



Tel-A-Sam: Fall, 2020

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From the Director's Desk,

November 7, 2020

Greetings to each and every one of you. Bonne and I trust that all of our NorCal Good Sam members are staying healthy and well, and safe from this terrible CoVid 19 virus pandemic. I know that some of you are still camping with friends, and this is good and allowed by Good Sam, but not as a sanctioned event. In other words, by not indicating that you are a chapter of Good Sam. This would be a liability issue. However, requesting of individual discounts at Good Sam parks is okay. I feel sure that if you are camping with friends that you are practicing good safe protocols such as social distancing, wearing of masks, not sharing finger foods or having potluck meals.

Sadly, and with mixed emotions, I am writing this column in the Tel-A-Sam for the last time as I have reached the end of my six year tenure as your NorCal Director, which will come to an end on December 31, 2020. As I reflect upon my time in this position, I recognize the fact that errors have been made along the journey, but there have been several highlights as well. I will attempt to enumerate some of those. I know that the changing of the staff formal uniform from an unpopular "milkman outfit", mostly all white pants, shirts, shoes and vests, with red trim, to a simplified red dress shirt with open collar, and black pants and accessories, proved to be a very popular move. It made the staff appear more accessible, and offered more of a relaxed atmosphere. During the same State Committee Meeting when I asked for funding for the new uniform items, silly me, I also asked for a raise in the annual dues. This raised many eyebrows. But when all was said and done, and the smoke had cleared, I had many favorable comments with regard to the 'new look' for the staff. The increase in annual dues to NorCal was also favorably received. The next positive move was to eliminate the 'King and Queen' for the annual Rally. Many negatives went with this archaic practice...it was time consuming during the opening ceremonies for the Rally, and I felt it was self-serving to the staff, as the winners were always staff members. Finally, the pomp and circumstance that went with this, ie, coronation with a crown and presentation to the members was in a word "hideous." It was eliminated with kudos for this action.

I must admit that I was caught up with the past practices of my predecessors, such as continuing with the holding of the annual Rally at the Lodi Grape Festival fairgrounds, including the State Committee Meetings. I had been informed that the Rally in Lodi, Ca, was at one time so large that we had between 700 to 1000 rigs in attendance. Rigs were parked everywhere including on city streets and empty lots. We then saw a drastic reduction on a yearly basis in the number of rigs in attendance, when during my first year as Director there were approximately 135 rigs, and it has continued to wane down to 77 rigs. It became apparent to me that our members were not happy with the Lodi facility, and the possibility of other reasons, therefore it was decided to look for a new venue that would be large enough to accommodate the Rally. Our search led us to the decision to relocate the Rally from Lodi to Casa De Fruta RV Park, near Hollister, Ca. This was met with many logistical problems, but proved to be a smart move and has had very favorable reviews by the members. Because of this move, we were on the road to turning the attendance to the Rally around and we were well on the way to having 100 or more rigs in attendance for the 2020 Rally. Unfortunately, the virus had caused us to postpone the Rally to a future date. Also, the Lodi fairgrounds was charging us around \$1,100.00 for the use of their facility to hold our SCM's. We were having 3 SCM's per year, and we were paying \$2,200.00 per year, (we were not charged for the meeting that was in conjunction with the Rally), and we were not having a good turnout by the president's and or their representatives. Plus, originally the thought was to have chapters have a chapter outing to coincide with the SCM, yet that thought was not coming to fruition, as it was mostly staff that was in attendance and a handful of presidents. We since have revised the SCM's, to holding just 2 meetings per year. One of those to be held at a convenient RV park, with those in attendance paying their own way, the other to be held in conjunction with the Rally at no extra cost, and by doing this we are saving the \$2,200.00 that we were paying to Lodi.



With reference to the annual Rally, it is very difficult to change the format of the way that it has been run for many years. Opening and closing ceremonies are felt to be necessary, however, we have made efforts to reduce the time for both of these events. Such as, the opening ceremony has been reduced from what was nearly 2 hours, to less than one hour. We have changed some of the events to be of more interest and fun. Among those are the golf chipping contest, and the ever popular Bingo game with great prizes. As we have great expectations for the increase in attendance at the Rally, it is sadly unfortunate that we cannot offer many vendors for your pleasure. The reason is simple. When our numbers are down, then the vendors will not come because they cannot financially make it feasible. It will probably be some time before we can lure those vendors back. Only when our numbers improve is when they will return. However, because in changes at Good Sam, there is a distinct possibility that Camping World will be in attendance at the next Rally.

This is a good place for me to remind you that the annual Rally is staged for you, the NorCal members, and as suggested before, plan on making it an as usual chapter outing. You can hold your chapter meeting and any other activities, but you will also have the Rally to add to your outing for fun and camaraderie.

