hour had a different twist as there was a raffle of donated prizes to obtain funds throughout the year for "Dogs for Better Lives." Attendees were able to purchase additional tickets. Face masks are still available for \$5. This approach appeared to be a success. We were also entertained by a few of our campers who showed us how important it is to share food with less fortunate campers and the proper ways to clean our plates and dispose of our trash properly.

As usual, Paul had his drone out capturing the campout activities so we can all reminisce this year's campouts (possibly at Quartzsite). Ray brought out his tv coupled with Paul's laptop so we could get a sneak preview of what Paul has completed of this year's campouts. Great job Paul.....can't wait to see when it is completed.

Thanks Pam and Bill for making this a special campout. Of course, it takes many people to keep a successful charter functioning and that is each one of us....so pat yourself on the back. See you at QuartzPAWS! Travel safely and enjoy the upcoming holidays!

## Boulder Creek Campout - Lone Pine CA - September 27 - 29, 2020 by Maureen Bush

The September Campout was held at Boulder Creek RV Resort south of Lone Pine. Our hosts were Sue and Paul Craft and they started the gathering with appetizers on Sunday afternoon. Campers included Ray and Maureen Bush, Paul and Sue Craft, Bill and Pam Elliott, Margie Hoffman, Mary Holzgang, Phil and Amy MacBride, Dick and Lynne Miller, Bill Penn, Jim and Linda Preston, and Dan and Adrienne Sherwood. The majority of the campers were there before the last remaining four rigs arrived which came from Ely, Nevada previously Yellowstone (Millers, Elliots, Penn & Bushes).

Temperatures were in the low 90's during the day cooling off to 60's at night. Needless to say, we only needed one campfire as the evening temperatures were so pleasant. Luckily, the Preston's reserved their usual cottage that provided the much-needed shade and large area to hold our happy hours, chapter meeting, dinner and campfires as the club house was not available due to Covid.

Margie was the net control for Monday. Her question was "If you could climb any mountain... what would it be?" Mt. Whitney was the most common answer but only if we were a lot younger! Two of the more distant were the Alps and Mt. Kilimanjaro. Some of us admitted we were not hikers and had no desire to put our bodies to the test.

Touring was a bit challenging as the forests were closed to the public. I don't think they had Covid so it must have been to protect our forests from possible fires. Our skies were hazy from all the fires in the West. We drove around the dry Owens Lake which back in 1917 was a haven for migrating birds. In 2001, LADWP began flooding portions of the lakebed to reduce harmful dust pollution encouraging restoration and mitigation for a unique bird habitat. A beautiful site was the hundreds of White Pelicans migrating overhead glimmering in the sky as the sun caught their wings before they would disappear for a few seconds. It was like they were forming different pictures for us to enjoy. We stopped at various land art and Plover Wing Plaza to stretch our legs and take a few photos. Then we were off to find "Dirty Socks Pond" where a few of our members actually went in this water many many years ago....yuck....I hope it was much cleaner! There is an interesting video that Sue shared with us afterwards that explained how it really got its name! As usual, we had a great assortment of appetizers for our three happy hours....thanks to everyone for your contributions and also being considerate of how foods were shared.

Tuesday net control was Mary..."Since so many people come from So. California ....what brought you to your current home?" It was surprising to hear that many of our members were actually born in Southern California and had moved to their present location usually because of their job. People were looking to get away from the crowded areas, seeking different scenery, plus housing was cheaper in the desert. Jim Preston was in boot camp in the Great Lakes and was in the military playing in their band and was relocated to San Diego. Bill Elliott was from Michigan and Maureen Bush from Illinois spending their younger years in the east before heading west to California. Ray and Maureen took on the building of a derelict home in Big Bear City in anticipation of relocating there after Maureen retired in 2016. Phil and Amy McBride moved to a retirement community that has all types of activities plus access for any medical needs. Dick & Lynne bought a vacation home in Chiloquin, Oregon to become more involved at Train Mountain and to fulfill his childhood dreams.

