



Northern California TEL-A-SAM

Email newsletter inquiries to: norcaltelasam@gmail.com

VOLUME 45 — NUMBER 3

JANUARY 2017

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From the Director's Desk

From the Directors Desk,

Bonne and I want to take a moment here to wish each and every one of you in the NorCal Good Sam family, including members at large, a wonderful Christmas and very happy New Year.

Preparations are being made for the upcoming State Committee Meeting being held in Lodi, Ca, at the Lodi Grape Festival grounds on January 6th and 7th, 2017. Any chapters that plan on attending this meeting will be afforded power and water, so I encourage you all to make it a chapter outing. This will be the final opportunity for presidents and staff to bring their heads together for any new ideas or procedures that will benefit the Rally. With that said, last year I called for a special session in mid-April to make final preparations for this endeavor, and this could also be a possibility for this year.

Speaking of the Rally, I have opted to keep the event at the current location in Lodi. This decision did not come lightly and I gave it a lot of consideration to the possibility of moving to the Yuba-Sutter fairgrounds. Although Yuba-Sutter has some amenities that Lodi does not, mostly being power and water for approximately 185 rigs. The downside to Yuba-Sutter is the location being a little too far north for the majority of our members, and my wish to make it as easily accessible as possible for all. It has been learned through contract negotiations that Lodi Grape Festival fairgrounds can, and has, matched power and water for 185 – 200 rigs in previous years. Mr. Mark Armstrong, Lodi Grape Festival manager, related that he can provide power and water for that amount of rigs, all

parked within the 'fence'. In other words, nobody would have to park their rig in the 'back-forty', or the field to the east of an existing fence line. This revelation came as a total surprise to me, as I was not aware that we could park ALL of our attendees with power and water. So, when you go to the website, or ask your chapter president for a copy of the Rally registration form, you will see that it indicates that the first 150 rigs WILL get power and water. Since we had about 137 rigs for each of the last two years, if we stay at that level we will be able to provide power and water to all participants. My only concern at this time is how we can keep chapters parked together, if this is their desire. Some chapters do not care if they are parked 'out back' so that they can circle their wagons and be together, so to speak, so this may not be a problem and it could open up more spaces inside the fence for those that want power and water. There are a few other logistics that we will work on in this area and should be satisfied for Rally attendees. If not having power and water was a reason for not attending the Rally, then please re-think this and be a participant this year as you will not have to dry camp.

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norcalgoodsam.org

Director's Letter cont'd...



Wayne and Bonne Wall

The annual dues to NorCal Good Sam were due by December 01, 2016. There are several chapters that have not sent in their dues as of this date and I ask that you please attend to this matter. Also, as a reminder, the annual rosters are due by December 31, 2016, and it would be greatly appreciated if chapters can remit those to me by that date.

The 'Chapter of the Year' has been re-instated with new guidelines. One of the ways for earning points is for the Presidents, or their designated representatives, to attend the SCM. If your President cannot attend, then his/her designated representative can attend and the chapter will receive the points.

The new guidelines for earning points towards becoming the chapter of the year were distributed to all chapter presidents to share with their chapter members. If this something that you did not know about, then please discuss it with your chapter president.

During the year I added the sending of memorandums by email to not only the Presidents of each chapter but also to the Secretaries. I did this in an effort to be sure that information that needs to be shared with all members of each chapter is being disseminated to all. This information that is received from me should be listed as correspondence in your chapter meeting agenda. Hopefully then, this information will be available to all members to

keep them informed of what is happening in NorCal as well as in the Good Sam Organization. Thank you.

We have added both the States of Colorado and Utah to the West Region, welcome. However, we had recently handed out West Region stickers to those who wanted them, and they are already out-of-date. New stickers are in the process of being designed and will be issued in the near future.

As mentioned above, may each of you have a Merry Christmas and a great New Year.

Wayne and Bonne
NorCal State Director



Email newsletter inquiries to: norcaltelasam@gmail.com

2016 Northern California State Staff

Elected Officers

NOR CAL STATE DIRECTOR

Wayne Wall (Bonne)
Cameron Park, CA
(C) 916-220-4680
(H) 530-677-0985
bonway@sbcglobal.net

NOR CAL STATE TREASURER

Mary Martin
Citrus Heights, CA

Assistant State Directors

LOWER SACRAMENTO VALLEY

Kosta Prince (Debra)
W. Sacramento, CA
(916-372-6145)
kosta.prince@yahoo.com

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Walt Luihn (Darci)
Oakdale, CA
(209-985-3024)
3bugles@comcast.net

