#### **NorCal Good Sam**

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Editor:

**Sharon Murray** 

#### Tel-A-Sam: Summer, 2020



Have a Good Trip.

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#### From the Directors Desk

Greetings to All,

It is hard to try and write a positive letter to reach out to each of you because of the CoVid-19 virus that has us all cowering down in our shelters in fear of becoming infected with this disease, and taking all of the prescribed precautions in an effort to avoid the virus and remain healthy. The virus has us all in a negative mind-set, and we are becoming very anxious and weary as we wait this thing out.

Okay, enough of negativity. Let's all start looking forward with a positive attitude about the great days that lay ahead. Be assured that there will be a bright rainbow at the end of this tunnel. We will be able to re-connect with family and friends, become involved with our favorite activities, and best of all...we can all get the cobwebs off the rigs, get them prepped, and start camping again. I am trying to be optimistic that this will all come to fruition, much sooner than later. Speaking of prepping our rigs, I want to share a problem that some of you may encounter just as I did.

I was sitting at home and thought about my rig just sitting in the storage area and totally idle. It came to me that I should go and check the batteries and be sure that they are fully charged. Well, of course, to my dismay, I found that the batteries were run down and needed to be charged. I was able to add power to the rig for a few hours, and then I returned to the rig some days later and found that the batteries were still discharged. My rig is only four years old, but that is about the magic age when the batteries can become problematic. So, new batteries are on my agenda. Now that I shared my tale of woe, I suggest that you check your batteries to be sure that they are in good operating condition so that you do not have a problem before or during your next camp out. While you are at it, check or replace your smoke and carbon dioxide detector batteries, and check your fire extinguishers, etc.

As you may recall, we eliminated one State Committee Meeting a year ago in a cost saving move. The SCM's are now to be held twice a year, once in conjunction with the annual Rally, normally in April/May, and the other in either September or October. Since this years Rally had to be canceled, we will only have one SCM, and hopefully we will hold it with the October Rally. This is important because we need to hold an election for the State Director position. I will be stepping down after 6 years and we need someone to step up. I ask that you all consider becoming our next State Director.

The nominations for Volunteer of the Year for 2019 were received in a timely fashion, they were reviewed, and the committee has made a decision on who should be the recipient of the award. The winner will be announced during the annual Rally.

Speaking of the annual Rally, yes, we are in a go mode for the Rally to be held October 22 -24, 2020, at the venue of Casa de Fruta RV Resort. We were fortunate to keep all of the providers on-board with the new date, and all of the other preparations are nearly complete. We are very excited to have a new caterer for our dinner banquet, and great entertainment. We will try and hold a final staff meeting in late September to tie off any loose ends, and we are looking forward to staging the best Rally ever. The staff and I are doing our part to try and keep the Rally alive for this year. You can help by adhering to the health guidelines set forth by our government officials to keep safe and healthy. By doing so, hopefully we can, and will, get past this virus situation very soon and thereby we should not have any worries about attending an event that will have a large number of people in attendance. We ask all wagon masters to





schedule their chapter camp out in October to be held during the Rally at Casa de Fruta RV Resort. Please remember, that the Rally is an event that is staged for the chapters and their members. It is for you, please consider attending this fun event.

Lastly, there are some of you that have heard rumors that the Good Sam organization is in its dying throes, and that it will be gone as we know it, very soon. I will try my best to enlighten you as to the current status of the Good Sam organization and its future. I will do this here, chronologically, and summarize the best that I can.

On March 11, 2020, all State/Provincial Directors received a letter from our Good Sam support person, Olivia Sisk. The letter simply indicated that the corporate office had no directive in place about how the Directors should hold their events, (Rallies), in relation to the Corona virus, but to use our best judgement. On March 16, 2020, we received an update letter from Good Sam support, advising of the CDC guidelines about the virus and to continue to use our best judgement about hosting any events. Then on March 20, 2020, we received a letter from GS support and this letter indicated that the Director program has been put on hold, 'paused', until further notice. This letter was gleaned by a company named RV Travel, who indicated from their view point that Good Sam was going to become defunct. Obviously, their printed article caused a lot of concern amongst some of our members who read this publication. Let me just say this, that the letter from GS support did not say that Good Sam was finished. It was intended to instruct the Directors not to continue any activities within their State/Province until further notice. It was meant to be related to the CoVid-19 virus pandemic. Several Directors contacted Good Sam inquiring if this is the end of the Good Sam Club. There was no direct response to these inquiries, however, most State/Province Directors wrote that they believed that these letters from GS support were only sent as a way to let us know that they do not want any activity from State/Province chapters due to the virus situation. On March 29, 2020, we were sent a 'survey' from Good Sam support asking for the Directors input in relation to the Director's program. We were instructed to complete the survey by May 8, 2020. There has been no indication about the 'why' that this survey was sent. However, I can relate that the responses were very candid and to the point about Good Sam in general. Mainly, the seemingly lack of support from Good Sam in many areas and especially pertaining to the lack of substantial support for the Rallies. This also relates to the lack of communication from Good Sam to the Directors and the lack of support because of a discontinuation of the Regional Directors program. There has been a noticed dislike by the Directors of Camping World's apparent non-participation at State Rallies, as well as non-participation by Good Sam. The Directors believe that there should be more incentives to being a Good Sam member, and the inability of Good Sam to assist the States in their efforts to try to increase their memberships.

