

Northern California TEL-A-SAM

Email newsletter inquiries to: norcaltelasam@gmail.com

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From the Director's Desk

Greetings Everyone,

Thank goodness that the long summer's heat has gone and we can look forward to a cool and refreshing autumn and winter.

There are a few items that I want to pass along to the entire membership to keep everyone appraised of the health of our NorCal Good Sam organization.

I am pleased to announce that we have a new State Treasurer. His name is Ken Brown from the El Dorado Sams. He will be taking over from Mary Martin, who has done a phenomenal job since taking over from Duane Maddox. Thank you Mary. Ken will begin January 1st, 2018, although he will not be officially inaugurated until the State Committee Meeting/Rally in April. It should be pointed out, that at the last SCM in September, the Committee approved the elimination of a January SCM, as a cost saving factor.

The reason for the elimination of the January SCM was twofold; low attendance by the Committee members, and high costs. As was pointed out to the Committee during the meeting is that we have been paying the Lodi Grape Festival fairgrounds a sum of \$1,050.00, for rent of the building facilities during each of the

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norcalgoodsam.org



Wayne and Bonne Wall

SCM's, in September and January. We are not charged rent for for the April SCM and Rally for the sole use of the facility, as we have alwavs met a minimum of \$10,000.00 generated through camping fees during the Rally. However, this year was the first time that we failed to meet that \$10,000.00 level, as we only generated approximately \$8,000.00, due to low Rally attendance. (We have not been charged for the nearly \$2,000.00 that was a shortfall.) A letter has been composed and sent to the manager of the fairgrounds, Mr. Mark Armstrong, advising him of our decision to

eliminate the January SCM, based mainly on financial conditions. Mr. Armstrong has not responded to this letter as of this writing. As I advised the Committee, my main concern is that Mr. Armstrong may be devising a new contract, in which we will be subject to paying some type of fee for our April events. This is only a supposition at this point in time. We will have to wait and see.

Since we are eliminating the January SCM, we will have to revisit the NorCal S.O.P. to make necessary revisions. I believe that mainly this would be done to reflect how we

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elect and seat our elected officers. Those revisions deemed necessary will be brought before the Committee for approval.

I recently sent a memo to all Presidents/ Secretaries of the chapters that I am in the process of designing a new website for NorCal. I am spending way too much time on this project, however, it has to be done as we only have one person that has access to our website now, and that person has resigned. I had no volunteers to give input about a new website, so I have gone about this project on my own. I know it will probably have some glitches to

start, and it may not meet everyone's satisfaction, but we will have the ability to make necessary changes as we go. Our current host is Go-Daddy, and they assure me that we can have as many people have access to the site as we deem appropriate. This way we should be able to keep the website current, which is a major improvement. I should have this new website up and running before the end of the month. Hopefully, we will maintain the same internet address. If not, I will send out notification as to the new address ASAP.

I have previously

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made it known that when I finish my second term as State Director at the end of December, 2018, that we are in dire need for someone to step to the plate and fill my position. I say this because I see nobody who would be willing to accept this honorable position. I am making myself available, from this point forward, to help anyone with an interest in this position, to make an easy and smooth transition into the job. Please consider being the head of a fine organization.

We will have a need for a new Assistant Director for Lower Sacramento Valley/San Joaquin Valley/Central foothill areas. (Basically from Stockton, to the east and south.) This position will become open as of January 1, 2018. This A.D. has 7 or 8 chapters in his/her jurisdiction. The position requires being a liaison between the Director and the chapter. Being able to field questions about Nor-Cal and Good Sam, and when possible, to visit with those chapters either as a campout with the chapter, or just a day visit...on the day of their chapter meeting. Assist the Director and be available for all SCM's and the Rally.

I am proud to announce that Ms. Anne Hernandez, El Dorado Sams, has volunteered for the Door Prize Chairperson position during the Rally. She will replace Ken Ginoulis, who has resigned. Ken is to be commended for doing an admirable job for many years. Thank you, Ken. Also, our State Secretary, Ms. June Shimozaki, has volunteered to fill the vacant Pet Parade Chairperson

position. I still need a volunteer for Games, Sound, and Equipment Chairperson's, and volunteers to help with parking and checkin. The Rally flier is an attachment. Please copy and distribute it amongst your chapter members. You can also post it on bulletin boards of businesses that you frequent, and campgrounds.