We enjoyed the attendance of Lou and Darla Figueroa who joined us for the Tuesday morning chapter meeting following the board meeting. They brought boxes of historical documents for the board to review. Darla also prepared her devils food marshmallow cookies to share. Afterwards, some folks joined the group traveling to the Charcoal Kilns which is a California Historical Landmark. Upon returning to camp Paul, Bill Elliott and Dick spent the afternoon working on a digital hotspot project which is still in the works! Others relaxed with friends and/or found a cool place to read a book.

Sue made us a big pot of Chili for Tuesday dinner and everyone else contributed other Fixins. Later in the evening, Paul scorched his arm hair creating a burnt smell but that was easily forgotten with the help of a few glasses of wine. Another relaxing enjoyable evening round the campfire.

Dan was Wednesday's net control asking "What is the coldest body of water you ever swam in?" It appears that quite a few of us spent time in the Sierras when younger and thought we were either brave or stupid as we went in chilling water temperatures in the 30's and some surrounded by ice and snow. Others experienced Lake Superior, East Lake by Lee Vining, Horseshoe Lake, Shaver Lake, Lake Mead, Lake Tahoe, Great Lakes, and Alaska water when slipping while fishing and abruptly felt the chill.

Bill and Pam Elliott provided our Wednesday morning breakfast sandwich which is Bill's specialty. It consists of a bagel, cheese, egg, spam, and bacon toasted lightly hot off the grill. Bill's tips added up to \$50 which were added to the Dogs for Better Lives Fund. Thanks also for the sewing skills of Pam and Sue who made masks that were for sale earlier and that brought in \$85 for the Dogs. Masks are available from the girls and they are very colorful, some with

bears, or cats, or camping. Also one more dollar collected from those that failed to wear their badge and got caught by the Sheriff. Thanks to Amy, Phil and Mary who left their pizza for us, which was devoured, and they didn't get to taste it.

It was a great gathering even though the bike race was cancelled, the hall was not available to us and the forest was closed. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to see friends while enjoying the outdoors. We're looking forward to Three Rivers and that's only a few weeks away. Thanks Sue and Paul for making this an enjoyable campout!

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## **Yellowstone Grizzly RV Park, West Yellowstone MT, September 18 - 24, 2020 by Dick Miller**

Last October while on a coastal cruise, the ship stopped at Ensenada Mexico. Having recently been to Mexico, the Millers and Elliotts decided to stay on board while enjoying refreshing Margaritas on the fantail. Upon her return to ship, they were joined by Margie Hoffman. With the encouraging effects of the Margaritas they discussed a longer than normal RV trip, and after considering several possibilities, decided a trip to Yellowstone would be a good idea. The trip was not intended to be a Good Sam adventure, but in the end it turned out that way when the planners decided to invite anyone that wanted to go along. Thus was the beginning of the Yellowstone adventure when we put out the word among the SRH members. The Covid thing reared its ugly head, so that was monitored and closures and sanctions began to mitigate midsummer so the trip was a go.

The Millers (KJ6W & W6LMM), the Elliotts (KM6YKL & KN6PME), and Bill Penn (WW6PEN) departed from Palmdale on September 15 for St. George Utah braving 100+ degree temperatures along the way. Upon arrival at St. George they were met by the Rick (K7RCR) and Austa Rogers who joined the caravan for the next leg of the trip to Farmington, UT, where they overnighted at the Lagoon RV campground. Joining the travelers in Farmington were Bill Penn's sister and brother-in-law Bobbi and Ron Cummins from Oklahoma.

The afternoon at Farmington was spent visiting the S&S Shortline Railroad owned by Dick's friend Steve Flanders. The railroad is located on Steve's 15 acre back yard in Farmington, the property split by the D&RGW railroad right-of-way, now a bike trail. Somehow Steve managed to put a tunnel for his trains under the active right of way. The railroad now consists of several miles of 24", 12" and 7 1/2" gauge track with nearly 100 pieces of rolling stock of the three gauges. Steve also collects garden tractors so there were close to a 100 such tractors on the property. Also, on the property is a 1920 version of a train station that serves as a gift shop, and full-size D&RGW caboose, and 4 or 5 full-size 3' narrow gauge ore cars, also from the D&RGW. Indeed, we had an enjoyable afternoon.