The above has been shared with all of you in a manner to be transparent and to keep all members aware of the current situation concerning the Good Sam Director's program and as it relates to the chapters. As it stands, it appears as though Good Sam recognizes that there is a problem within the organization, and is asking for input on how to improve the Director's program. The belief that the Director's program was 'paused' is so that Director's, as a whole, will not try to entertain events during the virus situation, and for no other reason. As this plays out, I will go back to our email communication to keep all of you abreast of the current situation within Good Sam as it unfolds. Above all, and very important, I ask that each of you to not panic, or to not try to read into this situation with Good Sam and thereby attempt to make it into something that it is not. We are all in this together, so let's take the wait and see position for now.

Take good care of each of you. Be safe and healthy, Wayne Wall NorCal State Director Good Sam club

Email newsletter inquiries to: Sharon Murray, Editor norcaltelasam@gmail.com

### 2020 Northern California State Staff

#### **Elected Officers**

#### Nor Cal State Director Wayne Wall (Bonne)

Wayne Wall (Bonne) Cameron Park, CA (C) 916-220-4680 (H) 530-677-0985 Bonway42@att.net

#### Nor Cal State Treasurer

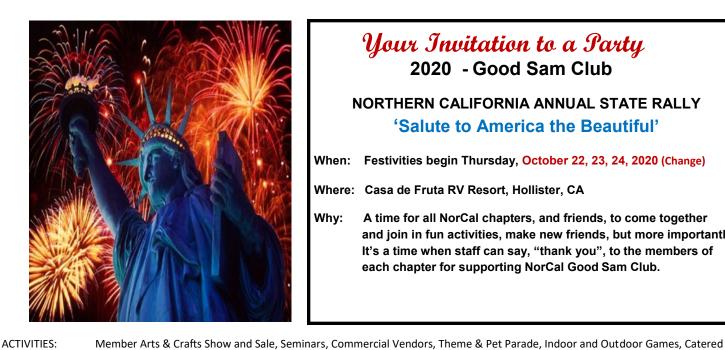
Ken Brown Placerville, CA (C) 530-240-5160 moosenmarno2@comcast.net

#### **Assistant State Directors**

Sacramento Valley/North	Sacramento/East Bay	South Sacramento Valley/South Bay
Walter Weight	Wally Luihn	Mike Ward
Citrus Heights, CA	Oakdale, CA	Fresno, CA
916-548-3141	209-542-3305	559-916-9375
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#### **State Staff**

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PARKING:

#### Your Invitation to a Party 2020 - Good Sam Club

#### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ANNUAL STATE RALLY

'Salute to America the Beautiful'

When: Festivities begin Thursday, October 22, 23, 24, 2020 (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.

	Dinner, Food Court, Bingo, Bocce Ball, Professional Entertainment, & More!
ACILITIES:	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 amn no sewer hook-up. There are 2 level sewer stations available on site

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.

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. **REGISTRATION:** 

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 October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Additional fees for extra day camping (See below).