This should prove to be an interesting year, and I know that all the Staff is up to the task. We will be having 2 to 3 meetings concerning the Rally beginning just after the first of the year. These are always very productive and should make for a more interesting and enjoyable Rally.

Bonne and I wish each and every one of you a warm Thanksgiving holiday, a wonderful Christmas and great New Year. God bless.



2018 Northern California State Staff

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Website: norcalgoodsam.org

Northern California Good Sams Association State Committee Meeting

Lodi, CA

Minutes from September 23, 2017

The NCGS State Committee meeting was called to order by Director, Wayne Wall at **COMMITTEE REPORTS;** 10:02 a.m.

he meeting was opened with a call for the Colors, Mike Murray with United States Flag and Darcy Luihn with California Flag. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Director Wayne Wall.

An invocation was given by Marilee Ginoulis.

Roll Call was then carried out with 8 Chapters being represented at this NCGS State Committee Meeting for this September 23, 2017 meeting.

Minutes of the last SCM of April, 2017, were presented. Wayne asked for any corrections. .Motion to accept the Minutes as published made by Jack Kersten, seconded by Mike Murray.

Acknowledged was the presence of our past director and his wife, Ken and Marilee Ginoulis. Wayne thanked all the Chapter Presidents/Representatives for their attendance. Special recognition was given to the Tuleburg Chapter as most of their chapter members were present as well.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report was included in the Chapter packets. Question was brought up as to the inadvertent posting of credits to a wrong section of the report. This error had no effect on the final totals of each respective section. Motion on this report will be brought to our next SCM. This data input error has been corrected and the books are declared ready for general audit. Earl Irons briefly explained how audits are performed.

Wayne then asked for volunteers to perform our annual audit. Nancy Baldwin and Nadean Pimental have volunteered to perform a general audit.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence reported.

Tel-A-Sam:

Our new Editor, Sharon Murray, stated the articles to be published in the next TAS should be in by November 15, 2017. Sharon encouraged all presidents and chapters to get their articles to the TAS by the deadline. Articles can be emailed to norcaltelasam@gmail.com.

Charities Report:

Darcy Luihn stated she had no information prior to her assuming the chair for the Charities. Thus she had did not have a report for January but incorporated January's report with April charities report. The April totals are \$43,000 as of 4/2017. The only reports received from that time to this September meeting were from Devil Mountain Sams, Gold Nugget Sams, San Jose Blackjacks, and Tuleburg Sams. With the new charities report, the total went up to \$93,000. Darcy then referred to her chart which was displayed. This lists the chapter standings in the charities program. A question was brought up as to how the points were garnered. Darcy explained the tallying system regarding volunteer hours and monies collected for charity by each chapter. Marilee stated anyone could make a donation directly to the Salvation Army in their community but they must get a receipt to turn in to Darcy for their donation points. Darcy explained that Charities and "Chapter of the Year" were not the same but the charities was the tie-breaker.

OLD BUSINESS:

None presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election for State Treasurer:

Wayne opened the floor for nominations

for State Treasurer. On the ballot was incumbent, Mary Martin and, Kenneth Brown whose resume was included in the President's packet. Much discussion took place regarding the validity of the election being held, being voted on by only those present instead of taking it back to each chapter for each chapter to vote. Wayne discussed the qualifications of Ken Brown cited in his resume. He explained that there have been problems getting members to step up and volunteer for positions and felt since Ken Brown desired to be on staff for NCGS, this was a win-win situation. Motion was made to vote on the ballot as presented and seconded. Motion carried and voting was done. Ken Brown has officially been voted to be our new State Treasurer for 2018.

A suggestion was presented to revise the SOP to reflect changes in the manner of voting for staff positions.

Jack Kersten made motion, seconded by Allan Romander. Motion carried.

NCGS Financial:

The issue of finances were again discussed. A proposal of elimination the SCM held in January because of the poor attendance and to help cut costs. Wayne suggested the inauguration of the new staff positions including Director, be held at the time of the Rally to allow those present to see the NCGS staff and get to "meet and greet" their new officers.

