



## Sonora SIR's #136 RV Club

### Rovin' Roosters & Chicks

#### November 2015 Newsletter

Day 1. Sunday September 27<sup>th</sup> ten rigs left Sonora for the Orange Grove RV Park in Bakersfield, CA. Linda and I arrived around 5:15 p.m. many had already started cocktail hour. Our group consisted of Jim & Ginny Johnson, John & Dianne Avila, Bill & Cathy Lobdell, Knute & Maryjoan Kleinen, Ron & Bernie Long, Rick & Betty Bacon, Steve & Carolyn Gregory, Jim & Linda Botto and we were accompanied by Jim and Pam Costello. We all retired early to get ready for the longer drive to Loughlin, NV the next morning.



Bernie an infected foot.



Jim planning the next leg of our trip.

Day 2. Monday September 26<sup>th</sup> our leaving for Loughlin was staggered as we did not want a huge convoy. Jim & Ginny Johnson led Steve & Carolyn Gregory, Rick & Betty Bacon, and Linda and I. Just past Barstow we stopped at the Desert Oasis Rest Stop to stretch our legs. We met up with Bill & Cathy Lobdell and Ron & Bernie Long and we all decided that we needed a DQ Blizzard a few miles down the road. Unfortunately Bill Lobdell had a blow out on his tow vehicle and damaged the front fender and destroyed the tire. Fortunately the DQ was across the road from the tire repair store. We finished our DQ delights and headed on to Riverside Resort RV Park. We arrived at the park to find out that the temperature was 109 degrees. We all disappeared into our RV's and turned on the AC. Too hot! After a while it cooled down to a bearable 99 degrees. We hopped the shuttle to the Casino then took a bug infested river taxi to Harrah's where we enjoyed the all you can eat buffet. We talked the valet into driving us all back to the RV Park, with a little incentive of \$50. Still very hot and all AC's were working overtime.



Day 3. Tuesday September 27<sup>th</sup> we went to the Riverside Resort & Casino to see the antique car collection. Many of the cars were of our vintage 40's, 50's, & 60's. and a few that I have not ever heard of. A 1941 Hollywood? After the car exhibit we went to Bernie's favorite eatery "In & Out Burger" for lunch. The temperature was climbing to over 105 degrees. Many went outlet shopping, and some went back to their RV's and cranked up the AC.



Linda and I drove to Oatman, AZ a small mining town with donkeys walking the streets. Lots of little shops for the tourists to spend all their money in.



Day 4. Wednesday September 28<sup>th</sup> was a travel day and we all headed to Williams, AZ. Fortunately it was an uneventful drive. We stopped for lunch in Seligman, AZ at Lillo's Route 66 Café and had a ½ cheeseburger.



We continued on to Williams, AZ and the Circle Pines KOA RV Park arriving about 2:00 p.m. After we set up our rigs some of us took a nap just to get ready for cocktail hour. We held a business meeting as prescribed by our by-laws. We discussed the change to our by-laws that was voted on last month and invited Jim & Pam Costello from SIRs Branch 77 to join our RV group. Knute Kleinen will be taking over as RV Chairman for 2016 and is already starting to assume the responsibilities. I asked everyone in my last newsletter to start thinking about where we would like to go on our scheduled outings. Knute & Maryjoan started to plan the season. Knute will decide

whether to have a secretary or not, although I think it would be to his advantage. I have a hard time remembering all that was discussed at these meeting and have to rely on Linda to help.



Jim & Pam Costello  
with Teva

Day 5. Thursday October 1<sup>st</sup> we all drove to the Grand Canyon and met up at the visitors center. Our group got separated after a restroom break and walked to the rim for photos. The Grand Canyon is truly one of the Seven Wonders of the World.



We all met up at Mather Point and decided to take the bus to the Maswick Lodge for lunch. On the bus ride the driver said that many of the guides and drivers were very depressed and angry over the loss of one of the parks oldest and largest bull elks. A tourist tried to take a close up picture of the bull and the bull protecting his herd injured to tourist. The rangers then shot and killed to bull. The rangers loaded it up with a bulldozer and put the carcass in the dumpster. Evidently, if a wild animal injures a person it is to be destroyed.