One of my biggest disappointments is the lack of response and/or communication with my presidents. This includes attendance at the SCM's and Rallies, the late remittance of rosters and dues by some chapters, and the ignoring of simple requests for replies to questions and for information from me to the chapter. I know that we can do a lot better in this area, but I am extremely exasperated by my attempts for improvement.

The other major disappointment has been the loss of numerous chapters. I began with 35 chapters. We are down to 17 chapters. The reasons for the loss of those chapters are many and varying, but mainly, in my opinion, for no good reason. A few have aged out. Others just felt that they did not want to be associated with Good Sam any longer. They felt as though they could do fine on their own. They were reminded that there would not be much difference if they went that direction, such as, they would still pay dues, they would need structure...officers, a trailboss or wagonmaster, at least a treasurer and a second signer on their bank account. So why would they feel as though they would be fine on their own? The only answer is that they had 'alpha' types that were instrumental in leading the chapter down this path. The loss of these chapters has frankly hurt the NorCal organization, this due to the reduction in numbers. I did everything that I could to have these chapters reconsider, but obviously to no avail.

In closing, I can honestly say that I have good memories, have had great fun, and met a lot of wonderful people during this journey. Among those have been my staff who have proven to be loyal and very supportive, and without them we could not have accomplished all of the things that have been improvements to our NorCal organization. Many of our presidents have been outstanding, you know who you are, so I am not going to mention them by name, just know that your cooperation has been greatly appreciated. The volunteers have been exceptional and a very valuable asset, especially during the Rallies. To all of you, I salute you for your valuable time and efforts that you have devoted to me and the organization. You all have my deepest gratitude.

NorCal has a new State Director by acclamation in Mike Ward of the Lucky Ones. He is relatively new to the organization. However, he has served as President of the Lucky Ones and has been an Assistant Director. Admittedly, he has a lot to learn. However, Mike has a true desire to continue the traditions of the NorCal organization, and wants to do all that he can to improve and make it better. I will do everything that I can to make it an easy transition for Mike so that he can continue without missing a beat. I am in hopes, and know, that he will be well received by the members and that you all will support him in his quest to maintain NorCal as an outstanding organization.

With this all said, I will say adieu, and give a big thank you to each of you that made this an enjoyable endeavor.

Stay safe and healthy, have a great Thanksgiving, a wonderful Christmas, and a happier New Year.

Happy trails,

Wayne Wall
NorCal State Director
Good Sam Club



And now, a word from our new incoming Director...

Hello, fellow campers. I hope all is well with you through these uncertain times.

I would like to take this time to introduce myself to you as your new State Director for NorCal Good Sam.

We are Mike and Jennifer (Gina) Ward from Lucky Ones chapter in Fresno. We have been members for 5 years and have loved every minute of it. We have met so many wonderful people throughout our camping adventures and we are looking forward to many more adventures to come.

We are from the Fresno area and my wife was born and raised here. We have 2 adult boys, 4 dogs and 2 cats. I am retired from the postal service of 31 years and a veteran of 6 years' service with the Air Force as a K-9 handler and instructor. This gave me a total of 37 years of government service for retirement. We feel very blessed to have been able to retire at a young age and to travel with our rig.

I am currently one of three AD's (Assistant Director) for NorCal Good Sam and have been for 18 months.

I was president of the Lucky Ones chapter for two years and worked with our chapter members on many projects such as spear heading and developing a Facebook page for just our chapter members to keep in touch. It has worked out great and everyone seems to enjoy posting pics and stories of their RV travels.

We also started advertising our chapter at our monthly camp outs by letting other folks know more about us with a flyer attached to our Lucky Ones sign which is placed in front of the club house along with our chapter flag.

One of my objectives as your new Director will be to help each chapter develop ways to increase their membership. As I'm sure you're aware, most of the chapters are getting smaller with current members leaving due to health concerns or other personal reasons, and getting new members has been difficult. But, I believe working together we can increase our memberships.

Recently I read an article that said there are almost 10,000 baby boomers turning 65 every day and many of them are purchasing RV's. These are "Prospective members" and we just need to show them what Good Sam is all about. This is why each chapter should write a short chapter biography with their contact information and have it posted on the NorCal Good Sam website.

If you would like to contact me with any questions or concerns or just to say "Howdy!", my email is: megamike58@yahoo.com and my phone is (559) 916-9375.

We look forward to hopefully meeting all of you at the next rally, starting April 29, 2021 at Casa de Fruta. Until then, my wife and I wish you all many happy trails and please be safe out there.

