

APRIL 2001
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SUNRISERS GAZETTE

CAROLYN WRITES

THE PRE-NATIONAL REPORT



There were big tricks at the National Rally. There is a full report of the Rally in this newsletter, but I want to talk about the changes that we made to the club by-laws. First, we changed the by-laws so that there is no limit to the number of terms that club officers can serve. This was done primarily to have the National Board Representatives for the club available for the Board meetings. Since most of the Alfa clubs are in the west, the board meetings are in the west. We reelected Tom and Barbara Taylor to the National Board. This also makes them solely responsible for the Alfa Rally at Pigeon Forge, Tennessee in 2003. That does not mean, however, that they will do all the work. It means that they will delegate different jobs to members of the club who want to help. There will be a list of all the various tasks in the next newsletter.

We also voted and changed the date that dues are due. This was done to make the secretary's job easier. All dues are now due as of the National Rally each year. We will use April 30th as the actual due date. Some of you will gain as much as five months, and some of you will lose as little as three months. If your dues were due in the months of January through July, your new dues date is April 30th of the same year. If your dues were due from August though December, your new dues date is April 30th of the next year.

The financial report and the minutes of the business meeting are enclosed with this newsletter.

This is a difficult column to write because there was no Sunriser's pre-national campout. Gene Hendon, our illustrious vice president and the would have been wagon master, worked very hard to find a nice place for the pre-national campout. But no one registered. Maybe we should go back and start having our pre-nationals with the Roadrunners. Then we can get the Roadrunners who are also Sunrisers to be part time Sunrisers. The more active people are Roadrunners. They joined to give us a good start. They have done that. But now it is time for us to stand on our own feet.

The club with Country Hills RV Park in Beaumont, CA. We were expecting about ten rigs. The dates were April 20 to April 25. Gene Hendon gave the park over 30 days notice that there would be no outing. Country Hills RV Park in Beaumont, CA refused to return the deposit. Hendon and the Tickels put the price (\$90 each) back into the club treasury out of our own pockets.

Wagon Masters Note: Please get a written guarantee from the RV park concerned that we can have the deposit back when the required notice is given. **PERSONAL OPINION:** The notice should not be over 30 days and I will be very disappointed if anyone reading this ever stays at Country Hills RV in Beaumont, CA ever again.



WE ARE WORKING HARD TO MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER BETTER. WRITE TO THE EDITOR IF YOU HAVE ANY CONSTRUCTIVE

The Saga of the Sunrisers West Bound Rolling Rally

By Kelly Kelley

Our story begins in Chattanooga (that's where the Choo-Choo is). Our wagon master, Bill Tickel, had put together a trip that we will all remember for a lifetime. It started with Jim & Lynn Liddick a day late because of truck problems. Dick & Beverly Stern were on time. The first night on the road was at Cottdale, Alabama where the group was joined by Dennis & Joann Frink who were one day and one stop early. The weather was cold but the fellowship was warm. On January 5 the band moved to Fort Gibson, MS for two days. Jim & Donna Fraser and Kelly & Linda Kelley joined there. Happy Hour is now a happening. The group is coming together and there is talk about Quartzsite. The folks who have been there are busy answering questions and the rookies are looking forward to running their new generators. Two more nights put us in Brackettville. We were joined by Don & Jackie Foreman, John and Donna Ricketson, Ray & Shirley Hershberger (SOB), Ted & Nancy Jacobs, and Harold & Mary Sullivan. We are now eleven rigs.

(continued on page 3)

An RV Blessing

May the wind be always at
your back,
May the rain fall gently on
your rubber roof,
May the sun shine softly on
your awning,
May all your tires roll smoothly
down the road,
And may God hold you in His
Hands until we meet again in
fellowship and grace.

Stolen from the Irish by
Bill Tickel.



SUNRISER CLUB OFFICERS

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SECRETARY/TREASURER:

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ALFA NATIONAL FOR 2001 AT PALM DESERT

The ALFA National Rally this year was from April 25th to May 2nd in Palm Desert, CA at Emerald Desert Golf & RV Resort.

Those of you who did not go missed a great rally. There were 150 rigs there, but alas, only five Sunrisers.

