

October, 2001
Vol 5, Issue 4

SUNRISERS GAZETTE

CAROLYN'S CORNER

TIRE SAFETY



It's almost the end of October. Tardy again! Sorry about that, but we have been frightfully busy the past few months. We've been parked at "home" since the first of October.

Katheryn Garrett spent the day with us last week. She and Jack were in Chattanooga for a few days. There was lots to talk about. Tom and Barbara Taylor have had to resign as Board Members for personal reasons. This is a great loss for our club. Luckily we have Jack Exum and Kathryn Garrett as alternates. They have consented to become the primary Board Members until the next Club elections. And that brings us to the next point - elections. Club By-Laws require elections at the National Rally each year. A forum is not required. The problem is that there are only a few Sunriser attendees at the National and the membership has no voice in their club. We would like to see an annual Sunrisers Rally in the late summer or early fall. We could have the club elections at that time and complete club business with the club members present. It would be as near as possible to the same time each year so members could plan well ahead to attend. It could be in Maine one year, the Outer Banks the next, etc. Let us know if you could attend an annual rally on the east coast. There would be no point in changing things if a substantial number of members were not going to attend anyway. While you are thinking about that let me wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry and Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year. See'ya.

Tires used on RVs are subjected to a greater variety of wear and stress than automobile tires. Many RVs are out of service for months at a time. When they are used, they are used at, near, or over maximum permissible loads, and during hot weather.

Normal, natural aging of tires, as well as ozone may cause the tire to crack, especially in the sidewall area. Tires should be checked every day for condition and pressure during any trip. Any tires over five years old should be inspected at least once a year by a professional to see if they are safe to remain in service or should be replaced. Tires are cheaper than RVs or funerals.

RVs manufactured since 1972 have a certification label that provides the following information:

1. GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating).
2. GAWR (Gross Axle Weight Rating) for each axle.
3. Tire and rim size.
4. Recommended cold tire inflation pressure.

Recommended tire pressure can also be found on the sidewall of the tire. The age of the tire is also imprinted on the sidewall. It is a four figure number — the year followed by the week of manufacture. For example, 9913 means the tire was manufactured the 13th week of 1999.

Never change tire sizes without consulting (in writing) with the RV manufacturer and a reliable tire dealer.

At the risk of repeating something you just read and already know, the most important things in tire care are maintaining proper inflation pressures, avoiding excess loads, regular inspection of tires, and driving at proper speeds.

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*O'KEEFEE'S
WISCONSIN
Campout Report*

The September Sunriser campout in Wisconsin was a great success thanks to the work of our wagonmasters, Alice and Ed Allard. We stayed at the Country Roads MH and RV Park in Lake Delton, WI. The park is located in the Dells area of the Wisconsin River. There were nine rigs in attendance. Some folks came from as far away as Ohio and Missouri.

Everybody gathered for snacks in the clubhouse the first afternoon which ended with an impromptu wienie roast over the open fire in the pavillion.

Wednesday was spent seeing local sights, with the cheese factory

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**ROADRUNNER
OUTINGS FOR 2002**

January 19 - 25.
BLM Land. Quartzsite, AZ
Pat Jackson & Joan Crawford
Cell (909) 318-4002.

April 5 - 9. Pre-national.
Huachuca City, AZ
Bill & Sue Curry
Bscurry@pocketmail.com
April 10 - 17. National Rally.

September 10 - 17.
Osprey Point RV Resort
Lakeside, OR
Dean & Jean Stubblefield
Kitdeanjean@pocketmail.com



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TIME TO RETIRE?
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The importance of proper tire inflation can not be over stated. Check your tires' air pressure at least once a month on static vehicles, before each trip, and each morning during the trip. Inflation pressures should be checked when tires are cold, that is, before they have been driven — even one mile. Heat generated during driving increases air pressure in the tire. This is normal. Never bleed air from a hot tire. If it was properly inflated at the cold temperature, it is OK. Bleeding back to the cold pressure when a tire is hot will result in dangerous underinflation.