EAST BAY

Walter Weight (Cricket)
Citrus Heights, CA
(916-723-5785)
weweight@surewest.net

PENINSULA

UPPER SACRAMENTO VALLEY

Staff

STATE SECRETARY

June Shimozaki
Lodi, CA
(209-747-2027)
juneshimo@yahoo.com

PHOTOGRAPHER & HISTORIAN

Kosta Prince (Debra)
W. Sacramento, CA
(916-372-6145)
kosta.prince@yahoo.com

STATE WEBMASTER & STATE SOUND MGR

Ron Brown (Nadine)
Big Oak Valley, CA
(530-913-1794)
sierraronbrown@gmail.com

WAGON MASTER

Gary Black (Regina)
Fairfield, CA
(707-429-2652)
garyregina@comcast.net

COMMERCIAL CHAIR

Cricket Weight (Walter)
Citrus Heights, CA

ARTS & CRAFTS CHAIR

Paulette Kersten (Jack)
Merced, Ca
(209-201-3811)
sewintexan@outlook.com

STATE EDITOR

Cary McCutchen (Bob)
Newman, CA
(209-862-1510)
usafrmom98@gmail.com

STATE STOREKEEPER

Glenda Sikorski
Diamond Springs, CA
(530-622-0744)
glenski@directcon.net

DOOR PRIZE CHAIR

Marilee Ginoulis (Ken)
Lodi, CA
(209-333-1302)
kginoulis@sbcglobal.net

STATE EQUIPMENT MGR

Bob McCutchen (Cary)
Newman, Ca
(209-862-1510)
dude0861@sbcglobal.net

CHARITIES CHAIR

REGISTRATION

Earl Irons
Lodi, CA
murphy95240@hotmail.com

Website: norcalgoodsam.org

Northern California Good Sams Association State Committee Meeting

Lodi, CA

Minutes from September 24, 2016

The NCGS State Committee meeting was called to order by Director, Wayne Wall at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was opened with a call for the Colors, presented by Bob McCutchen with United States Flag and Cary McCutchen with California State 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 16 Chapters being represented at this NCGS State Committee Meeting for this September meeting.

Wayne then introduced his Staff. Of note, the elected treasurer, Duane Maddox has resigned his position. To fill in the interim until a new treasurer is voted upon, Merry Martin has stepped up and volunteered for this position until an election is held.

Director Wayne announced we will be losing a long-time staff member, Barry Fell and his wife, Phil Fell, who will no longer be active in the Good Sam Association. We also lost our Commercial Vendor Chair for the Rally. Fortunately, Cricket Weight has stepped up and volunteered for this position.

An announcement was made regarding a long-time member, John Reece, has passed away. He will be greatly missed.

There were no special guests to introduce. Director Wayne Wall thanked all the chapter presidents/representatives for attending.

Minutes; of the last SCM, (no longer having to be read) were accepted as published; motion made by Rose Stone, seconded by Homer Hogle and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Reported by Director Wayne but submitted by Duane Maddox, was reported. Wayne read a letter from Treasurer, Duane Maddox, of his resignation.

In the treasurer's report, Wayne read where there was a reimbursement from San Joaquin County of \$802.27 due to the Fairgrounds taxes being lowered because of devaluation of the property over the past four years.

An expense listed of \$107.79 was listed which was for the purchase of a copier during the Rally for the editor. Total income for the quarter is \$2,984.68. Total expenses were \$594.63.

A call for question was made. Motion made by Jean Redmond and seconded by George Reber to accept the treasurer's report as read.

A member asked what happened to the large copier purchased during Bill Baker's directorship. Wayne stated it was still in Bill's garage and is available for anyone who would like to have it.

Correspondence:

The only correspondence received was mentioned above from Duane Maddox with his treasurer's report and letter of resignation as mentioned above.

State Store:

An executive decision was made to close the State Store as there have been very little sales activities. The SCM Director Wayne and his Staff would like to thank Glenda Sikorski, State Storekeeper, for the years of her dedication in this endeavor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Tel-A-Sam: Cary McCutchen, our new Editor for the TAS stated the cut-off date for articles to be turned in for publication of the next TAS is 10/17/16. The TAS email address is: "norcaltelasam@gmail.com." A change in the prices of advertisements were proposed: Suggested were \$75 for 3 issues of ½ page advertisement; \$40 for 3 issues of ¼ page advertisement; and, \$25 for three issues of business-card size advertise-

ment. Wayne again asked members to obtain business cards or flyers from RV parks, RV repair shops, etc., for possibility of sale of advertising in the TAS as well as advertisement on our Website.

Charities:

Phil Fell prepared the Charities report and a copy of this is in each President's packet. Phil indicated all chapters who turned in their charities since the last meeting totaled \$25,043.00 making a grand total for NCGS is \$947,078.24. This includes the volunteer hours of members of any chapter for a charitable cause, (i.e. volunteering time at the school, a church, your city, local hospitals, etc.)

Marilee Ginoulis again reminded members to bring any outer-wear coats, jackets, etc., they no longer use, to the January SCM 2017. These are donated to the Salvation Army and are very much appreciated. Those who have these outer-wear items may also take them to their local Salvation Army facility and state it is from the NCGS and obtain a receipt for tracking purposes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wayne reported a profit from the 2016 Rally of about \$600 which brings the NCGS in the black. He stated this is mainly due to being prudent with the expenses of the rally, i.e., the savings on the rental expenses of the golf carts for people movers as well as in other areas.