Name #1:				Name #2:				
		Please Pri						
Address:				City:		State	e: ZIP:	
						1stTime At	tendee? Yes:	No:
Good Sam M	ember? Yes:	No:	Chapter Member	? Yes: No:_	Chapt	er Name:		
State Officer?	? Yes: No:	Ind	licate State:	Posit	on:			
RALLY REGIST	rate	is 47.00 p	er rig, per night.					
			Nights, Thurs & Fri, o	or Fri. & Sat., Full	look-Ups	\$ 94.00	)(\$	94.00 at Gate)
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	, ,		f arrival:					
Handicap Par	king: Yes:	No:	DMV Handicap	Number:				
Wheelchair:	Yes:	No:	Breathing Equip	pment: Yes:	No:	Other:_		

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

#### \*\*\*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 Choice #	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice #
2 <sup>nd</sup> Helper/	Volunteer: Name:			1st Choice #	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice #
Please pick t Choice', (by	from the list below which y your name), above.	ı area where you wo	uld like to help/voluntee	r, and indicate by placi	ng the corresponding number in
<u>Choices:</u>	#1 – Registration #5 – Arts & Crafts	#2 – Check-in #6 – Games	#3 – People Mover #7 – Stage Decoration	#4 – Security #8 – Misc. Help	
			NOTIFICATION		
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	o de Nouneu:				
				(Please Print)	
Address:_					
Citare				State.	
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Ple Name:_ Name:_	one: ( )	ily members, (COMI	Cell or Worling IN YOUR RIG), Their see:  Age: Age:	state:_k Phone: ( )  age and relationship  Relation:  Relation:	
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#### **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.





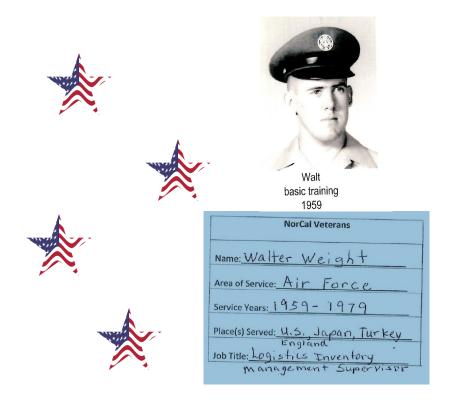
#### A Salute to our Vets

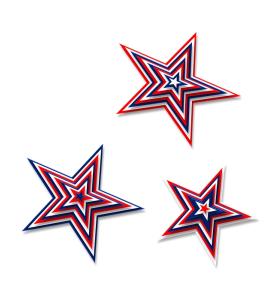


#### Have a Good Trip.

Dear Fellow Good Sam Members,

At our 2020 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 2020 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.





Thank you all for your participation in this activity!

Sharon Murray

Tel-A-SAM Editor







## Good Sam Chapter Chatter

Dear Good Sam Chapters,

It has obviously been a unique year for all of us. Your Chapter Chatter will look a little different from previous editions. Keeping in mind that most clubs have had none to few outings, I am presenting here what is, or has been, going on within the chapters. As a result, you will see activities B.C. (Before Covid-19!) and B.C. (Because of Covid-19!)

Sharon Murray, Tel-A-Sam Editor

#### Before Corona-virus:

#### LUCKY ONES CHAPTER

Our Christmas camp out at Bakersfield RV resort 21 rigs 45 people in attendance.

New officers for 2020 are Ron Stenson President, Gene Branch Vice President, Linda Swanson Treasurer and Dixie Wilson

Secretary on her second year.











#### LUCKY ONES (CON'T.)

January balloon festival and Quartzsite trip. We had 6 rigs go and stayed in lake Havasu for 6 days and then off to Quartzsite for some dry camping for another 7 days. Beautiful weather and great company.













## Good Sam. Chapter Chatter



#### LUCKY ONES (CONT.)















#### GOLD NUGGET SAMS, TUOLUMNE COUNTY

**B.C.** (**Before Covid-19**), Gold Nugget Sams had a very active schedule set for 2020. We were all readyto begin our official camp outs in April of this year, but because of the pandemic, we had to cancel most of the set camp outs. We all look forward to getting on the road again and seeing our good friends and fellow campers.

**B.C.** (**Because of Covid-19**), our chapter members have turned to other pursuits of happiness and fulfillment until we can get back together.

Here are some direct quips from some of our members:

**Walt and Cricket Weight:** Cricket and I have put our selves on somewhat of a schedule. Up by 9 am for coffee and sweet roll and watch couple of game shows. I go out and mow lawns and pull weeds from Cricket's future miniature garden. Cleaned out my shed. Worked on recycling 2 times already for a run this week. Cricket has sewed several masks for family and neighbors. She has sewed herself a summer work blouse. She has also gotten out into her flower beds and pulled out old and dead flowers and planted new flowers. We worked on cleaning out the tt to include checking water in the tt batteries. Tt is ready except for restocking food. Lunch at noon, nap 1 hr after, and more honey-dos in afternoon. Watch the news and dinner at 6 pm. Work on laptop and more TV, then on to bed for me about 10 pm. Cricket about mid night. Outside of that. Just bored like all others.