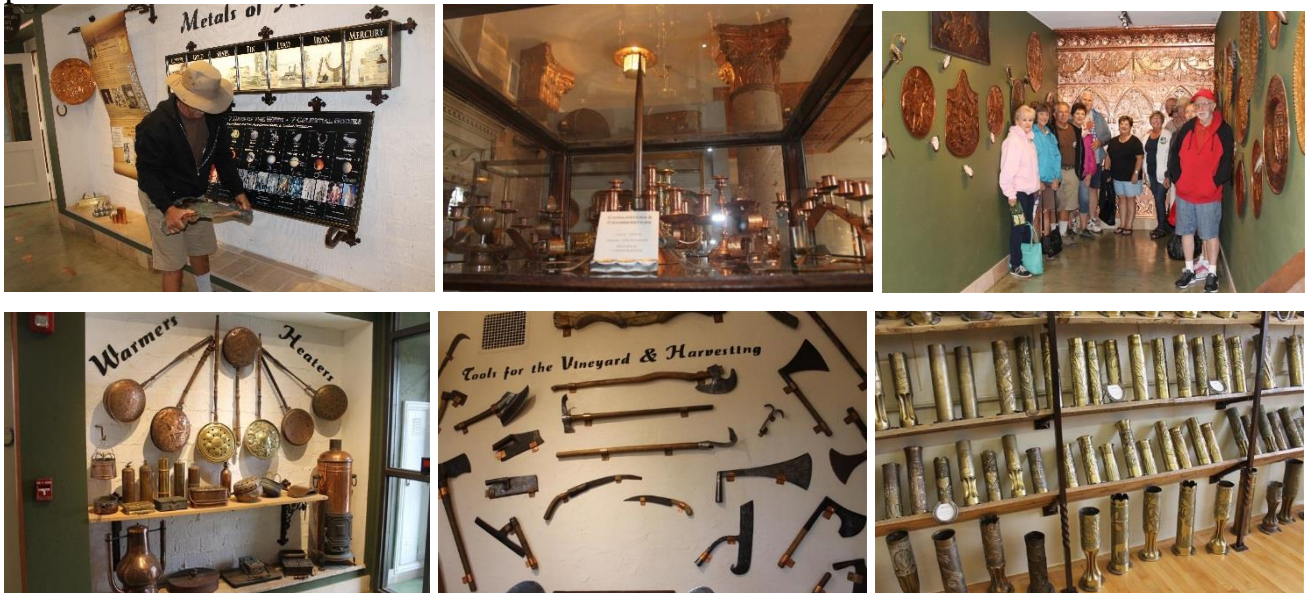
Day 6. Friday October 2<sup>nd</sup> we all headed into the town of Williams for a day of shopping and eating. Rick & Betty Bacon joined Linda and I on the ride into town. After visiting several shops it was time for lunch. Betty recommended we have lunch at the Pine

Country Café which specialize in homemade pies. Jim & Pam Costello were having lunch and Pam ordered a Lemon Merengue Pie that was at least 10" high. The food was good but the pies were a knockout.



Day 7. Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> was a travel day to Camp Verde just north of Sedona. Our arrival was staggered and we all arrived by cocktail hour. Jim Johnson checked with the Chamber of Commerce and found out that Sedona's shops closed on Sundays so we decided to go to Cottonwood and Jerome.

Day 8. Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> most of us left for Cottonwood and took in the Copper Museum which was extraordinary. It started to rain and we all were wondering what that wet stuff was. We spent all most two hours at the museum and Linda took a lot of pictures for our RV album.



The last photo in this group are WWI Artillery Shells that have been hand crafted. After Cottonwood we went to the little town of Jerome. The town is located of the cliffs above the mines that produced copper, zinc, and gold. At the top of the town there was another museum that showed a film of the town's history. That evening Pam & Jim Costello prepared hors d' hovers for everyone. It was delicious and Jim brought a few bottles of his Mt Brow Double Red wine for all to share.



Day 9. Monday October 5<sup>th</sup> it rained off and on during the night. It is very peaceful sleeping in the RV while it is raining. We woke up to more rain and it looks like it would continue all day. We caravanned to Sedona and trying to get everyone in the right place at the right time is like Ron Long says, “trying to herd worms”. We did finally meet up on the main street where the girls loved shopping.



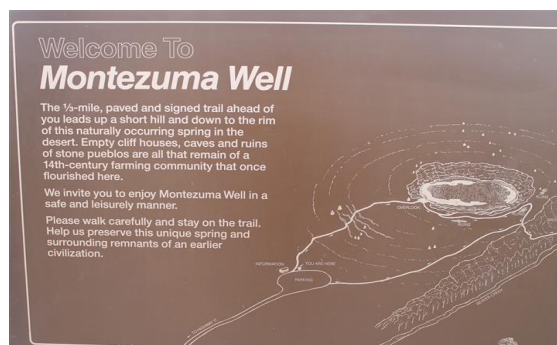
We all got together at a Mexican Restaurant El Rincon for lunch and a few Margaritas. The mountains and valleys were beautiful and Linda has taken over a seven hundred pictures so far on the outing. She will have to work on the RV Album for the next two months to get them all in.