The next morning the now larger group travelled to the Shoshone Bannock Casino Hotel and RV Campground at Fort Hall where they spent the night. The RV campground was very nice with full hookups. The group continued to grow as we were joined by Mike Pakucko and Sherry Nolan from Santa Clarita and Oxnard, respectively.

After the overnight at the Fort Hall, the group travelled the last leg of the trip to the Grizzly RV Campground in West Yellowstone that served as our base for the trips into Yellowstone. Joining the group here was Mike and Lynne Smith, (KG6VFL & KM6DKF), Steven and Lindsay Eddy (KD7ROY & KD7ROX), Boyd and Debbie Pennell (K7DEA & KE6LSM), Ray (WB6PBV). and Maureen Bush and Chuck and Cindy Taylor. Our group now totaled 21 souls representing the states of CA, AZ, NV, OR, MT and OK. Not bad attendance for a totally ad hoc campout. Nearly every day was ended with Happy Hours and shared stories at the Elliott's campsite, except for Friday night when we were rained out.

Yellowstone was awesome, and not as crowded as we expected. While the group split up for the day into smaller groups, we all saw nearly all the main attractions. Old Faithful was, of course, running on time, but the Inn was closed, a disappointment. Nonetheless, all the thermal attractions were running normally, as they have for thousands of years. Norris Geyser Basin was amazing, as was the visit to Mammoth Hot Springs and Fort Yellowstone, where the army headquartered while managing the park in its early days. The elk and buffalo roamed freely about the area, the rangers blocking traffic and visitors so the permanent resident animals could roam freely.

Not enough can be said about the beauty at the Upper and Lower Yellowstone Falls, and canyon. Words alone cannot describe the beauty so you'll have to enjoy the pictures, or visit the location yourself.

Everyone saw elk and buffalo throughout the park, with some of our fellow travelers seeing bear, one dining on an elk before hibernating for the winter, wolves, coyotes and all sorts of birds. A lot of travel is required within the park, but the roads are excellent, and in our case, the traffic light.

Alas, all good things must come to an end. On September 24 the Millers, the Elliotts, the Buses, and Bill Penn departed West Yellowstone for an uneventful trip to North Salt Lake City where we overnighed at the Pony Express RV Resort. The park is well maintained, but poorly designed as the sites are too close together and, in some cases, difficult to enter and exit. The RV park borders the west beltway freeway which was noisy.

We departed Salt Lake along the south shore of the Great Salt Lake for Ely, NV. Upon arrival we scoped out the town, which didn't take very long and purchased tickets for the Nevada Northern Railway steam train ride on Saturday. Watching and riding behind the 2-8-0 steam engine was a treat as the old steam engines are a marvel of engineering. Maintaining the old steam engines is no small task, but they have a fully equipped machine shop for maintenance. The shop was left over from the days when an operating railroad served the mines of Ely.

Approaching 2000 miles of travel we departed Ely for the official SRH campout at Lone Pine. US Highway 50 is billed as the Loneliest Highway in America, but Highway 6 that we travelled to Bishop has to be a close second. We arrived at Boulder Creek the afternoon of September 27 for the first day of the annual Boulder Creek campout.