He again went over the financial impact on NCGS for renting buildings for the SCM. The option of another venue was discussed again. He discussed the possibilities of using a campground with a clubhouse and having all attending pay for their own sites. The major problem with that idea would be the storage of the NCGS trailer that is parked at the Lodi Festival Grounds (LFG) at no charge. Wayne stated that if we were to store the trailer at a storage facility, it would be a minimum of \$75-100/month. The

Northern California Good Sams Association State Committee Meeting cont'd...

question of having the SCMs at another venue and just have the Rally at the LFG would increase our prices in April for the Rally.

Wayne has sent a letter to Mark Armstrong, Director of the Lodi Festival Grounds, but to this date, has not received an answer. Wayne has also considered renting less buildings, having the bleachers moved to the Jackson hall for the events. He also sent Mark a letter asking about this possibility and has not received an answer as yet. There is the possibility of LFG charging us more for our use of the grounds in April and/or September if we should not have the January SCM meeting to cover their projected loss. We have reduced most of our operating costs by using email rather than snail-mail. USPS use is very minimal. The costs of ink for printing is a major cost.

Income is from our membership dues. Other sister organizations (for instance, Arizona,) charges \$15 for membership and we charge only \$5.00; Elks Organization charges over \$100 for membership annually.

One of the ways to increase the monies coming in is to increase your chapter members. Wayne again spoke about maintaining or growing our membership to make your chapters stronger. Wayne indicated that raising the membership dues would not be a good idea at the present time as there was much dissatisfaction of many members with the last \$2.00 increase.

Wayne said last year, he had gone to Camping World to seek their participation at our rally with their mini-store. It had worked out well for both parties in the past and was a win-win situation. However, there were a couple of representatives from Camping World who emphatically stated there would be no Camping World participation at our Rally. They would not authorize local Camping World stores to participate in Rallies. On checking into this matter, Wayne found the representatives were absolutely wrong in their position and had misinterpreted the organization guidelines. Wayne plans to pursue it again this year and see if he can

get them back to participate with their mini-store.

There was a statement made that there was no Rally information on the TAS website. Wayne indicated this would be corrected. Another statement was made that advertisement of the Rally may increase the attendance. Wayne again reiterated that fact that chapter presidents should encourage their chapters to make the SCM and the Rally a Chapter outing. The chapter could do their regular activities as an outing and the camping cost is very reasonable at \$25.00/night with electricity and water with dumpsite on the grounds.

Previous financial issues were brought up again and discussed at length.

Web Site:

Ron Brown was unable to be at this meeting. Wayne stated there was a need for a back-up person to answer technical questions regarding the website and the programs used. Wayne has requested a meeting with three people and has not yet received a reply to the email requests.

Miscellaneous Items:

Wayne indicated he will cut back one people-mover cart and that will add to the savings. There seemed to be an excess last Rally as one cart was not very busy, probably due to the decrease in attendance.

After a lengthy discussion regarding the viability of next year's January SCM, Ken Ginoulis motioned to cancel the meeting and seconded by Homer Hoglund. Motion carried.

Expenses for door prizes for our Rally were discussed. Wayne explained that Good Sams does contribute \$300 for our use. However, that is not all that we spend n door prizes.

Wayne talked about sponsorships and encouraged all members and chapters to go to merchants that they do business with and ask them if they would donate or if they would like to be a sponsor and get their name put up with signs at the Rally for advertisement. Wayne stated that LaMesa RV would be returning. He felt Les Schwab Tires would also be a sponsor. Darcy Luihn asked if there was a "chair" for the sponsor program. Wayne again asked for volunteers to chair and coordinate the sponsors for our Rally. There were no volunteers.

Wayne explained the seed money from Nor-Cal of \$3000 to get our Rally going. This amount was established by Nor-Cal many years ago. The stipulation with this is if we make money, then Nor-Cal gets the \$3,000 plus. If we lose money, Nor-Cal makes up our loss. For the last two years, under Wayne's directorship, the Rallies have run in the black and not red. Wayne then went over the expenses and income of various areas

Wayne related that Go Daddy was our Web host which costs about \$72/year. None of the IT people attended today's meeting and Wayne was unable to answer technical questions. He will be working on getting a less expensive website host. He has been unable to meet with the IT people. Shelly Larson volunteered to help coordinate the meeting with the IT people.