Day 10. Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup> our last day at Camp Verde and we all went separate ways. Linda and I went to see Montezuma's Castle. The cliff dwellings and artifacts were amazing. With the steep walls and cliffs you wonder if they were monkeys. We could view the dwellings from a distance. They stopped letting people climb the ladders many years ago. It was still interesting how they lived.



Just climbing up to the dwellings must have been a strain. They lived in caves of all sizes and shapes.

Linda and I went to Montezuma's well where the inhabitants got their water. It was some distance away from the dwellings.



We returned back to the RV Park just in time for cocktails and snacks.

Day 11. Wednesday October 7<sup>th</sup> we started out with an all you can eat \$7.00 breakfast at the Casino.



Jim & Pam Costello left for home and the rest of us headed to Tuscan and the Prince of Tuscan RV Park. About 60 miles ahead of us my Garmin started to tell us that there was an incident on I-10 and there would be a 30 minute delay. The closer we got the time was reduced to about ten minutes as we passed a burnt out car carrier and eight cars alongside the road. We could not identify the vehicles but one looked like it could have been a Jeep Wrangler. We were the last to leave Distant Drums RV Park but the first to arrive at Prince of Tuscan RV Park. How that happened I have no idea. After arriving and setting up our rigs we had our 4:00 o'clock cocktail party.

Day 12. Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup> we all left for the Pima Air & Space museum and the air plane bone yard. I did not know that we had so many planes. There were helicopters, fighters, bombers, refueling tankers, tank destroyers, and they could all be put back into service within about two weeks. There were literally miles of planes out there.



We were grateful to hear the stories of a WWII B-17 pilot Richard B. Bushong. He also flew F-4 Phantom Jets in Viet Nam.



After a bus ride through the bone yard we piled into our cars and headed to the Titan Missile Museum where we got to see the launch control center and silo of the last Titan II missile silo in existence to day.



Day 13. Friday October 9<sup>th</sup> we all headed to Kartchner Caverns about 50 miles south of Tuscan for an 11:00 a.m. tour of the caverns. The tour started out with a short film about the two men that found the caverns in the early 70's and how they protected the location. They cooperated with the land owners Mr. & Mrs. Kartchner and the state of Arizona to make a state park to protect the beauty and the integrity of the live cave. Our tour was well guided and the Stalactites and stalagmites were fantastic. I didn't realize how beautiful the colors and formations of the minerals could be. We were not allowed to touch anything or the cave could be destroyed by our germs and oils on our hands. The tour lasted about one hour and it was very warm and humid in side. After the tour we all had lunch at Galliano's then drove back to the RV Park for our evening cocktail party.

Day 14. Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> we headed to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in the Saguaro National Park. Those tall cactus with the arms reaching to the sky are called

Saguaro. The “g” is pronounced as a “w” like “Sawaro”. The museum was mostly outdoors but had a few exhibits in air conditioned buildings. We spent as much time indoors as we could. The temperature was about 86 degrees with humidity around 90 degrees. We saw the black bear being feed and a cougar in the paddock next door.



About 20 or so Prairie Dogs were in one area eating and watching us walk by. These little guys were all fat and very healthy looking. There is nothing wrong with being fat!



Day 15. Sunday October 11th we all left Tuscan early to get to Yuma. The trip took about 3 hours. When we arrived it was very hot so many of just rested in our RV's with the air conditioning running full blast. It was just as well. The Raiders and the 49ers were playing, unfortunately they both lost. Oh well, maybe next year. It seems that I have been saying that for several years now.

Day 16. Monday everybody left us to go to Mexico. Linda didn't get her passport renewed in time so we stayed home. We did some shopping at Fry's Market to stock up. When the group got back from Mexico it was decided to go the Famous Dave's BBQ. The ribs and briskets were fabulous and we all made pigs out of ourselves. Getting back to the RV Park most of us hooked up our tow vehicles and got ready to leave early in the morning. Many went to Palm Springs but Linda and I drove straight through to Venture State Beaches to visit our nephew, Steven. He lives in Summerland, just south of Santa Barbara.

Our next outing or event will be the annual Christmas Party at Sonora Hills.

November Birthdays: Dianne Avila                      Nov 17

Carolyn Gregory                      Nov 25

Anniversaries; Ray & Judy Feldman, Dale & Leah Decker, and Knute & Maryjoan Kleinen.