Watch your tires closely for uneven wear. We recently found a bent axle (bent going carefully through Yellowstone Park?) by observing uneven tire wear on the outside edge in just one day (250 miles).

When a tire is losing air, it should be inspected by someone who knows tires. If that's you, fine. If not, go to a professional.

Punctures up to a quarter inch, when confined to the tread, can be repaired. The tire **should be removed from the wheel and repaired with both a patch and a plug**. Remember how much weight you're carrying. Never use a tube in a tubeless tire as a substitute for a proper repair.

A special kit containing a dual head air pressure gauge calibrated to 120 lbs in 2 lb increments, a tread depth gauge, eight stainless valve caps, and a 30 page RV Tire Care Guide is available for \$14.95 plus \$3.50 S&H from TIRE INDUSTRY SAFETY COUNCIL, PO BOX 3147, MEDINA, OH 44258.

OUTING SCHEDULE

2002

FLORIDA EMERALD COAST

Jan 9 - Jan 16
Contact Kathryn Garrett
Wagon Master TBA

MARDI GRAS in HOUMA, LA

Feb 6 - Feb 13
Contact Kathryn Garrett
Wagon Master TBA

CHARLESTON, SC

March 21—28

Oak Plantation Campground

Contact Kathryn Garrett
Wagon Master TBA

PRE-NATIONAL AND NATIONAL

Sierra Vista , AZ

Apr 3 - Apr 10/Apr 10 - Apr 17

NATIONAL RALLY

The National Rally in 2002 is at Sierra Vista. The dates are April 10 to April 17. The registration dead.line is **FEBRUARY 15, 2002**. Get your entry mailed to arrive before the deadline if you plan on attending. **THE REGISTRATION FORM AND ALL THE ATTENDING INFORMATION IS INCLUDED WITH THIS ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.**

Sunrisers attending the rally are urged to attend the pre-rally campout with the Roadrunners. The Roadrunners are meeting nearby in Huachuca City, AZ on April 5 to April 9. Contact Bill and Sue Curry at bscurry@pocketmail.com for registration forms and details.

SPELL CZECH HER

Eye halve a spelling
chequer,
It came with my pea sea,
It marques four my revue
Miss Steaks eye kin knot
sea.
Eye strike a key and type
a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar
write.

It shows me strait a weigh,
As soon as a mist ache is
maid.

It nose bee four two long,
And eye can put the arrow
rite.

Its rare lea ever wrong,
Eye have run this poem
threw it,
Eye am shore your pleased
two no

Its ladder perfect awl the
weigh.

My Czech her tolled me
sew.

To do is to be. Descartes.

To be is to do. Voltaire.

Do be do be do. Sinatra.

O'KEEFFE'S WISCONSIN REPORT

the favorite. We ended up that night at a Greek restaurant.

We golfed the next morning and went on an afternoon riverboat trip. We ended the day with a potluck in the pavillion sponsored by the campground hosts, Terry and Terri Michael.

The rest of the week saw more sight-seeing, a pancake breakfast, hiking, golf, chores, and TV football.

The campout was a respite from 911. We grieved and healed some together. May God bless America and keep us safe on our travels. Dianne.

Alfa Sunrisers

Bill Tickel, Editor

159 County Road 965

Calhoun, TN 37309

The Mailing Address Goes Here

SUNRISERS APPLICATION FORM:

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

RENEWALS AND MEMBERSHIPS \$10.00/year

SEND TO:
Alfa Sunrisers
Bill Tickel, Secretary
159 County Road 965.
Calhoun, TN 37309

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

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME & OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF.

First, I want to apologize to the two or three people who mailed in money and requests for decals, hats, etc. and have not received them. It's my fault and I really have no excuse. This will be taken care of when this Gazette is mailed so it will not be necessary to make inquires to the Postmaster General about mail fraud. I have

included with this mailing a list of all members with addresses, telephones, and known emails.

I am also returning any monies received for name tags. I usually have no way to order name tags, receive them back, and mail them again. This is another problem which needs to be addressed. Name tag orders in the past have usually been taken care of at club outings. Bear with me while I seek a reliable mail order outfit which will drop-ship. Bill Tickel.