Again, the issue of a less expensive venue was brought up with the Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds being considered. Wayne and two other members of the staff actually camped there. Wayne asked the two members if they would get a proposal from Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds for our Rally. This was done and on reviewing the proposal, it was found to be cost-prohibitive. They do have several buildings that would fit our needs. There are two buildings that would suit our needs.

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

They have a Franklin Hall and a Palmer Hall that would suit our needs. The Franklin Hall would rent for \$765/day x 3 days which would be \$2,295.00; the Palmer Hall rents for \$510/day x 3 days for \$1530.00 and a charge for the Palmer Hall Lawn \$450/day x 3 days for \$1350 for a total of \$1725/day. There also is a \$100 reservation fee that is not refundable. They have a set-up fee of \$450. They also have a \$900 deposit on the use of the halls which is refundable. The three days would be increased to 5 days because the NCGS Staff comes in early to set up for our Rally.

It was explained that they (Yuba) do have the tables and chairs but we (the Staff) would have to set them up ourselves.

Here at the Lodi Festival Grounds, we have access to all the buildings, and grounds; Juan or his helpers do any set-up that we require. All we do is ask and it is done. We are also able to store our utility trailer on the grounds all year for free. We have two pallets of the First Aid tent and other equipment stored free. Our two other State Meetings are held here and are \$2100 for the year. The Presidents/Representatives and Staff were asked to discuss this and bring their consensus to the January SCM. It is of note, this would be very late to change the venue for 2017 as the flyers would have to be out before that and information in any publication would have to be sent in early. Wayne stated that in speaking to one of the former Directors, he stated the decision would ultimately be up to Wayne, the present Director, because he is the one who has to sign the contracts.

One of the reasons for choosing Yuba-Sutter FG would be because they have hookups of water and electricity for 184 rigs \$15/day/rig, which we are not able to accommodate at. Wayne has called a couple of companies to see the feasibility of renting generators as other RV organizations have rented generators for their gatherings. Clyde Wilkerson stated that FMCA charged \$50 on top of the regular fee but Earl Irons stated as a worker, he

paid \$45.00 at that FMCA outing.

Change of venue plus the rental of generators were discussed at length. A suggestion was made to look into these possibilities for the 2018 Rally since the time line for a change is too short. It was suggested to have a SCM meeting at the proposed venue and then make the decision at that time. Walter Weight stated that the Escapees had their rally a week before and their vendors would be available the following week if we were to have our rally there (Yuba-Sutter FG). Also discussed was the issue of location. Yuba-Sutter was more up north and members from the south and west had to travel farther but Lodi is still more centrally located.

Wayne brought up the idea of approaching Mark, manager of the Festival Grounds, to bring electricity out to the "back 40" as they have all the equipment and materials, then NCGS could possibly donate a sum of money for that job. It would be a win-win situation. Wayne stated this was just an idea that popped into his head but he thought he would mention it to the membership. A member brought up the idea of seeking sponsors from local businesses to pay for the rental of generators as a good way to advertise for them and would benefit us as well.

Jean Redmond made a presentation of Yuba-Sutter FG. She spoke to the CEO and the event coordinator there. The fee is seems, is still negotiable according to Jean. Jean took a few pictures which showed there is a lot of grassy areas and trees. The rigs would share one electric post but still maintain a distance between rigs. Jean encouraged the chapter presidents to make an outing up at Yuba-Sutter to evaluate the venue. There are several showers/bathrooms, probably around 6, strategically located. The Y-S FG has an event Cinco de Mayo which is quite a large event and that would have to be considered for our scheduling.

Kosta Prince spoke regarding the difference of price between the venues. Here

at the Lodi Festival Grounds, there is only one price for the rental, less expensive than Y-S FG. At Yuba-Sutter the rental is by the day, and need of equipment, chairs, tables, etc.

Wayne has decals/stickers for the Western Region of Good Sam and the American Good Sam decal for him to pass out. He stated that if a member has a sticker/decal on their vehicle and if a director from Good Sams should see it, they will stop you and give you a gift certificate for Camping World.

NEW BUSINESS:

Since we no longer have the "Chapter of the Year" contest which is because of the inequality of the number of members for each chapter (i.e. one chapter may have only 4 rigs and another may have 30 or more rigs.) A draft was proposed by Walt Luihn for reinstating the Chapter of the Year with new rules. As mentioned before, the Chapter of the Year was done away with due to the inequality between the chapters due to their membership size. Walt has proposed a more equitable system for the Chapter of the Year be implemented citing a number of ideas to garner "points." In addition to the award for the Chapter of the Year, a percentage of rigs-to-points reward for that chapter of a financial nature in discounts for the Rally registration. This would be an incentive program. Ideas of rules for a tie-breaker were presented.

Walt Luihn spoke regarding the proposal of Chapter of the Year, and explained the equality of garnering points. He explained the reason for the idea of rewarding the Chapter of the Year was an incentive to possibly earn a discount for the Rally registration. Walt stated he would look into the possibility of getting sponsors for this part of the rewards. In that way, there would be no added expense to the NCGS.