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### **Clio's Rivers Edge RV Park - Clio CA - August 9-14, 2020 by Pam Elliott**

August is a beautiful time of year to have a no-host campout at Clio's Rivers Edge RV Park in Clio, CA. To attest to that statement, Sue and Paul Craft, Margie Hoffman and Pam and Bill Elliott were a caravan of 3 RV's headed to that location. Our first evening, August 9th, was camping at Tuff Campground - Inyo National Forest situated along Rock Creek in the scenic Sierra Nevada Mountains. The following day, August 10th, we arrived at Clio's Rivers Edge during a rain storm bringing down dime size hail. Thankfully no damage to the Craft's solar panels on the roof of their RV. We were greeted by Carole and Roger Kepner who are living in one of the cutest little houses on the campground property. On Tuesday, August 11th Becki and Paul Stewart, their daughter, Cari and granddaughter, Emmi came for lunch and had a great visit catching up on the progress of Cari's home in Paradise. Emmi, Sue and Pam took advantage of the cool water while floating in the Middle Fork Feather Wild and Scenic River. Becki and Margie stayed on the beach while Bill Elliott took cell phone pictures and Paul Craft brought out his drone for overhead video. That evening we enjoyed traditional grilled hot dogs and assorted salads for dinner before the Stewarts headed for home. At 7:30 pm Roger and Carole were front and center with us as we logged on to ZOOM for the bi-weekly SRH virtual campfire. It was good, to the surprise of many, that Roger and Carole shared chat time with those they haven't seen in some time.

On Wednesday, August 12th, Paul, Sue, Margie, Pam & Bill drove to the Plumas Eureka State Park to walk around the grounds of the mining museum that Covid unfortunately has presently closed. A trip to Graeagle for ice cream at Millie's Ice Cream and Coffee Co. is a MUST! In fact, we visited this establishment on 2 consecutive days. That evening was dinner at the Kepner's little house consisting of Roger's homemade chili, cornbread and salad with dessert of peanut butter pie. Hearing Roger and Carole's past experiences with SRH is always a highlight of spending time with them. Next time I'm bringing a recorder to capture some of the history they share of being longtime active members of SRH. Our final day, Thursday August 13th found Paul, Sue and Bill hiking up to the Upper Sardine Lake taking awesome pictures from that high vantage point. Margie and Pam walked near the shores of the Lower Sardine Lake then relaxing with a cool beverage. That evening we feasted on BBQ Tri-Tip, roasted corn on the cob, green salad and red wines. On Friday morning, August 14th, the Crafts and Margie headed back to the Antelope Valley. The Elliott's headed further north in California (read Dear Samantha). For those of you that have not experienced Clio's Rivers Edge RV Park, we all highly suggest this location. I know we will be back again in the coming years. Huge thank you to Roger and Carole for being residents in Clio and always sharing great food today and memories of yesterday's.



## **Orange Grove Campout - Bakersfield CA - March 9-11, 2020 by Linda Preston**

Orange Grove Bakersfield is a delightful campground. The orange trees and large pull through sites were very inviting as the early birds arrived. The Crafts, Figueroas, Prestons, Elliots and Margie got an early start at the campout. We enjoyed an unofficial happy hour and campfire as we discussed the plan for Monday.

Monday morning we enjoyed a hike through the orange grove to a fruit and nut stand. As the ladies shopped for tasty treats, some of the guys found a geocache with a little help from the cashier. The return hike to the campground was briefly halted when we met with a locked gate to the campground. Quick thinking Sue called the campground and they sent someone to unlock the gate. Catastrophe averted. Thanks Sue.

We continued our Monday adventures with a caravan to CALM, the California Living Museum. We enjoyed many native California animals and plants in a tranquil setting. The next stop was lunch at the Woolworth lunch counter. The burgers and milkshakes prompted memories of days long ago. There were many antiquing opportunities in the area. Dewar's Candy completed the shopping for some. We returned to the campground to greet the Sherwoods, Millers, Dusty and Loretta.

Happy Hour in the lodge and dinner on your own preceded our campfire.

Lou moderated the Tuesday Barnyard net with the question "what is the most extreme weather you have experienced." Answers ranged from Hurricane Hugo, to blizzards, to Quartzsite AZ

Grillmaster Bill Elliott prepared a variety of meats for our Bagel Breakfast Sandwiches. This was a first time, unique breakfast experience. Very yummy. Campers contributed their fruit selection to make a lovely "stone soup" style fruit bowl. After breakfast the campers spread throughout Bakersfield to explore the Kern County Museum, Camping World, Murray Farms or Walmart returning to the campground in time for Happy Hour in the lodge.