Wayne again went over all the items of expenses for last year's Rally.

Regarding the question of eliminating the January meeting, he again stated there were expenses involved with each SCM. Wayne asked for discussion regarding this item. Much discussion took place regarding the issue of eliminating the January SCM. Ken Ginoulis motioned to eliminate the January SCM, seconded by Jack Kersten. Motion carried.

Wayne asked for volunteers for staff. He related there was an opening for an Assistant Director to visit with chapters assigned and be a liaison for Director and member. Rally volunteer positions needed are Game chairman, Pet Parade chairman, parking help, Check-in help, etc. Paula asked about chair volunteers for the Rally activities. Wayne again asked for volunteers. Ken Ginoulis motioned to have the Assistant Directors go to each of their chapters to ask for volunteers for the Rally. Jack Kersten seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Wayne announced he would be ending his 8

Northern California Good Sams Association State Committee Meeting cont'd...

directorship at the end of 2018. If there is no volunteer for this directorship, we could be added to So Cal. Second option would possibly be just long-distant director from back East or, one could be appointed who is not from this area. He asked for volunteers for this position so he or she could be mentored into the position. Then a vote when appropriate, would be held for Director for 2019.

Proposal was made from Jack Kersten to eliminate the fees charged to walk-ins for SCM. This was explained that this was to offset the costs of the rental of buildings. Wayne stated he was going to cut back the cost of the walk-ins at the Rally from \$10 to \$5.00. It was suggested to place a coffee can near the donuts and coffee and let the people donate what they feel. It was felt the attendance fee for walk-ins was not conducive to encouraging members to attend the SCM. Motion was made to eliminate the \$5.00 charge for walk-in at the SCMs. This was seconded and motion carried.

No Apple Dumpling Gang breakfast tomorrow.

Darcy questioned the reason for the change of patches to buttons for the Rally. Patches were desired by some because of their vests. This will be tabled until the next SCM.

Call to retire the Colors was made.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June Shimozaki, Secretary



Bill Rosko, Tuleburg Sams Herb De Voss, Tuleburg Sams Don Chinn, Gold Nugget Sams



Lazy Daisy Sams (El Sobrante, CA)

The Lazy Daisy Sams have been busy the last few months attending outings at the following RV parks.

In June we gathered at French Camp, in July we met at Casa de Fruta, in August we were at Duck Island, in September our trail boss booked a new park, Yanks RV Resort in Greenfield, in October at Gilroy Garlic USA and as I write this our chapter is gathered at Casa de Fruta once again.

At each outing we seem to keep ourselves busy doing crafts, some enjoy putting together puzzles, sight seeing around the area or just enjoying the outdoor weather catching up in the sun. At several outings, we have barbequed for our Saturday evening dinner. As the weather cools off, time is spent indoors doing what we seem to do best – eating and chit chatting.

At a couple of these outings, we added one extra day and decided that in the evening we would choose a local restaurant and all meet for dinner. We enjoyed the one extra day out in the RV and a little more relaxing time.

We have several avid fishermen and women so on Saturday at the Duck Island outing we held our annual fishing tournament. Not a lot of fish caught, but they had fun trying and the rest of us enjoyed watching, talking and just relaxing.

We had a very nice outing at Yanks RV. The manager and her staff could not have been more accommodating. Don and Sandy from our Chapter were celebrating Sandy's birthday the day we all arrived and Don realized that he had forgotten to bring Sandy's favorite wine. He asked at the park office if they sold wine and found out they do not. But a staff member heard why he wanted it and went out of his way to bring to their RV a bottle of wine he had as a gift for her. She was so touched and it was such a nice gesture it was mentioned at our club meeting to be put in the minutes. Thank you Yanks staff.

Bob and Janice at their outing had asked us to bring photos of each of us when we were younger to play the "Guess Who" game. She wanted a picture that would be hard to identify when she put them up on a bulletin board since we had to guess. Some were easy to attach a name tosome not so easy. We got a lot of laughs from that experience. All I can say is that we were adorable in our 5- 12 years old range.