Each item of garnering Chapter points was discussed. It was emphasized that this is a proposal and not yet in place. Walt Luihn expressed the need for the

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Chapter of the Year program to keep chapters actively participating in events. As an example, he explained that his chapter went up to the 49er RV park and negotiated a plan in which his chapter used the Good Sam program for a clean-up day to clean the 49er RV Park and got a break in their camping fees. He then went to Harbor Freight and picked up several pick-up tools and gloves for his members and everyone went out and had a great time at Columbia. Even the rangers came and expressed their appreciation for their activity. Walt stated his Tuleburg Chapter has a sponsor for the Ice Cream Social. He will look into the possibility of getting sponsors for items as golf carts, coffee and donuts, evening entertainment, raffle prizes, and a large grand door prize or as mentioned above, sponsors for generators.

Wayne asked the Presidents to take this back to their chapters and for consideration of implementing the ideas presented for the Chapter of the Year.

Regarding the coat drive, a member asked if they could donate the coat locally in their area. It was stated that when an item was donated to their local Salvation Army, they are to get a receipt for that item and turn it in to the Charities Chair in order to track the points.

At this point, Wayne made a request to all chapters to "Please send in your rosters and dues." Discussion about the roster and the addition/deletion of members took place. Questions regarding members dropping out after the roster was submitted, was brought up.

The rules regarding submission of the chapter rosters is set by Regional Director.

An inquiry of awards for longevity of chapters for 2015 and 2016 was made by Homer Hoglund. This will be checked into. A motion was made to bring the Chapter awards back, seconded and carried.

Nominations from the floor were then requested from the floor for State Treas-

urer. A nomination of Merry Martin was made by Phil Fell. No other nominations were made. Voting was done and majority was in favor of Merry Martin as treasurer. Our new State Treasurer is now Merry Martin.

Wayne stated the status of all Chapters as non-profit was absolutely not necessary to declare. The status of non-profit was already in place through NCGS under section 501-C of the IRS.

DOOR PRIZES FOR RALLY 2017:

A motion was made and seconded for \$600 be allowed for door prizes for the Rally. Motion made, seconded and carried.

Marilee Ginoulis requested all chapters to please notify her if there are any deaths of a Good Sam member of their chapter. She can then enter their name in the NCGS Memorial Book.

Wayne asked for all the Chapters to please send in their chapter campout schedule to him as well as to their Assistant Director of their areas.

Walt Luihn told of a web site for banners available for various needs for our chapters for recognition from "Banners on the Cheap."

A motion was made to dispense with the \$6.00 to attend the meeting for the Chapter Presidents. It was explained that the Staff also pays to attend the meetings and the charge of \$6.00 was to help offset the rent of the facility as well as the hospitality, etc. It was suggested that the Chapter Presidents go back to their chapters to be reimbursed for attending.

Cary McCutchen spoke briefly about the TAS advertisement structure as mentioned above. Motion was made, seconded and carried.

There is a Regional meeting at Lake Havasu, with dry camping, during the Balloon Festival.

There is a RV show at the Phoenix International Raceway. There will be many vendors attending. For more infor-

mation, please contact Wayne Wall.

Wayne spoke briefly regarding the Good Sam Roadside Assistance program. He stated to anyone experiencing a problem to call Good Sam or Wayne and he will relay the information.

Wayne asked for volunteers to chair various areas of the Rally. Our Commercial Vendor has resigned and Cricket Weight has been nominated and voted to chair the Commercial Vendor position.

Reminder:

Cary McCutchen, editor of TAS stated there is an email address for the TAS which is: norcaltelasam@gmail.com. She stated that she would acknowledge anyone sending an email. If she does not respond, she suggested the sender contact her by phone.

Clyde Wickham announced the Apple Dumpling Gang would be having a pancake breakfast on Sunday from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Ken Ginoulis spoke about the perks of joining the ADG for a great social time. He spoke of the activities of the ADG, the dues of ADG was \$12.00. There is a need for new members so if you are looking for a good time, please consider joining the ADG.

Marilee Ginoulis again spoke regarding the need of participants for the Carnival at the 2017 Rally. This is an activity for the chapters and all the profits is for that chapter. The only expense would be for the activity chosen, i.e. hot dogs and buns or costs of any games, etc. This is an activity that is a lot of fun for participating chapters.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June Shimosaki
Secretary
Northern California
Good Sams



CHAPTER CHATTER



Redwood Good Sams (*Santa Rosa, CA*)

Our year in 2016 hasn't exactly started off with a bang. The New Years campout was attended by 7 rigs. We gathered at Sugar Barge RV Park. Ringing in the new year with a howl at the beautiful full moon.

February didn't blossom into a campout as did March.

The Rally was attended by 3 rigs. We had a strong showing in our traditional vests for opening ceremonies. Noni Avila, one of the 3 rigs present, was the designer and creator of the vests and when all of us wear them together we make quite a statement. We would have participated in the Blind Driver race but alas, the booth was shut down before we had a chance to participate. Very disappointing as this also was one of the traditions we enjoyed.