Dave and Ruth Tomlinson: Ruth has been quarantined because of her pneumonia bout last year and her problems with afib. That means, you know who, has to do all the shopping and errands by himself! BUMMER! Not my area of expertise! We had an unusually large problem with tree fallout this winter, three trees and five large tree branches came down. One of the larger trees came very close to landing on the house. We spent a bunch of money getting all of those tree problems on the ground so that we could cut them up and haul away the refuse. It took 14 trips to the PML compost site to get rid of cleanup. My son, Greg, his wife Mary and my granddaughter Candace came up to help finish it up and then haul away the fire wood. BUT WE ARE DONE!

Other than that we have just watched a lot of TV.

Carol Froman: I will be pleased to share with everyone, about what is currently going on with me. To answer your questions:1. Walking 2. Walking 3. Walking 5. Walking 5. Walking More later....

**Barry Jacobsen:** Very excited-tonight is take out garbage. Decision on what to wear out . Yes, it's not easy deciding on day-time or nighttime pajamas .



#### GOLD NUGGET SAMS (CON'T.)

**Shirley Harms:** Up in morning and have coffee. A walk and wait for lunch watching reruns. After lunch waiting for cocktail time. Getting earlier every day! Dinner and early to bed. What a day!!

#### Janice Covolo and Angela Streeter:

- 1. Planted garden
- 2. Pray that we get some veggies before bugs do
- 3. Watching our hair and nails grow
- 4 Bbq, eat, eat, eat
- 5. Using souvenir bandanas as face masks.

#### **Roland and Irene Patton:**

- -- Crossed out every single appointment and event on my calendar for April and May
- -- Roland and I put together 5 jigsaw puzzles (500 pieces each)
- -- Went through 145 photo albums, labeled them with subject and date and arranged them in order in three bookcases
- -- Drug out all of the framed pictures from our old larger house. Now trying to figure out **which ones** to hang and **where** in our smaller house
- -- Planted some new flowers in pots around our front entrance
- -- Irene started a new daily regime of walking past **every single house** in Sonora Hills (240) once every day: (takes 50 minutes of brisk walking)
- -- Got out the patio furniture (decided we need new stuff)
- -- Roland and I drove up to Kennedy Meadows on Hwy 108 (road is clear, but still some snow on the ground)
- -- Documented the trip that my daughter and I took 2 years ago to Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan & Thailand
- -- Roland is glued to his computer and stays current with everything that is going on with this crazy Pandemic!!!

**David and Linda Kerr:** They have sold and moved out of their Concord house, with plans to full-time it for a while. They are saying at Duck Island in their RV until the pandemic "shelter in place" orders are lifted.

**Mike and Sharon Murray:** We have 6 people living in our household (3 generations). I have spent most of my time doing Home Schooling. When the younger boy turns to me and says quite seriously, "I just want to learn for one minute and do recess for 25 minutes," then I remember why "teachers never cook on Fridays" and happy hour is a necessity! Mike keeps up the outdoors and keeps a low profile when indoors, watching lots of TV, and wondering if we're ever "Gonna Get Out of This Place!"

All Gold Nugget Sammers are anxious to begin socializing and traveling once more!



#### **Tuleburg Sams (Stockton, CA)**

#### Before and Because of Covid-19:

The new year started on a strong note for the Tuleburg Sams with two early outings in February and March providing occasions for fun and friendship. We traveled first to Gilroy in February and then to Oroville in early March before the Governor's Executive Order prohibiting gatherings of ten or more persons, followed by the Stay-At-Home order in mid-March called a halt to our plans. We knew our April outing was out of the question but hoped for normal activities within a short while. Now we all know that hope is stretching

into an unknown future as we all try to stay safe ourselves and protect the health of family and friends. Our focus has thus shifted to adjusting to our new normal and filling our days with the activities either proscribed or allowed by the requirements of our state.

Some of the chapter members have continued working, either in person at usual job sites or from a new home base necessitated by the quarantine (the Stewarts, the junior Luihns, the De Lanys).

Three members have been recovering from recent surgeries (Julie Alejandre, Jeff Daniels, and Willie Smith).