We also enjoy playing cards, dice games and Don is playing a new game at the November outing....I cannot wait to hear how it went.

We also have Barbara and Koppy taking pictures throughout the outings. You have to keep an eye on them....they are always getting candid shots which they post for all of us to see following an outing.

If this time together appeals to you, our Chapter is always open to new members. If you are interested in going to monthly outings with friendly people, good food and fun activities, we would like to invite you to join us at an outing, If you are interested, please call Homer & Barbara at (510) 223-8847 or Bob & Janice at (925) 551-8315.

Until the next publication, have very safe travels.....

Submitted by Nancy Peters Publicity Secretary



Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA)

On Saturday, June 3rd, the Tuleburg Sams Chapter of the Good Sam Association completed a clean-up of the historical Liberty Cemetery located just off Liberty Road and Highway 99. This five-acre site had become overgrown with weeds, with many of the pioneer gravestones hidden in the growth. Bringing lawn mowers, trimmers, clippers, buckets, rakes, brooms, and paint, the participating members spent a day cleaning out the growth, cleaning the gazebos, and painting the gate. Assisting in the spruce-up of the cemetery was Lyle Lagge, who used a large tractor to mow the weeds in areas where no gravestones lay. Also attending that day were members of the E Clampus Vitus Tuleburgh Chapter #69 and a member of the Galt Historical Society. The town of Liberty was established in 1852, with the cemetery adjacent to the town's buildings. However, when the railroad decided to establish a station in Galt instead of Liberty, the town folded in 1869, with most of the residents moving to the Galt area, leaving only the cemetery in its original site. At the end of this clean-up day, the cemetery was restored to a more dignified state in order to welcome visitors to these historic gravestones.



The third quarter of the year was a busy and fun period for all members with outings at Laguna Seca Raceway on the Monterey Peninsula and at Duck Island RV Park across the Sacramento River from Rio Vista. The outing at Laguna Seca lasted a week for most members, with a few rigs coming in later in the week. Members shared many meals with each other, with various persons serving up pancakes, breakfast burritos, and tortilla soup, for example, for all the others to enjoy. Members enjoyed trips to the wharf to shop and sample local fare, the shooting range, and watching the races. Two couples celebrated 50th wedding anniversaries during the month of July; Larry and Georgia Richey with a gala celebration in Jackson, and Ed and Ricki Spivey who celebrated with other members at Laguna Seca. Their festivities included a special anniversary cake and a visit from their daughter, Susan, who flew in from Houston for the occasion. This outing also included members donating new clothing, towels, and toiletries, which were then delivered to the Tuleburgs' focused charity, St. Mary's Dining Room.



The August outing at Duck Island featured a 1950's theme and a mini-car show, with cars provided by the son of one of the members. Fishing was also a feature of this outing, with members catching striped bass right from the docks at the RV park. After a barbequed dinner of chicken and ribs, members celebrated their time together listening to 50's music.



Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA) cont...

In September the members gathered at the Lodi Grape Festival Grounds for the NorCal Good Sam Association meeting, where they provided the more than 200 coats the Tuleburg members had collected for the annual coat drive.





Sierra Sams (Rancho Cordova, CA)

The Sierra Sams Chapter recently enjoyed an outing at the Feather Falls Casino KOA in Oroville, California. All twelve of our rigs were able to attend our annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the park clubhouse. Can you ever get enough turkey, ham, stuffing and pie? We tried our very best to find out.

We arranged a group tour of the nearby Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. and our guide Byron provided an enjoyable and informative look-see at the brewing and packaging operations. And yes, in the name of educating our pallets we imbibed in a sampling flight of delicious ales.

Local side-trips included the famous (or infamous) Oroville Dam where reconstruction of spillways damaged in last year's storms are nearing completion; the Oroville State Recreation Area to see how low the lake is and watch the Chinook salmon come up the fish ladder to the hatchery; drive-thrus of local State and private RV parks to plan for future outings; and of course our own Feather Falls Casino which is fun and entertaining, has a buffet (did I mention we like to eat), and is only a short shuttle ride or walk from our sites.



Sierra Sams (Rancho Cordova, CA) Cont...