Sincerely,

Mike and Gina Ward



2020 Northern California State Staff

Elected Officers

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Nor Cal State Director</u> Wayne Wall (Bonne) Cameron Park, CA (C) 916-220-4680 (H) 530-677-0985 bonway42@att.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Nor Cal State Treasurer</u> Ken Brown Placerville, CA (C) 530-240-5160 moosenmarno2@comcast.net</p>
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Assistant State Directors

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sacramento Valley/North</u> Walter Weight Citrus Heights, CA 916-548-3141 weweight@surewest.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sacramento/East Bay</u> Wally Luihn Oakdale, CA 209-542-3305 wkluihn@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>South Sacramento Valley/South Bay</u> Mike Ward Fresno, CA 559-916-9375 megamike58@yahoo.com</p>
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State Staff

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>State Secretary</u> Audrey Johnson Coarsegold, CA 408-221-7073 johnsonranch1@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Security</u> Walter Weight Citrus Heights, CA 916-548-3141 weweight@surewest.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>State Editor</u> Sharon Murray Roseville, CA 916-759-1407 smurray2470@gmail.com norcaltelasam@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rally Registrar</u> Al Quint Citrus Heights, CA 916-765-3688 al5quint@surewest.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Photographer & Historian</u> Kosta Prince W. Sacramento, CA 916-372-6145 kosta.prince@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Commercial Chair</u> Cricket Weight Citrus Heights, CA 916-548-3141 weweight@surewest.net</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Charities Chair</u> Shirley Harms San Jose, CA 209-480-4242 sierramts95@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Door Prize Chair</u> Anne Hernandez Cameron Park, CA 530-409-7894 prncesanne11@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>State Sound Manager</u> Ken Brown Placerville, CA (C) 530-240-5160 moosenmarno2@comcast.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Memorial Services</u> David Tomlinson Groveland, CA ditreto0@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wagon Master</u> Available <u>Raffle Chair</u> Available</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Arts & Crafts Chair</u> Anne Hernandez Cameron Park, CA 530-409-7894 prncesanne11@gmail.com</p>



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
GOOD SAM ASSOCIATION

STATE COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom Meeting

10-24-20

Minutes

The NCGS State Committee meeting was called to order by Director Wayne Wall at 12:00pm on October 24, 2020.

The following NorCal State Staff was present: Wayne Wall, Director; Mike Ward, Assistant Director; Walter Weight, Assistant Director; Wally Luihn, Assistant Director; Cricket Weight, Commercial Chairperson; Sharon Murray, Editor/Tel-A-Sam; Al Quint, Rally Registration; Shirley Harms, Charities Chairperson, and Audrey Johnson, Secretary.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Director Wayne Wall and then Director Wayne Wall thanked all the chapter presidents/representatives for attending on this Zoom meeting.

Roll call was then carried out with seven, (7) Chapters being represented at this NCGS State Committee at the last meeting for this year, 2020. Those chapters present were: El Dorado Sams, Gold Nugget Sams, Lazy Daisy Sams, Lucky Ones, San Jose Blackjacks, Sierra Sams, and the Tuleburg Sams.

Minutes: The minutes were read by Audrey Johnson.

Motion made to accept as read:

Motion: Sharon Murray

Second: Cricket Weight

Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was partially read. The full report will be emailed to all staff within the week.

No bills and expenses were presented at the meeting.

Motion made to accept

Motion: Mike Ward

Second: Shirley Harms

Motion carried

Correspondence: None received

Committee reports:

Tel-A-Sam Report: Sharon Murray will be publishing the next Tel-A-Sam in November. She asked that the presidents/chapters send her information on how they are handling their camping events during Covid 19 (i.e.: handling the distancing, food, etc.)

Deadline for articles to be sent for publication in the TAS is 11/08/20.

Please submit to: norcaltelasam@gmail.com.

Sharon Murray reported that the Tel-A-Sam, Grapevine printer is in need of major repair. She requested approximately \$500 for a new printer for the Tel-A-Sam.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA GOOD SAM ASSOCIATION

Minutes (continued)

Motion made to accept the purchase of a new printer

Motion: Wally Luihn

Second: Tom Zarzana (Tuleburg Sams)

Motion carried

Charity Report: Shirley Harms reported that from April thru September three clubs came up with \$8,279. This may go up at the end of the year more chapters may send in their yearly total. Wayne will send email to all chapters to discuss this.

Vendor Reports: Cricket Weight stated that the three vendors for the proposed 2020 rally have cancelled. We are still trying to determine if we are having a 2021 rally. We have some plans in place at this time.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Gina Ward suggested that we have a raffle or something to get the chapters presidents to come to the State Committee Meeting. More discussion will be held on this.

Cricket Weight is stepping down as Rally Vendor Chairperson. Gina Ward is willing to take this position. Gina Ward and Cricket Weight will get together to work on new ideas.

We would have had over 100 rigs attending the Rally in 2020 before the virus hit.

New outreach programs, craft areas, new location are some of the ideas Gina Ward has already come up with.

Mike Ward would like to see more staff members and volunteers to work the Rally.

Everyone should get the word out that the Zoom conference call is an easy way to join this meeting.

Announcements:

Starting January 1, 2021, the new NorCal State Director will be Mike Ward (by acclamation). Swearing in ceremony to be held at a later date. Mike and Wayne will get together to transfer all the director tools.