Memorial Day campout was in Eureka where 6 rigs met to enjoy the festivities of the Kenetic races. An annual event in northern CA where the whole community turns out for 3 days of craziness.

Redwood Good Sams is growing. We welcomed new members Al and Tina Lujan in April. Looking forward to many years of fun and camping with this fun couple.

Forty members enjoyed a summer picnic in July at Keiser Part in Windsor, CA. The one day outing included a cookout by our Master Chef, Chuck Johnston and buddies cooking tri tip and sausages. The rest of us brought dishes fitting for a summer family picnic minus the ants.

Throughout the year Redwood Good Sam Members are logging many hours of community service for our Chapter. Blooming where we are planted sharing the time and talents we have. We also give generously to "Fish", a local charity that give food to people in need.

Our President, Jere Giblin, represented us at the State Committee Meeting in Lodi in September.

A Christmas Party is being planned for mid December.

See you all next year! Happy New 2017 to All.

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Hamann
Redwood Good Sam, corresponding secretary



Lazy Daisy Sams (*El Sobrante, CA*)

The Lazy Daisy Sams outing for May was hosted by Glenn and Marcia at Gilroy Garlic USA. The theme of this outing was for everyone to have fun. She kept us busy eating, playing games, laughing or shopping.

In June, we gathered at Riverpoint Landing Marina-Resort. Ede and Ed had a full time job keeping us busy with inside activities. We had a good time, but with the weather being so hot, we tried to stay out of the sun. We had plenty of time for puzzles and catching up

Our July outing was hosted by Bill and Dee. We met at Flag City RV Resort and even though we had a smaller turnout, had a really good time sitting outside and just watching the world go by. We played games and the ladies made adorable little snow people out of socks and rice. Luckily all the glue stayed where it was supposed to be and not on our fingers.

The August outing, hosted by Mickey and Patty was held at Durango RV Resort. For this outing we had one more day to be with the group. Some decided to go sight seeing and some spent time at the casino. We had a couple who did pretty well and came home with more money than they started with. Good job you guys.

September's outing was hosted by Bob and Janice at Vineyard RV Park. Again for this outing some of us stayed one extra day and enjoyed just having some free time before we headed home. Janice paired up the guys against the gals and played a game but somehow Mickey ended up on the gals team. The gals won and Janice had an idea to make a skirt for Mickey to wear in the winner's photo so he would not feel out of place. I have to say he looked pretty good in that little red skirt and was a really good sport to take all the ribbing he got about it. Way to go Mickey.

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.

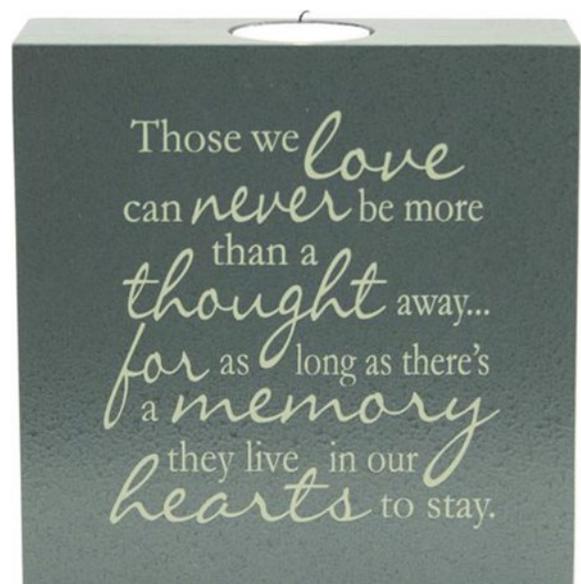
Safe Travels.....

Respectively Submitted

Nancy Peters, Publicity Secretary

The Lazy Daisy Sams had (3) very special people from their Chapter pass away...they are:

- Wilma Mae Holbrook (91) - Honorary Member
- Elmond D. Holbrook (96) - Honorary Member
- Glenn von Berner (74) - Current Member
(Wife's name is Marcia)





Tuleburg Sams (*Stockton, CA*)

The Tuleburg Sams members met twice in the last quarter (July and August), in addition to the State Meeting in September. As we have in recent years, we convened at the Laguna Seca County Park in July, and enjoyed some car races there during the time of our camp-out.

An overriding issue for our week-long stay there was the Soberanes Fire in the Big Sur area which created large clouds of smoke which floated over our trailers but resulted in little ash falling on us. The smoke also created the most gorgeous sunsets, with the sun glowing in brilliant hues of gold and orange every evening. The theme for this outing was the Great American cookout, which featured barbecued hamburgers and hotdogs, with all the trimmings an abundant side dishes on our last night.



During the day, the members enjoyed each other's company and played friendly games of beanbag baseball. Members created candleholders made from aluminum cans to decorate the tables. A wonderful activity, which also culminated on the last night, was a silent auction, which featured new or slightly-used items contributed by the members. The organizers of this event were long-term members, Kyle and Florence Taylor. An outstanding

array of items created a lot of friendly cross-bidding, with the result that there were only a few items left on which no-one had bid. Those items were taken by Jim and Pat McCutchan to Murphys for the Senior Center Thrift Store. Thanks to the Taylors' efforts, the club raised more than \$300 for the Treasury.

