



Matterhorn

Alpine So Cal

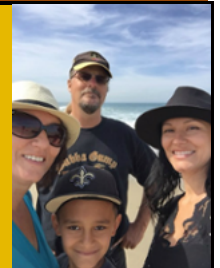
A Chapter of FMCA

David Hobden, President
davidhobden@mac.com

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June, 2016
www.alpinesocal.com

Lorraine Foster
&
Ann Fleming

The President's Message



WOW!... it's been a quick 3 months since my first newsletter article in the March issue of the Matterhorn. Stilla and I have had the pleasure of attending two more awesome SoCal Rallies since that newsletter went to print.

I had just finished writing that last newsletter article while in Casa Grande, AZ when we made our way over to the Spring Training Rally (5-12 March) at the Cotton Lane RV Resort in Goodyear, AZ. If you missed that rally, be sure to check out my travel blog @ UrbanEscapeVehicle.com. Just type in keywords "Cotton Lane" or "Goodyear" in the "search" window or another method is to just click on the month of March under the "Archives" section to catch up on all our activities and see pictures of your fellow Alpine friends. What a great time! Many of us arrived early and stayed late to get the most out of the fine fellowship and fun activities in and around Phoenix. Many thanks go out to our Rally Wagon masters, Bob & Connie Bowers along with Jim & Stephanie Archer for making this rally another successful one.

After the Goodyear rally we stayed in the Phoenix area to help our daughter and grandson get settled in after her recent relocation from Colorado Springs. Then we took them with us to the next awesome SoCal rally in Newport Beach, CA (April 22nd thru 24th)... and what a great rally it was! Once again, many 'Alpiners' arrived early and left late, effectively making it a week-long rally. For those of you interested in seeing more... use search keyword "Newport Dunes" on the Urban Escape Vehicle website. We also took the opportunity to visit Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure (DCA) park(s) after the rally was officially over. What fun! Our thanks for another highly successful rally this time go out to Mike & Donna Hambarian along with Greg & Marcy Vaughan.

We headed back to Phoenix after the Newport Beach rally with a short overnight 'boondocking' stop in Quartzsite. Then in June we moved down to Casa Grande where we currently are, to visit with relatives and watch the grandson during some of his summer break. Thank goodness for 50 amp power and working air conditioners

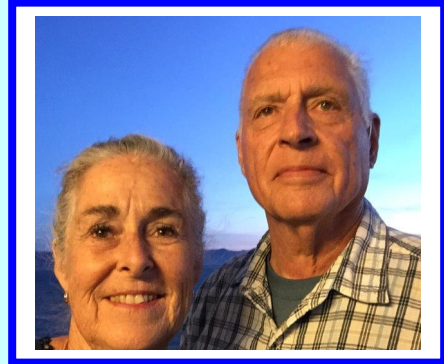
Unfortunately (for us) we weren't able to attend the most recent rally in Paso Robles (1-8 June) but heard it was awesome fun (as usual) for those lucky enough to be there. Here's a perfect example of why it's good to sign up on the Alpine Coach Owners Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/AlpineOwners) managed by our very own Mary Langord, so you can get updates and keep up with what our other members are doing. All reports from the rally were glowing with much talk of wine and merriment. David & Nicole Guhse along with Mike & Mike Collins get credit and many thanks for heading up this rally.

We're looking forward to the next SoCal rally in Pahrump, NV (29 Sept – 3 Oct) to be hosted by long-time SoCal members John & Gail Stacy along with relatively new members Ron & Jeanne Maxwell. As most of you already know, Gail Stacy is a past-president and I'm told she really knows how to put on a rally

In closing, I would like to say; "Congratulations to us!" This month's newsletter includes some exciting news about our illustrious 15 years of success as the Alpine SoCal chapter. What a great milestone achievement! I'm confident we can keep it going just as strong for another 15! I'm also told our membership numbers are at an all time high! I challenge everyone to keep up the great work and please think about volunteering for some of the upcoming rally hosting positions and/or board member positions, e.g., SARC. And finally, join me in congratulating our new newsletter editor team Lorraine Foster and Ann Fleming! It was reported that they have graciously agreed to continue taking on the responsibility for the rest of the year. Thank you Ann and Lorraine!

So enjoy your summer travels and remember... if you see any Alpine Coaches along the way, please make contact and tell them about our fine organization... we always have room for more friends, right? Hope to see you all at the next rally

Faithfully Yours,
David W. Hobden
President, Alpine SoCal

FMCA National Director...Alpine SoCal: Carolyn Swan**Summer 2016**

Today is the hottest (104) day of the year here, so I am sitting writing the FMCA update, trying to keep cool! (It is also the longest day of the year!)

We have received our credential for the FMCA Rally in W Springfield, MA and will be leaving home in less than 2 weeks (July 2 or 3). We are excited that Thursday night the entertainment will be The Texas Tenors!!!! FMCA has had them several times in the last 5 years or so & in my opinion - are worth the price of the Rally! Their music is incredible & their LOOKS aren't too bad either! We are disappointed that none of you are going to be joining us for the fun in MA!

Tris has just discovered that one of the aluminum support brackets on the radiator is broken so he still has to find someone to weld it without taking it out. That radiator had to be replaced in IN after the WI FMCA Rally in 2011. We don't want to do that again!!!!

Have you ever thought about working at Amazon at one of their distribution centers over the holidays? We got an email from FMCA saying that Amazon is recruiting Work Campers now - free camping, and pretty decent pay for a short time commitment in the winter! I understand that there are centers all over the USA! If you are interested in finding out more - go to "camperforce@amazon.com"!

There is nothing more to report on FMCA until after Governing Board meeting first week of August. We will not make any of the Fall Rally's because we have a granddaughter getting married in Oct and we are going to Cuba in Nov on another mission's trip!