Wayne Wall is willing to become an assistant director. This will be discussed at a later date

Wayne Wall has new information from Marcus Lemons, during the Zoom conference Good Sam meeting of State/Province Directors.

Each director can do a site evaluation of a Camping World or Gandy store, and will receive \$500 for each evaluation completed.

All State Directors received \$500 from Camping World as a thank you.

A flyer marketed by Good Sam will be promoting chapters in an effort to get more campers interested in joining a chapter. Wayne Wall will send this to us.

Directors are trying to get Good Sam the chapters information moved to the front of the Good Sam website for easier access.

There are several other promotions going as well to help chapters and prospective campers. They can be found in the Highways magazine as well as Camping World stores.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA GOOD SAM ASSOCIATION

Minutes (continued)

Just a reminder that there are now Camping World Concerts through November.

Visit <https://rv.campingworld.com/concert>.

If you would like to review and rate Good Sam parks, contact Good Sam.

There is a new training program being put in affect. More information about what this entails will be forthcoming.

All directors will now have an email address directly through the Good Sam Club to make it easier for prospective campers to contact the Directors.

The next meeting will be held at the April/May 2021 Rally. If there is no Rally, Mike Ward will provide a new date.

Walter Weight has requested that all presidents report to him regarding the 2021-chapter elections results. This so that the new officer(s) information can be updated on the website. He would also like us to get the word out to look at the NorCal Good Sam website more often, <http://norcalgoodsam.org>

Wally Luihn thanked Wayne Wall for all the work he has done as Director for all these years.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Audrey Johnson, Secretary



Charity Report

Shirley Harms, Charity Chair, reports that the clubs have given \$30,068.00 so far this year. She will collect final reports from the clubs through December, 2020 for the current year. Look for a reminder notice soon.



Your Invitation to a Party

2021 - Good Sam Club

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ANNUAL STATE RALLY

'Salute to America the Beautiful'

When: Festivities begin Thursday, **April 29, 30, May 1, 2021 (Change)**

Where: Casa de Fruta RV Resort, Hollister, CA

Why: A time for all NorCal chapters, and friends, to come together and join in fun activities, make new friends, but more importantly, It's a time when staff can say, "thank you", to the members of each chapter for supporting NorCal Good Sam Club.

- ACTIVITIES:** Member Arts & Crafts Show and Sale, Seminars, Commercial Vendors, Theme & Pet Parade, Indoor and Outdoor Games, Catered Dinner, Food Court, Bingo, Bocce Ball, Professional Entertainment, & More!
- FACILITIES:** Total of 128 sites, 66 full hook-up, pull-through sites, 30 amps. 13 full hook-up, 50 amp., back-in sites, (reserved for special needs attendees.) Approx. 24 full hook-up, back-in sites on lawn area. A popular premium area further from the clubhouse and near the creek, on grass, 30 amp no sewer hook-up. There are 2 level sewer stations available on site.
- PARKING:** Rigs parked on assigned basis. Chapter group parking can be arranged on a limited availability. No rigs will be parked after 4:00 pm. Late arrivals park in holding area until 8:00 am the next day.
- REGISTRATION:** Wednesday, (Helper/volunteer & early –birds) – 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Thurs. 9:00 – Noon, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Fri. 9:00 –Noon, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. Sat. 11:00 am to Noon. (Early arrivals on Mon., Tues., & Wed., are okay).
- COMMERCIAL:** Contact Cricket Weight at: weweight@surewest.net, or 916-548-3141

VOLUNTEER HELPERS: Volunteer/helpers are needed and encouraged!!! If you are interested and want to help and be a volunteer, please indicate on this registration form. Volunteer confirmation letters will be mailed after April 14th, 2021. Additional fees for extra day camping (See below).

Name #1: _____ Name #2: _____
 (Please Print)

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____ 1stTime Attendee? Yes: _____ No: _____

Good Sam Member? Yes: _____ No: _____ Chapter Member? Yes: _____ No: _____ Chapter Name: _____

State Officer? Yes: _____ No: _____ Indicate State: _____ Position: _____

RALLY REGISTRATION: Rate is 47.00 per rig, per night.

- 1 or 2 People Per Rig, 2 Nights, Thurs & Fri, or Fri. & Sat., Full Hook-Ups.....\$ 94.00.....(\$ 94.00 at Gate)
- 1 or 2 People Per Rig, 3 Nights, Thurs., Fri. & Sat, Full Hook-Ups.....\$141.00.....(\$136.00 at Gate)
- Family Rate-3 or More People per Rig, 2 Nights, Full Hook-Ups.....\$104.00.....(\$104.00 at Gate)
- Family Rate-3 or More People per Rig, 3 Nights, Full Hook-Ups..... \$151.00.....(\$146.00 at Gate)
- Helper/Volunteer Extra Nights.....\$42.00 per Night X () Nites = \$ _____ (Total)
- Ladies 'American Woman' Luncheon and Entertainment....\$15.00 Per Person = \$ _____.
- Saturday Night Catered Dinner.....\$22.00 per Person..X () People = \$ _____ (Total)
- Walk-In, per day, \$5.00 Carload.....\$ _____.
- TOTAL PAID.....\$ _____.

(REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY April 14, 2021 TO BE PROCESSED ON TIME.)

Rig type: Make: _____ Class: _____ Length: _____ # of Slides: _____

Please indicate your anticipated date of arrival: _____

Handicap Parking: Yes: _____ No: _____ DMV Handicap Number: _____

Wheelchair: Yes: _____ No: _____ Breathing Equipment: Yes: _____ No: _____ Other: _____

Questions: Contact: Al Quint, Registrar: 916-765-3688, email: al5quint@surewest.net Please make checks payable to: "NORCAL GOOD SAM ASSOCIATION" Mail to: Al Quint, Registrar, 6001 Myrtlewood Ct., Citrus Heights, CA 95621

(Please Complete Reverse Side)

*****NORCAL RALLY VOLUNTEER/HELPER REGISTRATION FORM*****

VOLUNTEER/HELPERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED.

If you would like to participate in this year's Rally by being a helper/volunteer, please indicate your preference of where you would like to help in the area provided below: If you sign up as a helper/volunteer, you must be checked in at the Rally on Wednesday to receive your assignment for the following day(s).

We cannot assume that a task that your Chapter does, will done by all the chapter members attending. Nor can we assume that both husband and wife, or significant other, are working every year. Please indicate additional choices in case your 1st choice is full. In this case we may ask you to help in the area of your 2nd choice. Thank you.

1st Helper/Volunteer: Name: _____ 1st Choice # _____ 2nd Choice # _____

2nd Helper/Volunteer: Name: _____ 1st Choice # _____ 2nd Choice # _____

Please pick from the list below which area where you would like to help/volunteer, and indicate by placing the corresponding number in 'Choice', (by your name), above.

- Choices: #1 – Registration #2 – Check-in #3 – People Mover #4 – Security
#5 – Arts & Crafts #6 – Games #7 – Stage Decoration #8 – Misc. Help

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION INFORMATION

We require this information so that proper notification can be made in the event of an accident or other emergency.

Person to be Notified:

Name: _____ (Please Print)

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____

Home Phone: () _____ **Cell or Work Phone:** () _____

Relationship: _____

Please list Additional Family members, (COMING IN YOUR RIG), Their age and relationship

Name: _____ **Age:** _____ **Relation:** _____

CHAPTER GROUP PARKING

Chapter group parking will be accomplished by early notification, three weeks in advance. After that time it will be on a first come, first served basis. We will make every effort to park chapter rigs together, however configuration of the resort has limitations. Please advise of chapter name, number of rigs, rig type and size, ASAP, when making notification. If you have not asked to be parked as a chapter, and you wish to park together, we suggest that you have your chapter gather together outside the resort area, and then enter the resort in a caravan style.



U.S. AIR FORCE



November 11, 2020

We pay tribute to the men and women of the armed forces who have served their countries in times of conflict and peace. We recognize all for their patriotism, love of country, and sacrifices made for the common good.





A Salute to our Vets



Have a Good Trip.

Dear Fellow Good Sam Members,

At our 2021 NorCal Rally, with a theme of 'A Salute to America the Beautiful', we would like this opportunity to honor our veterans of America. Over our history these men and women have given their time, loyalty, love and, all too often, their very lives in service to all of us. To help show our appreciation for their service, we will have a "Wall of Honor" for all at our 2021 Rally. Please bring a photograph with you to the rally of your favorite family or friend veteran(s). **Yes, you may have more than one in your family or friends who is worthy of this honor wall.** When you arrive at the rally, register and then come to the Tel-A-Sam workstation (for the **Daily Grapevine**). It will be located in the same area as registration. There will be a short form for you to fill out to go with your picture(s) and then they will be placed on the Wall of Honor in the Main Room, where the majority of events will take place. After closing ceremonies on Saturday night, please retrieve your pictures from the wall and take them back home with you. Below is a sample picture and form. If you have a suggestion or concern about the form, please email me with them at norcaltelasam@gmail.com. The pictures should be no larger than 8" by 10", so we will have room for all of the honorees.



Walt
basic training
1959

NorCal Veterans	
Name:	Walter Weight
Area of Service:	Air Force
Service Years:	1959-1979
Place(s) Served:	U.S., Japan, Turkey England
Job Title:	logistics Inventory management Supervisor

Thank you all for your participation in this activity!

Sharon Murray

Tel-A-SAM Editor





Have a Good Trip.