We also celebrated the 75th birthday of one of our long-time members, Georgia Richey.



Our August outing occurred at Betabel RV Park in San Luis Obispo, with an Italian theme. Members Jerry and Julie Alejandre brought their pizza oven, which they fired up outside the clubhouse. They also provided pizza dough, sauce, and cheese, with the members bringing whatever other food items they liked for their pizzas. Everyone enjoyed rolling out their pizzas and adorning them with their favorite toppings. The pizza oven cooks the pizzas in about three minutes, so we had a whole production line going. Saturday morning's breakfast featured frittatas and tortes and the dinner Saturday night featured lasagna, pesto, salads, and garlic bread. A special dessert was made by Tom Zarzana—cannoli's! We also had an Italian themed-guessing game which was won by our resident Italian, Tom Zarzana. Second prize went to Paulette Kersten. They both won special Italian-made gifts. Decorations for the outing were created by Julie Alejandre—special paper flower bouquets in red, white, and green.

Submitted by,
Donna Haight





Gold Nugget Sams (*Tuolumne County, CA*)

2016 was a very busy year for the Gold Nugget Sams Chapter. It all began last February with a chilly but fun outing to French Camp in Manteca, and continued on to such locales as Corning, the Lodi NORCAL Rally, Jackson Rancheria, Chowchilla, Chico, Yuba City, Bodega Bay, and Duck Island.



Gold Nugget Sam's chapter held their annual Halloween outing in beautiful Porto Bodega during the second week of October. Between bouts of laughter, participants shared ideas, stories, experiences, and lots and lots of food! The games were more competitive than ever and were led by the fabulous hosting of Amy Moore, June Shimosaki, and Barry and Phil Fell. Events were topped off with the annual Halloween costume party and parade, with such "dignitaries" as Donald Trump, Pink Ladies, Grumpy Old Men, the Farmer and his prize Cow, to a Congressional Clown and topped off by Brunhilde, our token transgender representative! Amid the laughter, great dialogue ensued over the state of the world. The week was topped off by more food and a warm, fun-filled campfire time, with more games

and laughter. We were fortunate to have several guests come along, including Assistant Director of NORCAL, Kosta Prince and his lovely family, Debra and K.J.



Gold Nugget Sams chapter celebrated their final camp out of 2016 at Duck Island (renamed Turkey Island). They met for their annual Thanksgiving camp out that brings nearly all members out for a final week of fun, friendship and great food! This event is hosted by the club's executive board, with lots of fun for everyone. Highlights of this year's outing included election of new officers (Walter Weight, President; Amy Moore, Vice-President; Sharon Murray, Secretary; Louise Rickey, Treasurer; and Cricket Weight, Wagon Mistress), and a selection of a new charity for 2017. It will be Albie Aware, a local breast cancer foundation whose mission is to provide assistance for life-saving diagnostic testing, patient advocacy, prevention education and compassionate



support to local individuals facing or fighting breast cancer. This is the chapter's response to their chapter secretary, Sharon recently diagnosed with breast cancer for the second time. Many members have been touched by this insidious disease and want to give back and support others. The club has responded with the April NorCal Rally in Lodi. Other exciting events included the Turkey Trot Competition (won by Don Chinn) and a scavenger hunt off by a dessert night, followed by fond remembrance by Phil and Barry Fell. We also welcomed new members Jeff and Janet Swanson, Bette Mark and Bill Kim. The club looks forward to our annual Christmas luncheon on December 7, adding in our 40th Anniversary year celebration to the festivities. This event will be hosted by Jean Redmond, our outgoing President.



cancer. This is the Murray, who was re-time. Many other ease in recent years, and felt this would be a is creating a new quilt that will be raffled off at included creative turkey hats (won by Vicky (won by Irene Patton); a men's potato peeling (won by Wayne Rickey). The week was topped es and sad farewells to our retiring members,

The year was topped off by a delicious Christmas luncheon held at Dave Wong's Restaurant in early December. The luncheon had nearly 30 people who attended a festive celebration of our terrific year and a look ahead to 2017. We also celebrated our upcoming 40th Chapter Anniversary, with highlights of our history presented by member Shirley Harms.

We look ahead to continued good times with all of our members. While we will re-visit some of our favorite places, we will also add some newer places such as Feather Falls in Oroville, The Vineyards in Vacaville, Riverpoint in Stockton, and Morro Dunes in Morro Bay. If any of these places appeal to you, you are encouraged to join us on any or all of them. We welcome visitors and new members at any time. Please contact Wagon-mistress Cricket Weight at weweight@surewest.net. for further information.

Submitted by,
Sharon Murray
GNS Secretary

Gold Nugget Sams Celebrates 40th Anniversary!