Left-overs night (eating again) was capped by a few exciting games of Left, Right, Center; our 50/50 drawing which benefits the Dogs for a Better Life charity; and a lot of catching up and well-wishing for the upcoming holidays until we meet for our Christmas Dinner in Sacramento. Thanks to Feather Falls Casino KOA for being a wonderfully clean, safe and hospitable destination.









Gold Nugget Sams (Tuolumne County, CA)

Gold Nugget Sams Camp Out

Jackson Rancheria- July 10-14

Fourteen rigs enjoyed a week of Hawaiian fun in July at Jackson Rancheria. Gary and Vicky Mount hosted a wonderful assortment of food, fun activities, and entertainment! GNS also welcomed new members Mike and Catherine Johnston from Galt. Mike is a wine maker, who also led us through an afternoon of tasting and pure indulgence! Amy Moore and June Shimozaki shared their Hawaiian heritage through the hula dance, encouraging all of us to join in on the fun. Since our "newbies", Mike and Catherine, were dressed for the occasion, they received a free one-time lesson, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all! There was even time for a Corn Hole Tournament, card games, and golf for some of our members. A good time for everyone!





Luau Fun!



Corn Hole Winners Mike and Kosta!





Gold Nugget Sams Cont...

A Western theme highlighted the September GNS Round-Up at Morro Dunes RV in Morro Bay. The Gold Nugget Sams members and guests all enjoyed a week of beautiful, cool coastal weather, along with fine food, friends and lots of laughter. The hosts, Sharon Murray, Mike Murray and Shirley Harms, prepared a great BBQ feast for everyone and then treated them to a classic Western movie night! There was lots of time for relaxing, sightseeing, golf and fishing. The week concluded with a group picture in front of Morro Rock.



Gold Nugget Sams at Morro Rock



Hosts Sharon and Mike Murray, and Shirley Harms

Gold Nugget Sams and Duck Island

The second week of November is the traditional celebration of Thanksgiving at Duck Island for the Gold Nugget Sams chapter, and this year was no different. There was much fun, laughter, food and friendship, along with several activities available to the members. Twenty-one rigs shared good weather and good times! Competitions were held for potato peeling and turkey toss, along with time to work on a charity project of creating placemats for a local nursing home. Our annual White Elephant sale, red wagon raffle and jewelry sale yielded another \$438.00, all of which will be given out to charities.



Charity Placemats and Quilts





Sacramento Rubber Bums (Sacramento, CA)

Due to personal reasons I was unable to attend JUNE, JULY, AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER but made a come back in October. By Louise Wilson. OCTOBER 19th thru 22, 2017

DUCK ISLAND in Lodi hosted by Jack and Lucy Coulson. This is a lovely RV Park located right on the Sacramento River. It is a park exclusively for 55 years and above so needless to say it is ever so peaceful and quiet. Thursday night some went out to dinner at a nearby restaurant. The weather the first two days did not cooperate at all for a fire at night but on the last night we were able to have one. The Coulson's provided a hot dog and bean dinner Friday night and most of us brought side dishes to share. Of course Saturday night was our normal potluck and always delicious. We have some very good cooks in this club I might add. There was some playing of card games and goodies served each morning at the clubhouse. I do believe a good time was had by all.

> We would really enjoy hearing about your Chapter outings. Please email all write-ups to: norcaltelasam@gmail.com



Happy Holidays To All Good Sam Members!







Upcoming Events of Interest

Colorado RV Adventure Travel Show

January 4-6, 2018

Denver, CO

www.corvshow for further details

Havasu Balloon Festival & Fair

January 19-21, 2018

Lake Havasu State Park

Lake Havasu City, AZ

https://havasuballoonfest.com for further details

Southern California Rally April 19-21, 2018 Golden Village Palms RV Resort Hemet, California socalgoodsam.org/new%20page%203htm

Northern California Rally

Let's Go to the Hop

April 26-29, 2018

Lodi Grape Festival Grounds

Lodi, CA

Www.norcalgoodsam.org/index.html

Greater Phoenix RV Show

January 26-28, 2018

Phoenix Convention Center

Phoenix, AZ

www.greaterphoenixrvshow.com for further details



SAVE THE DATE! Nor Cal State Rally 2018

April 26-29



Plan on joining us for a nostalgic trip back to the 50's!



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