Chapter Chatter



Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA)

Editor's Note: This was mistakenly left out of the Spring Tel-A-Sam. My deepest apologies to the Tuleburg Sams Club. Sharon Murray, Tel_A_Sam Editor

March 2020

Feather Falls KOA RV Park was Tuleburg Sams' second outing of the year, March 5-8, 2020. The staff is always friendly and welcoming. The park is next to the Feather Falls Casino which is in walking distance. Some of the members went to see impersonator: musician & singer Johnny Cash. Everyone had a wonderful time, even Ruth Placek who got close-up to the star. The show lasted late into the evening. Before going over to the casino the group members gathered in the round clubhouse for visiting and partaking of a variety of appetizers. The theme was St. Patrick's Day. Ed & Ricki Spivey and Donna Haight & Ron Hansen were the trailbosses. The tables were decorated with green shamrocks and small daisy plants. The plants were acquired by the members later from a blue dot underneath their chair. Donna led the members in a few games over the weekend. After everyone caught up on the latest news and their bellies were full, Donna passed out a sheet with various questions about St. Patrick's Day. The one who got most of the questions correct won a prize. The next game was making as many words out of the phrase 'Happy St. Patrick's Day'. The member that made the most words also won a prize.



The next morning the staff prepared pancakes for breakfast. The pancakes were fluffy and delicious along with strawberry topping, mixed fruit, and mimosas. Rain was on and off all day on Saturday.

Chapter Chatter



Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA) Continued



Some members went into town, wine tasting, and others finished the craft that was started at the last outing – covering a round tin with fabric and making a heart. When it was time to head back, members started preparing for the night's dinner. The evening meal consisted of corn beef and cabbage, potatoes, carrots, salads, bread and a variety of desserts which included St. Patrick's Day cupcakes. Donna announced the winner of the last game which was guessing how many candies in a jar. There were two winners. She said a lot of guesses were way off. Everyone had a delightful time.

Happy Trails





Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA) Continued

October 2020



The Tuleburgs landed in Sugar Barge RV Resort and Marina at Bethel Island. This is the first time in quite a while since the club has met there. Just beyond the campground sits a restaurant, marina, and the boat launch. Some members went over to have a drink at the restaurant and enjoy the view of the delta. Friday afternoon members gathered at the Spivey's campsite, because it was the biggest, for socialization. The clubhouse had a limit on the number of people and the club was over the limit. The weather was comfortable for gathering outside and the members talked about the latest news. Ed Spivey brought out squash and various grapes for the taking from his garden. Everyone broke up for dinner. Members came back together to play bingo by lantern. Four corners, regular, X, T, and black out were the various games. Laughter was heard throughout the entire weekend. Rob and Karen Bennett were the trail-bosses. Rob was always losing his bingo balls and that was entertainment in itself. At the end of each game whoever won would put their number in a basket. The numbers were given out before the games started.

The next morning was a gorgeous day. The temperature got up to 73 degrees. Some members heard the fishing boats come through very early for their day on the delta. It may have been a bass tournament that weekend. Everyone gathered after lunch to participate in the craft. Rob and Karen had old wood which they painted orange and green. The members could decorate however they wanted.



Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA) Continued

Faces & hair appeared on both orange for pumpkin, and green for Frankenstein. It was a wonderful time!



Toward the evening the wind picked up. The members gathered together before dinner. Their dogs came to for a visit and play. After dinner everyone gathered for more fun and games by lantern light. Duck races were presented by Rob and Karen. Five ducks were in the race, and moved by dice. The members picked their duck at each round. 6 rounds total, and if their duck won then they could put their number in the basket. The names of the ducks: ***Paddles, Tule, Foul, Quacker, Daisy, and Commander***. Paddles and Commander each won a race and Daisy was the fastest duck who won 4 races. The evening finished off with two games of bingo. It was a lot of fun to be together. We had 3 winners from the basket: Chris Zaro, Hank Stewart, and Vanessa Stewart. A mug and candy were the prizes.

Everyone departed on Sunday with beautiful weather and fond memories. A big thank you to our trail bosses: Rob and Karen Bennett. See you next time!





Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA) Continued

An interview with Wally Luihn, one of the recipients of the
2019 Volunteer of the Year Award
Tuleburg Sams Chapter

Wally Luihn is a humble guy. I went to visit with Wally and his wife Kelly at their rig one afternoon during our outing in September. He reminisced about the time earlier this year when Donna Haight, Secretary of the Tuleburg Sams, read a form she completed on behalf of the members to nominate him for the Volunteer of the Year Award. Wally said it brought him to tears. The members enthusiastically applauded after the letter was read. After approval by the members, this nomination was sent to Wayne Wall, NorCal Good Sam State Director. In the past the Tuleburgs had decided that one person should not be nominated because all the members pitched in wherever they could and were deserving of the award. At all chapter outings and at all NorCal events, the Tuleburgs have always worked together as one unit. Donna had, however, noticed the special contributions Wally had made for the chapter as President and for NorCal as Assistant State Director. She noted that three qualities combined to make Wally Luihn a highly appropriate nominee for Volunteer of the Year: Commitment, Concern, and Communication. These qualities provided a basis for his unflagging dedication to our chapter and to his determination to assure the wellbeing and longevity of the chapter, the NorCal State Association, and the Good Sam Organization. His selection as one of the two 2019 Volunteers of the Year is particularly fitting.