In January, 1977, a group of four couples came together in Sonora, CA and began a new Good Sam chapter, known as the Gold Nugget Sams. Since they had smaller rigs, they mostly did dry camping together in the Sonora area and added other campers from their immediate area. By 1999 they were decreasing in the number of rigs they had, so they started branching out to campers in other locations.

The first time they went to the NORCAL Samboree as a group of volunteer workers was in 2002, the year of their 25th anniversary. As a club, we have continued to be very active at the Samborees/Rallies, and have several past and present members who serve as Assistant Directors and hold other offices in NORCAL. We continue to volunteer each year and have received several honors. In 2007, past member, Pat Gray, won the contest for the Samboree patch. In 2008, we were the Good Sam Chapter of the Year. In 2016, our President, Jean Redmond, was selected as the Volunteer of the Year and Earl Irons was the MVP of the Rally.

Now, forty years later, we are a larger, more geographically diverse group. In December, 2016, The Gold Nuggets Sams celebrated our 40th anniversary in conjunction with our Christmas party at Dave Wong's Restaurant in Stockton.

We continue to emphasize friendship, fun and service to others. New members are welcome and highly valued.

Submitted by
Sharon Murray
Gold Nugget Sams Secretary



P.S. As you can see, we are a very proud chapter and always looking for ways to help Nor Cal thrive, along with being a charity chapter. This history was developed and written by two of our current members...Ms. Shirley Harms and Ms. Sharon Murray and we give Kudos to both of them for all the hard work and research they did in producing this article.

Thank you
Walt Weight
President, Gold Nugget Sams

We would really enjoy hearing about your Chapter outings.

Please email all write-ups to: norcaltelasam@gmail.com



2017 Calendar

Northern California and Regional Activities

www.norcalgoodsam.org

JANUARY 2017:

- ⇒ **January 5—7, 2017**
 - **NorCal SCM (State Committee Meeting) at the Lodi Grape Festival Grounds, Lodi, CA**
- ⇒ January 11-15, 2017
 - Lake Havasu Balloon Festival and Fair
 - For more information: ww.havasuballoonfest.com

FEBRUARY :

- ⇒ February 23-26, 2017
 - Good Sam RV Super Show, Phoenix International Raceway
 - For more information: www.goodsamrvshow.com
 - *NOTE: If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact our Regional Director, Ms. Joann Yett. Your camping fee will be reimbursed.*

APRIL 2017:

- ⇒ April 5-8, 2017
 - Arizona State Good Sam Rally in Casa Grande, AZ—“Back to the 50’s”
 - For more information: www.arizonagoodsam.org
- ⇒ April 12—15, 2017
 - Nevada Good Sam Rally in Pahrump, NV—“Welcome to HOLLYWOOD Southern Nevada Style”
 - Contact Cyndi Barney-Smith @ 775-513-1429
- ⇒ April 20-22, 2017
 - SoCal GoodSam Rally in Hemet, CA—“Salute the Veteran”
 - For more information: www.socalgoodsam.org
- ⇒ **April 27—30, 2017**
 - **2017 Northern California State Rally theme, “THE LAND OF OZ” will be at the Lodi Grape Festival Grounds, Lodi, CA**

MAY 2017:

- ⇒ May 12-14, 2017
 - Grand Canyon Caverns Western Weekend
 - Call 928-422-4565, ext. 2 for reservations

JUNE 2017:

- ⇒ June 7-10, 2017
 - Utah Good Sam Rally in Nephi, Utah—“A Great Moment in History”
 - Contact Janice Taylor @ 435-623-0491

SEPTEMBER 2017:

- ⇒ September 13-17, 2017
 - New Mexico Good Sam Rally at Angelfire Resort
 - Contact Jan Gauna @ 505-296-0799
- ⇒ September 27—October 1, 2017
 - Colorado Good Sam Rally in Pueblo, CO—“River Boat”
 - Contact JR Hall @ 719-331-9434



The LAND of OZ

Nor Cal State Rally 2017

April 27—30

Join us for a magical weekend
in April as we visit The LAND of OZ !!!
Look for more information on our website:

norcalgoodsam.org

< or >

reach out to your Chapter Presidents

NorCal Good Sam

Chapter of the Year Award

The NorCal Good Sam Chapter of the Year Award is open to all active chapters in Northern California. The award consists of a presentation certificate and a cash award of \$200.00 that the winning chapter may do with as they wish. The dates for the competition are from January 1 to December 31 of each calendar year. The award will be presented to the winning Chapter by the State Director at the January State Committee Meeting. The winning Chapter will be determined by how many “points” are accrued by each Chapter during the competition dates. All points earned by the chapters will be compiled by the Awards Chair. Points may be earned as follows:

Rules for Earning Points:

