

AUTOMATE RV CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Issue # 22, Summer 2008

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Change of address or email	Evette Dilley
Payment of dues & Rally fees	Bette Perry
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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Ed Vukonich

We are back and better than ever. I am not surprised that what with today's fuel prices many of you probably do not travel as much, but if you do, I hope your travels are successful.

We are looking forward to the Fall Rally after a very good Spring Rally. The next Spring Rally is set for April 30 to May 3, 2009. The site is the Yolo County Fairgrounds, more to come.

The Fall Rally is coming along very well, we still are in the planning stage for food however, with our talented staff we will make it a success. Along these lines, I would propose a fee of \$125.00 for the event with any overrun to be available from the treasury. I don't see how we can do anything else. Please let me know if you disagree. We will be as frugal as we can. The event is scheduled for October 9 to 11 2008. The last day for registration is October 1, 2008. Please advise of your intent to go as early as possible and then pay later, this will help immensely with the planning. A detailed schedule of the Fall Rally will come later, however the "Barndawgs" are again on the agenda so put on those dancing shoes.

I have nothing new to report from the factory however I know Bill is still in the repair business. If any of you have used his service give us an input, good or bad.

I have tried to cover all aspects of our near term events and solicit any and all comments which can continue to make us a better group. Thanks a lot for your consideration.

Ed Vukonich
President

SPRING RALLY 2008

The Spring 2008 Rally was attended by 41 rigs and 84 members. It was held in Lodi, CA, April 17th to the 20th.



It was great to see all those AutoMates lined up side by side.



We even had a Class "C" AutoMate there owned by new members David and Diane Dillion, who attended with their son, Austin.

The Thursday night get together gave everyone a chance to greet friends, while partaking in the good eats put out by the kitchen committee.



The kitchen committee from left to right, Jim West, Virginia Mello, Sharon West, Julie Stewart & Irv Baptist.



The weather co-operated and while it wasn't really warm it still didn't stop members from gathering outside and catching up on the latest happenings of friends not seen in a while.



Friday and Saturday's breakfast consisted of some great pancakes, sausages, orange juice and coffee and was enjoyed by one and all.



Bar-B-Qued spareribs, beans and salad was served up for Friday night's dinner.



Saturday's dinner had everyone in early to get a good seat for the beef tri tip, salad and trimmings.



After dinner we were treated to a wonderful demonstration of Hawaiian dancing.



After dinner, President, Ed Vukonich presented outgoing vice-president, Jim West with a plaque honoring his (several) terms as vice-president. That was followed by everyone's favorite, paper tearing, suspense, thievery..... the gift exchange. After it was all said and done....



The dancing was so much fun to watch that some of the members decided to volunteer for a free lesson. Following Saturday's breakfast there was some free time before the business meeting at 2:00 p.m. (See the minutes to the business meeting elsewhere in the Newsletter)



Ida cheek got herself a bird wind chime



and Pam Richichi stole herself a frog for her garden.

Sunday morning and “good-bys” and “see you next time” was said as members packed up to get back on the road.

It was a fun time enjoyed by all if you missed it don't miss out on the fun at the Fall Rally in Sonora, Oct. 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2008.

A SPECIAL THANKS.....

Go out to Helen Zinn and Peggy Yettman for volunteering to do a “50-50 Opportunity Drawing” at the Spring Rally on Saturday night. The raffle raised \$121.50 to help cover some of the expenses of the Rally.

I'm sure this editor speaks for all the members when I say “Thank you very much, ladies”.

MINUTES, MEMBER MEETING

April 19, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Ed Vukonich.

The president started by thanking all the members that worked and helped to make this rally the success that it is.

The minutes from the May 5, 2007 were read by secretary, Evette Dilley and approved as read.

The president stated that the secretary needed to be elected, as the present secretary was elected last year in the middle of the term. It was moved and seconded that Evette Dilley be elected on a white ballot. The motion was passed.

Treasurer, Bette Perry read the treasurer's report for the past year. The report showed that we had a loss of \$289.43 for the past fiscal year.

Ed started a discussion of the possibility of having to raise the dues to \$30.00. It was brought to the membership's attention that the board had been given that approval at the last member meeting. Raising the cost of the “Owner's manual” was brought up, also putting the manual on a CD for the same price so to save on postage was mentioned. That idea was tabled for the time being.

As the price of the rally expenses are going up, the need to raise the price of the rallies was also discussed.

One of the reasons for the drop of attendance to the club and rallies may be the raising cost of fuel. It was stated by the treasurer that this rally alone is at a loss of \$1600.00.

This lead to a discussion on whether to drop one of the catered dinners and have some kind of a potluck instead. The suggestion of the club buying hamburgers and buns while the members at large bring a potluck side dish was made and a discussion was held on that point.

Another suggestion was that members bring snacks in for Thursday night instead of the club providing the food and wine.

A motion was made to keep the rallies going as they are and use the extra money in the checking account as needed. It was seconded and voted on and passed.

A discussion was had about getting the information about the owner's manual on the website so that when people check the website they can see that an owner's manual is available to members. Evette Dilley said that she would send that information to the web master and see to it that that information would be added to our website.