Question: When did you get involved with Good Sam?

Luihn: 2010. We were with the Tuleburg Sams for two years then dropped out. There was no one about the same age as us. My sister, Joyce Castro, and my dad, Walt Luihn, talked us into getting involved again in 2014.

Question: How and when did you become President of Tuleburg Sams?

Luihn: Dad approached me about the Presidency. I knew it would take a lot of work and time. I became President from 2018-2019. The office opened my eyes to listen to members' concerns. I learned the more information I can give the members, such as in memos, ahead of time, the more time they have to think things through before making a decision at the chapter meetings. This way the meeting becomes more productive.

Question: What challenges did you face?

Luihn: As Assistant State Director I would go to chapter meetings, and meet people I have never met before. I would listen to their concerns and relay the information back to NorCal. As time went on I started putting a face with a name which made it easier to talk with people. People opened up to me because they discovered I am a neutral person.



Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA) Continued

An interview with Wally Luihn, one of the recipients of the 2019 Volunteer of the Year Award (Continued)
Tuleburg Sams Chapter

Kelly, his wife of thirty-seven years, said, "He is dedicated to the organization (NorCal Good Sam) and wants to see it thrive."

Tom Zarzana, President of the Tuleburg Sams, reflected, "When my wife and I joined the Tuleburgs, Wally was one of the first members to welcome us. His big smile and easy-going way made me feel relaxed and welcomed. As the years have gone by, Wally and I have become good friends. When he finds something that he feels isn't quite right or can be made better, he goes to work on it, but he goes through the proper channels to get it done. Wally and I have had many phone conversations over the years about how we can make our club better. Now that Wally is our Assistant State Director, I know that he will continue to work to make the Good Sam organization even better, and I look forward to those phone calls."

As for the future Wally would like to serve in some capacity for the Tuleburg Sams. He mentioned next year there will be a new State Director. He has shown concern for the loss of chapters within the organization. If you haven't met Wally Luihn, you ought to stop, look him in the eye and shake his hand. He will listen to you, put a name with a face and you will be glad you did.

The Tuleburg Sams Chapter Members are especially proud of the accomplishments of Wally Luihn and of his recognition as 2019 Volunteer of the Year.

Trina Zarzana
Publicity Chair
Donna Haight
Secretary
Tuleburg Sams Chapter





Chapter Chatter



Durham Good Sam Travel Nuts

This year has been a tough one for all of us, each one of us individually, for our country and globally. The Durham Good Sam Travel Nuts up here in Northern California tried to get together and go camping but the Covid-19 really hampered our efforts and our spirits. Early in the year the campgrounds were shut down and not taking groups and then as the year progressed the campgrounds opened up but most of their facilities were shut down such as the clubhouses, restrooms, laundry, etc. If we had bad weather, we needed those clubhouses, so we wound up having to cancel anyway.

We were able to go up to Arcata to Mad River Rapids RV in July, and we had a great time. We had 10 rigs that attended which was amazing. We were not allowed to use their Clubhouse or other amenities but the weather was good so we were able to go and get together. We were there for 5 days and did a lot of fun things. One day we went to the beach and found rocks and later in the week we painted them. One day we went into Eureka and wander around the shops and had lunch and then Ice Cream. One day we did a Poker Run which consisted of 2 couples per car.... we each had a map of the 5 various stops along the way. We stopped for breakfast in Arcata, and the Worlds Tallest Totem Pole in McKinleyville, we stopped at a beach that had loads of driftwood, we stopped and saw a herd of Elk, we stopped at Paul Bunyon's, and lastly stopped at the Chart Room for Lunch in Crescent City. At each stop each person drew a card from a bag and at the end of the day the person with the best poker hand won a prize. We were able to socially distance throughout the week and everyone was conscious of washing our hands and wearing masks when necessary and luckily no one got sick. That outing was definitely necessary to re-connect and laugh and have fun. We all needed it more than we realized.

Over the next 3 months things turned bad again, we now were not only dealing with the Covid-19 but we had fires everywhere. Our outings were once again cancelled more because of the fires and the unbearable smoke. Many of us were evacuated. We now were wearing masks more because of the smoke than the Covid-19.

Luckily, we are able to finish out the year with a little bit of fun. Our November Outing to Feather Falls KOA is going on as planned and I believe we have 13 rigs attending so we are really looking forward to it. We are filling up our campout list for 2021 and hopefully all will go well. We will be getting together for our annual Christmas Luncheon on December 5th at Tabletop Restaurant here in Oroville so that should be fun as well.