The first day was limited to registration and the welcome dinner. Day number two saw bowling, craft classes & sales, and happy hour. Each happy hour during the week was hosted by a different club with two other clubs as their guests. There were three groups each happy hour day; you only hosted once and were a guest three times.

Day number three (for those interested) was filled with a bus trip to view the homes of the rich and famous who live in Palm Springs.

Day four contained the traditional seminars by John Nelson. John always has something to tell you about your RV that you should know about but don't. He made an interesting comment about ALFAs, "ALFA builds traveling homes, not RV's." Every full-timer who owns an ALFA can vouch for that. There was entertainment and dancing after an ALFA dealer sponsored dinner.

The rest of the week saw a golf tournament, midway games, a group photo, an ice cream social, and the Wagon Masters Farewell Dinner.

The Mavericks, led by John & Marilo May, held an outstanding rally. BRAVO!

And Bravos also to the Alfa "fix'em" crews. Never have so many owed so much to so few.

KATHRYN GARRETT'S OUTING NEWS

My first task after being appointed Outing Coordinator was to determine a club profile, that is, try and find out what the members wanted. I designed a questionnaire and mailed it to each member. [as] Outing Coordinator The results of those surveys were used to set up the Indiana, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania outings. There was also an outing scheduled for NE Tennessee but it had to be canceled because no wagon master could be found. There are registration sheets for each of the others enclosed with this newsletter.

An additional copy of the survey was to be mailed with this issue of the Gazette, but Bill informed me that this time there was too many other inclusions.

Please, if you have not returned your questionnaire, do so. I can only act on the information I have. I also need volunteers for

wagon masters and assistants.

There are several other outings in the planning stage, and a big one in the talking stage. The outing at Houma, La is the final stages of preparation. It is the second largest Mardi Gras in Louisiana. The dates are February 6-13, 2002. We need a Wagon Master and Assistant for this great outing.

Bill Tickel is talking about a rolling rally to Alaska in the summer of 2002. Anyone interested should let him know.

And finally I want to thank all those who have helped. They are Ed and Alice Allard, Ron and Donna Sutton, and Charles and Phyllis Rodefled.

There are other outing being planned for 2002. They will be covered in the next issue. Thanks again. **KATHRYN GARRETT.**

Kelly Kelley Kontinued

After two days of R & R and a side trip to John Wayne's Alamo we relocated to Alpine where we saw the Marfa Lights. That is some phenomenon. It was still cold. The Frasers braved McDonald Observatory and almost froze their butts off. We boondocked in Anthony, Texas and then moved to Benson, Arizona where we hoped to get warm. Instead it snowed. Some of us went to Tombstone and Bisbee before we rolled on to Wellton, the last stop before Quartzsite. We were joined there by Jack Exum & Kathryn Garrett. By this time it was apparent to all of us that our wagon master had worked hard and planned thoroughly. We had a great time. One that none of us will forget. However, the RV Park in Wellton is next to the main railroad artery which joins the east and west coasts. Our rigs were parked next to the tracks. Find another park in Wellton if you like to sleep or wash your truck. And Bill, thanks again.

Alfa Sunrisers
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Cleveland, TN 37323

The
Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

SUNRISERS APPLICATION FORM:

Attention Sunrisers: Below is a convenient form for you to use for Alfa owners that you meet on the road who are not yet SUNRISERS. Recruit!

MEMBERSHIP \$10.00/year

SEND TO:
Alfa Sunrisers
Bill Tickel, Secretary
2010 Spring Place Rd.
Box 192
Cleveland, TN 37323

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____
ZIP/Postal Code _____
Alfa Length _____ Number of slicdes _____

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME & OTHER IMPOR- TANT STUFF.

Nothing is more important to the health of any organization than the continual infusion of new blood. Therefore, say welcome to these new members: John and Sheila Carroll from Birmingham, AL; Roger and Nancy Dyke from Holland, MI; David and Tish Parsons from Luling, LA; Frank and Holly Ayers from Thomasville,

GA; Larry and Colleen Ketelsen from Bemidji, MN; and Ron and Ann Degano who get their mail in Livingston, TX.

On the far left (besides Teddy Kennedy, Dianne Feinstein, and Hillary) is a sideways membership application. It was suggested by Kathryn Garrett but I already had it done when I received her request. Well, I did. The point is, use it.

The worst that can happen is that you meet somebody new. Try it!