Wednesday's barnyard net was led by Margie. The question – "if you owned a restaurant what would be its name and what would you serve?" The answers ranged from "manly meats" to tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches.

Muffins and fruit salad were available for breakfast before the meeting. The lodge was a great meeting place for Mexican Train and show and tell from the antique shopping.

We caravanned to the Woolgrowers Basque Restaurant for a 6pm dinner. The pickled tongue was a delicacy that many passed on; however, the other 11 courses were excellent and enjoyed by all.

Thursday it was "on the road again" for everyone. It was good travelling weather.

Many thanks to Lou, Darla, Sue and Paul for a great time.

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## **Quartzsite Campout - Quartzsite AZ - January 21 - 24, 2020 by Maureen Bush**

The first campout of the year was held at Quartzsite, AZ. The time chosen was in the middle of the Big Tent RV Show dates and it was also held within a short walk to the Quartzfest Ham activities. The campout was hosted by Paul & Sue Craft and Bill & Pam Elliott. Of course, with this being the most attended campout of the year all of us realize that we need to jump in and help.

Several of us arrived Friday so we could all set up and be ready to leave Saturday morning driving north of Phoenix to the Maricopa Live Steamers Railroad Club. This group has been in existence for 22 years; has 18 miles of track and 546 switches in the park. The most unique car was labeled U.S. NAVY carrying two detailed anti-aircraft guns. Dick Miller made the arrangements for us to tour their facility, check out their trains and enjoy a hearty lunch before returning to Quartzsite. Travelers included Ray & Maureen Bush, Steve & Lindsay Eddy, Bill & Pam Elliott, Margie Hoffman, Don & Linda Mankin, Dick & Lynne Miller and Mike & Lynne Smith. Pam Elliott also enjoyed a visit from her longtime friend of 30 years, Pam, from Prescott who met us at the train museum.

Quartzsite Campers in attendance included Ray & Maureen Bush, Frank & Jan Clements, Paul & Sue Craft, Steve & Lindsay Eddy, Bill & Pam Elliott, Carl & Beverly Feree, Peter & Jane

Griffith, Lou & Darla Figueroa, Margie Hoffman, Larry & Linda Johnston, Don & Linda Mankin, Dick & Lynne Miller, Ann Morgan, Dusty Oess & Loretta, Bill Penn, Jim & Linda Preston, Don & Barbara Schleuse, Dan & Adrienne Sherwood, Dale & Melly Snider and Mike & Lynne Smith. We also acquired three new members: Jim & Linda Koski, Rick & Austa Rogers and Chuck & Cindy Taylor.

The actual campout started Monday morning as Margie started barnyard net with the question of the day, "What is your favorite NFL Team and who is your choice to win the Super Bowl?" We didn't get many answers as it was evident that most of the group were not football fans. However, there is a new NFL team called the "Dodgers" as mentioned on our net haha! In case you're interested, the San Francisco 49 er's are playing the Kansas City Chiefs. It was about even on the vote but more than any- thing most were happy that they didn't have to hear Tom Brady's name and the New England Patriots this year.

Steve Eddy and Mike Smith were out there Monday morning cooking French toast and sausage for our hungry appetites. A big Thank You to the Eddy's and Smith's for donating the fixins.

We had a large crowd for Monday's happy hour with shared light hors d'oeuvres and the largest count was 22 rigs and 45 individuals but people were coming and going so we could have had a few more people including guests. It was interesting to hear where people were from and there was a competition to see who had his/her license the longest. Larry Johnston, K6HLH, received his license in 1954. The Bush's had some other guests from Big Bear that joined in around the campfire including Rod & Marianne Bunn, Lanny & Pat Holt and Mickey Siegel. Also, joining as our guest, Chuck & Cindy Taylor, from Alta Loma.