We hope all of the other Good Sam Groups are well and that our lives and our clubs are able to go out next year and put 2020 behind us. Happy Holidays to all of you from The Durham Good Sam Travel Nuts.

Respectfully Submitted

Doris Shryne, Secretary



El Dorado Sams (El Dorado County)

As all of us know, we have been living through very difficult times for much of 2020. Our only El Dorado Sams function in 2020 was our “Kickoff Luncheon” back in February. It was well attended, and at the time, there were high hopes for a fun and exciting year of campouts and activities associated with the campouts.

While the shutdown was in effect, many of us stayed busy at home, doing activities that are usually put on the back burner because we are out having fun....Some emptied their “china or curio cabinets” and did a thorough cleaning. Many did little painting projects or reorganized pantries, closets, etc. and accumulating many piles of items to donate to charities when they reopened and could accept donations. Daryl Prouty even built a beautiful Gazebo (in 110 degree heat, no less)!!! Very Nice work, Daryl!!!



As things loosened up some, many members started venturing out on either individual or small non-club group trips. Tom and Cindy Carroll visited Mc Cloud and Likely, CA. Cindy said that they would be great areas to camp for the club, but WAY too far to drive for that short of time period. Ron and Pam Nepstead went up to their cabin in Lake Tahoe when the stay away order was lifted. It was very easy to just stay in the vicinity of the cabin and manage social distancing. The Proutys spent 8 days in Verdi, Nevada with relatives.

Many of our club members are also members of the Elks. Small groups took advantage of the RV accommodations in Petaluma for a nice nearby getaway. While the Lodge was not open, it was still a nice place to camp and share some social distancing times. An easy drive to Bodega Bay for lunch at The Tides was the first indoor dining experience for many since the pandemic hit.

A week long trip to Fort Bragg, up through the Redwoods and Patricks Point up to Oregon as far as Grants Pass and home spending a couple nights at Rolling Hills Casino in Corning. Little side trips while in Corning (Didn't even go inside the casino).



El Dorado Sams (El Dorado County)

A small group went up to Gold Ranch RV Park in Verdi, Nevada, in August. That location was to be the site of one of our club campouts that was canceled, like the rest of the schedule. The group called it a “social campout”. That means there were no snacks to share, no pot-luck dinner. In other words, a “hands-off” kind of get together. Just a get away to relax and socialize with friends (with masks and 6 feet social distancing).

Jack and Judy Fitzpatrick planned to spend a couple nights at the race track in their Motorhome. They had flooring replaced. Now, that’s quite a project which included moving furniture and emptying cabinets!!!

Due to the ongoing restrictions for large social gatherings, all remaining campouts for 2020 have been canceled. At this time, there are none scheduled for 2021. Hopes are high for a December luncheon, even though it’s not seeming too promising.

Sadly, over the past 7 months, we have lost 3 of our members: Darlene Anderle, in March, Jack Stanley, in June, and Don Frankel, just last month. They are and will continue to be missed by all of us.

In spite of the pandemic, El Dorado Sams continued to volunteer at various organizations of causes, for a total of 831 hours through the October report. A donation of \$250.00 was also made to the El Dorado Food Bank.

Finally, if you didn’t get a chance this year, make a point next of taking a drive up Highway 88 to Hope Valley. The picture below was taken in early October. As the month went on, there were pictures posted of more vivid fall colors.





Chapter Chatter

GOLD NUGGET SAMS TUOLUMNE COUNTY

Gold Nugget Sams

All our club's camp outs and activities were cancelled for 2020 because of the covid-19 virus and sheltering in place for our members. We elected our 2021 officers via email. Our results are as follows:

President: Sharon Murray (smurray2470@gmail.com)

Vice-President: Open

Secretary: Carol Froman (carol_froman@yahoo.com)

Treasurer: Sharon Murray (smurray2470@gmail.com)

Wagon Mistress: Shirley Harms (sierramts95@yahoo.com)

Shirley has already begun to look into campgrounds for 2021. Some are new and others are long time favorites of the club. Our first official outing will be to the NorCal State Rally at Casa de Fruta, April 29-May 1. If you're interested in joining us for any of our upcoming events please feel free to contact any one of the board members and we will get you on our list.

Several members have been able to "get away" in their rigs for some private time over the summer. Some of the places mentioned were Verdi, NV; Gold Country; Jackson; Northern California Redwoods; beach.





Chapter Chatter

Lazy Daisy Sams

Our Chapter has been forced to cancel most of our outings after February of this year due to Covid 19. We are looking forward to camping together again in 2021. Our first informal outing was in September at the Sugar Barge in Bethel Island. A few members camped together to socialize and ate meals that were purchased and delivered by the restaurant. Four members drove in for the day to visit. It was a very busy weekend with a Bass Tournament going on, but still it was nice to be out and about. Thanks go to Linda and Mike Granko, Trail Bosses, for organizing the Outing.





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