1. Each chapter that has their President, or authorized representative, at a State Committee Meeting will be awarded 50 points. Those chapters that attend all three State Committee Meetings will be given a 50 point bonus for a total of 200 points.
2. Each chapter that submits their outing schedule for the current year to the State Director and their Assistant State Director will be awarded 25 points. To qualify, outing schedules must be submitted no later than February 1 each year.
3. Each Chapter that submits their current roster to the State Director and Asst. State Director by December 31 each year will be awarded 25 points.
4. Each chapter that submits their annual NorCal dues to the State Treasurer by December 1 each year will be awarded 50 points.
5. Each chapter that submits an article to the editor of the Tel-A-Sam for publishing in the “Chapter Chatter” section will be awarded 50 points for each article for a possibility of 150 points each calendar year.
6. Each chapter that adds a new member during the calendar year will be awarded 50 points for each new rig. To qualify for these points, each chapter must submit a roster each December showing their current membership. Members added during the year must be highlighted on the December roster submitted at the end of the year of competition. There is no limit to the number of points a chapter may accrue by adding new members. No points will be lost due to members leaving the chapter.
7. Each chapter that donates coats to the annual coat drive will be awarded 10 points for each coat donated. The coat drive chairperson will give each donating chapter a receipt for the coats donated and the chapters must submit a copy of this receipt to the Awards Chair no later than November 1 each year to qualify for the points.
8. Each chapter that participates in the annual Good Sam Clean-Up Days will be awarded 100 points. A report, including photos showing your chapter at work, are to be submitted to the Awards Chair, and will be required to qualify for these points.

Additional Chapter Rewards

In addition to the Chapter of the Year Award, each chapter may earn a discount to the annual Rally as follows:

For each chapter that earns 500 or more points during the year, each member of that chapter that attends the annual Rally will be entitled to a flat \$10.00 discount on the following years Rally registration.

Chapter of the Year Tie Breaker

In the event of a tie between two or more chapters accruing points by the above schedule, the Awards Chair will seek information from the Charity Chair, and the chapter who has given the most to charities, per member, during the year, will be awarded the title of Chapter of the Year.

Example: A chapter with 20 members who gives \$31,000 to charities in the calendar year would be awarded a figure of \$1550.00 per member. ($\$31,000.00$ divided by 20 members = $\$1550.00$). A chapter with 3 members giving \$10,000 to charities during the calendar year would be awarded \$3,333.00 per member.

The total membership for each chapter will be taken from the December roster ending the year the chapter is competing in. This would be the roster outlined in Item 6. The charities total would be the figure the charities chair recognizes for each chapter as of December 31 of each year.

Approved by State Director:

Wayne Wall

September 30, 2016

Winners of the 25–25–25–25 raffle at the September 2016 SCM

\$36.50 each

- Jere Giblin, Redwood Good Sams
- Walt Weight, Gold Nugget Good Sams
- Helmet Schmidt, Gold Nugget Good Sams



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Our Dear Friends & Good Sam Members
who have passed since our Samboree in 2015

Camp Far West

- Glen Allen—2015
- Ken Hart—2015
- Marshall Weir—2015

Eel River Sams

- Ted King—2015

Cowtown Campers & NorCal State Staff

- Carl Bruegmann—March 2016

El Dorado Sams

- Jane Stanley—June 2015
- Jim Eldridge—January 2016

Golden Empire Sams

- Raymond "Ray" Soden—April 2015
- Bob Beatty—2015
- Dave Brown—2015
- Berta Hawkins—2015
- Judy Rogers—2015

Happy Hobos

- Charlie Whitley—May 2015
- Clarence Tracy—May 2015
- Barbara Ginsti—October 2015
- Emma Auchard—January 2016
- Shirley Mailens—February 2016

Lodi Senior Bells

- Dolores Nunes—February 2016
- Midge Freeman—September 2015
- J.J. Freeman—February 2016
- Jeannie Holms—April 2016

Lucky Ones

- Henry Hightower—December 2014

Sequoia Sams

- Imogene "Jean" Smith—March 2016

Redwood Good Sams

- Helen Kuester—2016

When a member of your Chapter passes away, please notify Marilee Ginoulis by email at: kginoulis@sbcglobal.net so it can be entered into the Memorial Book < and > email Cary McCutchen at: norcaltelasam@gmail.com so it can be included in our next Tel-A-Sam newsletter. Include in your email: Members Name, Date of Passing (if available) and your Chapter.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STATE CHARITIES REPORT

September 24, 2016

Club	Donation	Amount
San Jose Blackjacks		
	Childrens Special Needs	\$78.00
	School District Migrant Kids (Back Packs)	\$450.00
	Total	\$528.00
Golden Empire Sam's		
	Sammies Friend	\$88.00
	Hospice of the Foothills	\$40.00
	Cancer Aid	\$37.00
	Ronald McDonald House	\$345.90
	Total	\$510.90
Lazy Daisy Sam's		
	New Day for Children	\$78.10
	Total	\$78.10
Tuleburg Sam's		
	Mutiple Charities (24)	\$19,186.00
	Volunteer Hours (474)	\$4,740.00
	Total	\$23,926.00
	Total donated this quarter to all charities	\$25,043.00

Please submit charity donation by December 5th for the December meeting.

This charities report submitted by Phill Fell, Charities Coordinator

9/24/2016