Paul Craft did the Tuesday barnyard net and his question was "What do you miss the most while camping on the road?" Internet and good cell phone coverage was high on the list followed by pets, unlimited hot showers, recliners, tv/cable, Hallmark, heater, electric blanket, California king bed, sleeping in and reliable appliances.

The board meeting and chapter meeting was held on Tuesday. There were approximately 34 individuals at the chapter meeting where the planned campouts for the remainder of 2020 were discussed with the group.

Everyone was enjoying happy hour while the five firepits were heating in preparation for the wahdingers. Barbara Schleuse, the Wahdinger Queen, and her volunteers were busy loading up the sticks. Barbara first introduced wahdingers to the Good Sam Ham Chapter at a Santee campout some 15+ years ago and they have been a favorite ever since. Taco ingredients were the planned stuffing for this event. Barbara was presented with an honorary bottle of Wahdinger wine complete with a label of wahdinger sticks. Margie also received the Presidents blend of Margie's Merlot.

NEW LICENSES – Bill Penn got his tech license and Pam Elliott got her extra license during the campout. Congrats to Bill and Pam! Don Schleuse passed his technician and is on his way to getting his general back.

Ann Morgan did the Wednesday barnyard net and her question received participation from everyone! "What is your favorite breakfast anywhere?" Grab a cup of coffee and relax as this list goes on for a long time. I needed shorthand to capture the responses! Top response was eggs benedicts followed by breakfast burritos and a few didn't care what they ate as long as they didn't have to make it and clean it up. The remaining list is quite interesting – sourdough pancakes, buckwheat pancakes, ginger- bread pancakes, Swedish pancakes, red velvet waffles, steak n' eggs, bacon or sausage n' eggs, scrambled eggs, corned beef hash & eggs, omelets, oatmeal n' raisins, locks n' bagels, egg McMuffin, breakfast sandwich w/jalapenos, quiche w/fresh berries, yogurt, homemade sourdough w/huckleberry jam, biscuits n' gravy, any kind of eggs, Florentine, poached eggs on toast, dog food for Minnie and most unusual is whipped cream on cocoa puffs. Most agreed breakfast was their favorite meal of the day!

Immediately following the barnyard net was breakfast where the chapter provided scrambled eggs, juice and coffee complimented by everyone's contribution which totally filled the tables and I don't recall seeing any duplications. Good job campers!

Several of the ladies joined in on Mexican Train Dominos during the day and we chased the sun and shade for over three hours. It proved to be a very entertaining game and it was a perfect match for a group that has an interest in trains. Meanwhile, Paul was flying his drone and collided with Bill Penn's ladder breaking one propeller. Paul did an excellent job working with Dick Miller to get his birthday present air- borne. Before the last of the campers left Quartzsite we got one more night of Mexican Train with guys and gals. Toot Toot! I foresee us playing this at future campouts.

We celebrated several birthdays for January and February at our Wednesday happy hour. One of our older members, Jan, was born in Korea on January 27, 1934. Jan recalls the days when they would hop on the train because they had no

car and they would get busted by the conductor as they kept moving from car to car until finally a conductor caught them and made them disembark the train!

Throughout the campout the acting sheriff, Linda Preston, was busily checking to see if everyone was wearing their badge. Also, catching those who said "Club instead of Chapter." I can't remember who said this as I walked by, but I decided not to get involved in the conversation, "It's down here do you want to check?"

Most of the campers left on Thursday but a few stayed and joined the Quartzfest off road tour. It lasted three hours, was quite rocky and the one word to describe it was "Challenging." Others attended a few seminars and the hootenanny which was changed to daylight hours. The final wrap up of Quartzfest was the drawing on Saturday afternoon. Margie Hoffman walked away with an antenna, sledge hammer and a sticker as it appears that multiple people who were leaving early added her name to their ticket. So much for them trying to ensure that people only received one gift from their ticket.

We were again pleased that the 2020 Quartzfest special event station honored our long-time member Dick Bruno, N6ISY. The special event station operated for the duration of the event as the W7Q Dick Bruno Memorial Station