It was recognized that Bill Wyrick had come into the hall and he was asked to get up and say a few words to the crowd. He introduced his son, James, and stated that James worked with him at his new RV repair business. Bill expressed his desires of someday building RVs again under the AutoMate name.

One of the members then stated that he had had some problems with his brakes and asked if anyone else has had that problem. A discussion was held and other members stated things that they had done when they had encountered similar problems.

At the close of that discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Evette Dilley, Secretary

On April 30, 2008, Bette Perry contacted both Ed Vokunich and Evette Dilley, to inform them that after getting in all the receipts and recalculating the numbers, the final figures show that a loss of only \$846.40 for the Spring Rally and not the \$1600.00 that was reported at the time of the rally.

IN MEMORY OF Mel Schroeder



Mel Schroeder loved RVing and did so for many, many years. When his first wife, Virginia, died and Mel remarried he taught his new wife, Barbara, the joys of RVing too.

He joined The AutoMate RV Club sometime around 2000. (note from Editor: I've looked back through some old rosters and this is the best date I could come up with.)

Mel and Barbara attended our 2008 Spring Rally and as always had a smile on his face for everyone he met.

Sadly, while Mel and Barbara were readying their beloved RV to go home, Mel suffered a fatal heart attack and in spite of CPR performed by other people at the Fairgrounds and the EMTs when they arrived Mel passed away with Barbara by his side. He will be missed by all of those who knew him. Our thoughts are with Barbara and his family.

The following is a note the editor received from Barbara Schroeder.

Dear Evette,
The AutoMate Club members have been so supportive to me since Mel's death and I wanted you to get word somehow to let them know how helpful and kind they have been including you and your husband.

It means a lot to me and I look back on our happy times at the rallies and how the Club seemed like a family.

I shall miss all of you.
Sincerely,
Barbara Schroeder

AutoMate for Sale

2003 35' 5th wheel with 3 slides. Rear living room, air suspension, double wall insulation, 3 heating systems, air conditioner, microwave, corian counter tops, new tires, non-smokers, beige-tone interior white/green exterior, accents. Will send pictures via email-more info at cefteacher@hotmail.com or call (530) 836-0393 ask for Roxanne

FALL RALLY

Oct. 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2008

Back at one of our favorite places,
Mother Lode Fairgrounds
Highway 49
Sonora, CA

Did you miss the last rally?? Well be sure and come to the Fall Rally, you'll be glad you did. It will be held in the favorite rally spot, Sonora, CA. and our committee is putting together a good time.

Our President, Ed Vukonich has lowered the price of the rally to try and offset the high price of the fuel and to entice members into coming. So you don't want to miss out on all the fun.

Thursday night we will meet for a "welcome get together" with goodies to eat and drink while we're greeting friends.

Our breakfast committee is planning a couple of great breakfasts to get your days started. As this is our "fun rally" there will not be a business meeting, so that means that a good part of the day Friday and Saturday will be free time to either sightsee in any of the quaint towns around or stay around the Fairgrounds and visit with friends.

One of the days will be "game day" the committee will set up several RV games, ie: Montana Golf,

Washer Toss, Darts and horseshoes, if a horseshoe pit is available. If you have any games you would like to bring and add to the choice please feel free to do so. Day and time of games will be on the schedule handed out at the check in.

Are you crafty? Like to make things? Would you like to sell a few of the things you make? Feel free to bring a table and set up a display of your items for others to enjoy and perhaps purchase. Again day and time for this will be on the schedule.

We've found a new caterer who promises us some real good dinners both nights.

Friday night we'll be treated to the sounds of the Barndawgs, they were a big hit last year.

Our committee has a couple more tricks up their sleeves but you'll have to come to the Rally to see what they are.

Use the registration form at the end of the Newsletter to send in your check and reserve your spot. Don't miss out on the fun.

APOLOGY

Sorry this Newsletter took so long to get out, I've been recovering from foot surgery and have been remiss in getting this done.

Evette Dilley, Editor

SPRING 2009 RALLY

Mark your calendar, the Spring Rally will be held at the Yolo County Fairgrounds in Woodland, CA.

The dates are April 30 to May 3, 2009.

The committee is already working on making this another fun rally.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Remember as Editor, I can only print so much. This Newsletter is for the membership of the AutoMate RV Club. But as such I need your help. Please help by sending in articles. What articles, you say?? Well, let me know about great places to stay, or to visit while in an area. Did you find a super repair place that went above and beyond that you would like to tell us about? If so, please send that information on to the Editor and see your name and words in print.

FALL RALLY REGISTRATION FORM

Oct. 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2008
Mother Lode Fairgrounds
Highway 49
Sonora, CA

Mail to:

Bette Perry

20863 Alfalfa Rd.

Crows Landing, CA 95313-9757

Cost \$125.00 per rig with 2 persons, \$100.00 per rig with 1 person

Dead line for registration Oct. 1, 2008

Here is my check made out to **AutoMate RV Club** in the amount of _____.

I will be arriving on _____ There will be _____ people in my rig.

Any extra nights camping will be \$20.00 per night & needs to be paid to the AutoMate RV Club.

I need handicapped parking.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

_____ Phone _____

e-mail _____