

Dear Friends and Relatives,

Greetings from **Redding, California.**

Selling Off Stuff

Yep, we are still acting as park hosts at **Green Acres RV Park**. We have moved all of our home and office stuff from our big storage unit to the empty house next to the park. The park owns the house which had been used as a group home for the disabled. Currently it is being renovated back to a single family dwelling and will soon be occupied by children and grandchildren of the owner. We need to get all of our stuff out of the house in the next few weeks. Thus, we are going all out to move the merchandise. We are giving some away and the rest is priced very low as a forced liquidation. You can come and see what we have and we're putting new items up on Craig's List and eBay daily.

Our eBay account address is:

<http://search.ebay.com/W0QQsassocZcoleQ2dandQ2dcole>

Look up the eBay sales and save the location as a "favorite" or "bookmark." No kidding, new stuff every day.

Holland Comes to Redding

One of the really great parts about travelling around the country and about being a park host is the opportunity to meet so many fun and interesting people. During the summer of 2006 we happened to meet a family from the Netherlands who stopped here at Green Acres. It's funny how sometimes you just have instant rapport with people and that's how it was with them. **Michiel, Anne-Mieke, and Suzanne**, their four-year-old daughter, are travelling through the U.S., Mexico, and Canada for an extended period. They share their great adventures with us on their website just as we share our adventures with them and with you in our newsletters. We also stay in contact with them through Skype (www.skype.com) which allows us to talk to them for free through our computers no matter where they or we happen to be.

Thus, we were very excited when we found out that our Dutch friends would be coming back to Redding in the middle of May this year. They needed some warranty work done on their fifth wheel and the RV place next door to Green Acres was doing the work. We bar-b-que'd up some food for them, they brought the wine, and we caught up on their adventures in Mexico.



Chuck, Suzanne, Donna, and Annika

During the Dutch family's visit, we took a day off to show them **Trinity County**. On May 16, we piled into their pickup and headed west to **Weaverville**. We toured the museum and found that we missed the Joss House (Chinese Temple) tour by about 15 minutes. Oh well, everybody was hungry by then so we had a very pleasant lunch on the patio of the Garden Cafe. After that, we headed north to **Trinity Lake** and then on up to **Alpen Cellars**, Trinity County's premier winery, where we sat out at the picnic table overlooking the meadow and enjoyed tasting all the different wines. Suzanne enjoyed terrorizing the frog that she found living in the bathroom.



Anne-Mieke, Donna, Chuck, and Mark Groves (Manager) at Alpen Cellars

After the wine tasting, and the purchase of a case of wine which was split between the two families, we headed off to **Kangaroo Lake** so we could cool off where some snow was still on the ground. Kangaroo Lake is an absolute gem of a high altitude lake and is stocked with trout so the fishing was good the day we visited. None of us had fishing licenses or gear, but it was fun to watch other people

pulling in the trout. We had a lot of fun sharing our old home area with our friends. Suzanne aptly described Kangaroo Lake as, "like Alaska without the bears." Many years ago, our friend **Tim** took us on a motorcycle ride and showed us Kangaroo Lake. It was a treat to see it again.



Anne-Mieke, Suzanne, and Michiel having fun in the snow at Kangaroo Lake



Kangaroo Lake, Trinity County

Since it was getting late by the time we left Kangaroo Lake, we headed directly for I-5 just north of Weed and hurried south toward Green Acres as quickly as we could. Still, it was 9:00 p.m. by the time we arrived. Our Dutch friends departed Redding as soon as their RV was out of the shop heading for Alaska. Boy, were we jealous. We soooo want to go to Alaska. After being gone for about 5 weeks, they came back to Redding with tales and pictures of Alaska. It was great seeing them again and now they have gone back to the Netherlands for awhile. We miss them, but thanks to computer technology, we will still be in contact with them. Michiel and Anne-Mieke get all the credit for all the photos above since we did not take a camera with us on this outing.

A Day in Red Bluff

On June 2 we got up early, hopped on the motorcycle (with its lovely new custom made leather seats) and headed to **Red Bluff** to spend the day with Chuck's cousin **Paul** and his wife **Ellie**. Paul and Ellie were there in their RV with the Elks RV group from Clearlake. Paul and Ellie have been avid RV enthusiasts for a whole lifetime. Paul is 79 years old and isn't about to stop RVing now. We had lunch with the club and Paul and Ellie took us out to dinner to celebrate Chuck's birthday. Wow, what a couple. They are truly inspirational. Keep on truckin', cousin!

A Shocking Two Days

The next trip on July 16, the three of us got back on the motorcycle (yeah, real dogs ride) and headed down to **Danville** to spend the night with cousin **Betty**. Speaking of inspiration, Betty is 80 and sharp as a tack. Betty cooked us a nice dinner and we went to bed early. The next morning after a great breakfast, we rode to **Palo Alto** to spend most of the day at a company called **Aftershocks**. They had our new custom motorcycle shock absorbers waiting for us. They installed and tuned the shocks and we turned around and headed back to Betty's in the early evening. The new shocks are wonderful. The bike rides better and it's 3/4 of an inch lower to the ground which makes it easier for Chuck to ride. We got back to Danville, took Betty out to dinner, and spent the night at her home. The next morning, we got up at 5:30 because we wanted to get back up to Redding before it got too hot. No fear of that--it was raining. So we sat around for a couple more hours and then said to heck with the rain, and headed for Redding. Boy, were we lucky. It was raining behind us and ahead of us, but our little patch of sunshine followed us right to the motorhome. The park was drenched and we were dry. We put the bike away and it rained all night.



Donna, Annika, Chuck

We had a great visit with Betty and her home was so much more comfortable than the Motel 6 where we had planned to stay. It's possible that Betty was even becoming tolerant of doggy paws on the table at mealtimes. The only challenge we have riding the motorcycle with Annika on board is the large number of people who come up to us to take her picture and ask questions about her. She is so cute when she's outfitted with her Doggles and sitting in her pouch on Donna's chest. We were even overtaken on I-5 while we were going 70 miles per hour by an RV in the passing lane with the passenger snapping photos of her. One of these day, a news crew is going to spot us and Annika will become famous. Chuck is hoping she'll get a job offer. Hey, a Chihuahua works for Taco Bell.

Well, okay, so our RV newsletter hasn't got any RVing in it. Yeah, staying in one place is kind of boring for us too. Many of our friends have been dropping us notes asking where we are. Thus, we wanted to bring everybody up to date.

Until next time, home is where you park it.

Chuck & Donna
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