Some are using this time to perform maintenance on their RV's or add upgrades (Dave Klasser and Wally Luihn)





Food has become a focus for many of the members, as we all try to obtain necessary supplies and face empty shelves, such as where flour and yeast should be. This focus on food has resulted in trying out new recipes, resurrecting old recipes, and perfecting techniques (Darci Luihn, Ed Spivey, and Donna Haight).

Home tasks have been helpful to fill time but also to reorganize files, clean closets, and to reduce clutter, and some members are settling into new homes purchased just before the quarantine (the Castros, the Larsons, and the Kerstens).

Gardening has become a renewed interest for members, as springtime finally arrived and yards were in need of attention (Dave Klasser, Ron Hansen, the Spiveys). Ricki Spivey placed a large wheelbarrow full of lemons at the end of their drive with a "Free" sign. Later that day the wheelbarrow was empty and she found \$5 under a cloth in the bottom.

Hobbies and crafts have flourished during this time with many members working on jigsaw puzzles, but also doing other art projects such as sewing and quilting. Some of the members have been making face masks (Tom Zarzana, Brenda Daniels, and Donna Haight).

One couple is involved in home schooling and taking care of older parents (the Stewarts).

Most members are playing old stand-by's, such as Yahtzee and card games. Watching Netflix offerings and other videos is an activity everyone cites to pass the time

other videos is an activity everyone cites to pass the time, including watching "The Tiger King" (DeLanys).





At this time, the Tuleburg Sams are patiently waiting for some indication that restrictions will be less-ened and some activities permitted. As we have found, many RV parks are closed and State Parks are inaccessible. One of our member couples (the Watsons) had just sold their home and had planned to spend months on the road as fulltime RVer's, but have had to put their plans on hold. We are thankful that at this time none of the members has reported Covid-19 illness, and we hope that our friends and our family members stay healthy and safe.

And remember: if you cannot find toilet paper, you can still buy a toilet paper cake, such as this one

from a bakery in Lodi.!



# Just for the Fun of Itl



Life is short. Smile while you still have teeth.

Crushing pop cans is soda depressing!

I danced like no one was watching-My court date is pending.

Drink wine-it isn't good to keep things bottled up!

Accidentally went grocery shopping on an empty stomach and now I'm the proud owner of aisle 4.

I'm friends with 25 letters of the alphabet. I don't know "Y".

Cows have hooves be-

cause they lactose.



### **Lazy Daisy Sams**

Our Lazy Daisy Chapter is presently hunkered down as the rest of you and waiting for the State to give us the go ahead to start safe gatherings again. Our last outing was way back in February at Casa de Fruta where we had a great turnout including several guest rigs.

Activities included bean bag baseball where the guys barely beat the gals. (This might be fake news.)





There was a fun craft time put on by one of our guests, Penny Warner. Members showed off their creativity and card making skills...





We always welcome new members and look forward to inviting you to join us at an outing to get acquainted.

If you would like more information about our chapter please visit <a href="www.norcalgoodsam.org">www.norcalgoodsam.org</a> and look for Lazy Daisy Sams Chapter, or contact our President, Homer Hoglund (Barbara) at <a href="mailto:bjhoglund@sbcglobal.net">bjhoglund@sbcglobal.net</a> phone 1-510-223-8847.



#### **Lazy Daisy Sams continued...**

#### Our "Tentative" 2020-21 Campout Schedule:

July 16-18, Flag City RV Resort

August TBD

Sept 17-21 Sugar Barge RV Park

October 22-24 Nor Cal Rally Casa de Fruta

November 5-9 Durango RV Park

December No Outing

January 7-12 Duck Island

February 18-21 Gilroy Garlic USA

March 11-15 Casa de Fruta

# 2020 Charity Report

Through April 30, 2020, Shirley Harms reports a total of 4 chapters have reported with \$16,668. That includes \$8743 in donations and 791.5 volunteer hours.

The chapters and their totals are:

Lucky Ones \$2875, Tuleburgs. \$4668, hours 189 El Dorado Sams hours 577.5 Gold Nugget Sams. \$1200. Hours 25



Dogs for Better Lives rescues, trains and places dogs to help with different disabilities, challenges, and needs.

- Hearing Dogs are trained to alert people to household sounds that are necessary for everyday safety and independence
- Autism Assistance Dogs are trained to enhance the safety of children with autism by acting as an anchor and preventing the child from bolting
- Program Assistance Dogs go to work with and assist professionals such as physicians, teachers, counselors, and court room advocates
- Career Change Dogs are wonderful dogs who are happy and healthy but just not suited to working for a living



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