Have a great summer and travel safe
and keep healthy ...

Carolyn



Membership Report
Mary Langord, 1st V.P



We have reached a new high in our membership here at the Paso Rally. We were able to welcome into our midst Scott and Marcia Hicks of Portland OR. They will be relocating to the central part of CA now that Scott is officially retired. Please extend a warm welcome when you see them.

We now have 75 active members as we begin our 15th Anniversary. I truly believe that Alpine SoCal has amazing Members. It's easy to see why we are still attracting new members when you look around at a rally and see how Personable and welcoming everyone is. We can all be very proud of our organization.

We want you to know that your Board Members appreciate each and every one of you. The Board wanted to both "give back and pass forward" an anniversary gift. You have all received the official notice that each of you has been given a free one-year extension to your Alpine SoCal membership. Regardless of when your dues were set to expire, one year has automatically been added as our way of saying "Thank You" for your loyal contributions in helping us reach 15 years of success.

Your Board Members are still working to plan celebratory activities throughout the year, and hope that you will fully participate. Please make a special effort to attend our Celebration Rally at Chula Vista RV Resort, March 31 – Apr 3, 2017. All efforts are being made to make this a very special rally commemorating our 15th Anniversary.

To stay abreast of all upcoming activities, be sure to periodically check our Website:
alpinesocal.com

Mary & Joel

New Members Photos Pg 4

MATTERHORN

Since the beginning of January we have welcomed 4 new members



Barry and Debbie Lacy
Anaheim Hills, CA



Brian & Diane Enbon
Discovery Bay, CA



Hugh & Edye Zan McClure
Yukon, OK



Scott & Marcia Hicks of
Portland, OR

SARC 2ND QUARTER REPORT

By Ramona Escamilla

SoCal is so fortunate to have such great Wagon Masters. A big thank you to the:

- ❖ The Bowers for the Spring Training Rally – Great pastries for breakfast; wonderful restaurants for dinner – things to do in Phoenix; game schedules and hints to purchase tickets – who could ask for more?
- ❖ But wait, the equally successful Hambarian's and Vaughan's for the Newport Dunes Rally – both first time Wagon Masters who did a wonderful job - great Heavy Hors d'oeuvres/Happy Hour; a "Woody Car Show"; wonderful Potluck and Margaritas on the Wagon Masters followed by a catered Mexican dinner.
- ❖ Welcome to new members Maxwell's and Lacey's and to Roger Baird and Taylor Allen all to their first rally. With those rally descriptions of fun, who can resist any future rallies?

Thank you to all the 2016 Wagon Masters!

They have all done a fantastic job and there have been great turnouts!
All the Wagon Masters are set for 2017, so start thinking about attending!

There are some super areas set for the 2017 rallies.

A Destination Preference Survey for 2018 rallies was handed out at the Newport rally. 85% of surveys were turned back in to SARC. Thank you for your great participation. Survey sheets will also be handed out at the Paso Robles rally. We're looking forward to another great response. For those that cannot attend Paso Robles, the Survey is available on the Rallies page of the website.

SARC was born out of the necessity for a 2nd Vice President. The three of us, Bill, Stephanie and Ramona, agreed to do the job together and it is working very well. We like the idea of possibly keeping it that way for now. And we would also want to start planning for future succession. One approach is to involve additional members (one at a time) in SARC to get acquainted with our function. This might include participation in our quarterly conference calls and opportunities to mentor with one or more SARC members. The expectation is to eventually rotate in as a regular SARC member. We welcome your interest, just let one of us know..... For our new Alpine friends who are not sure what SARC is, it's SoCal Alpine Rally Committee!

THANK YOU TO RAMONA ESCAMILLA, BILL FIGGE AND STEPHANIE
ARCHER - OUR SARC COMMITTEE

Come on, join me!
Wagon Master a Rally!
Meet everyone there!
A little setting up, a little socializing
and a lot of fun!



MATTERHORN



Alpine SoCal Rally Schedule 2016 – 2017

(Revised 5/31/16)



Celebrate 15 yrs

?????



Aug 03 – 06, 2016	FMCA 94th Family Reunion West Springfield, MA Register Directly w/FMCA	FMCA	FMCA
Sep 29 - Oct 03, 2016	Pahrump Wine Crush Pahrump, NV	SoCal	John & Gail Stacy gjstacy42@gmail.com Ron & Jeanne Maxwell jnmaxwell@yahoo.com
Oct 05 – 09, 2016	Balloon Fiesta Albuquerque, NM	ACA	Tom & Nancy Polk tomvending@msn.com
Oct 31 - Nov 05, 2016	Betabel RV Park San Juan Bautista, CA	SoCal	Mike & Mike Collins alpinemikes@2mikeys.com Phillip Binley & Trudy Greenlaw philbinley@yahoo.com
Jan 11 – 15, 2017	WMHA Indio Rally Indio, CA Register Directly w/WMHA	WMHA w/SoCal Caravan	
Jan 18 – 24, 2017	Desert Rat XVI Quartzsite, AZ	ACA	ACA
Feb 08 – 11, 2017	FMCA 95th Family Reunion Chandler, AZ Register Directly w/FMCA	FMCA	FMCA
Feb 16 – 20, 2017	Winter Blast SARA Rodeo Grounds Lake Havasu, AZ	SoCal	Joel & Mary G Langord marylangord@mac.com David & Stilla Hobden davidhobden@mac.com
Mar 31 - Apr 03, 2017	Alpine SoCal 15th Anniversary Chula Vista RV Park Chula Vista, CA	SoCal	Milo & Janet Prodanovich jmacneillo1@att.net Jack & Linda Giddens crazysingerlkg@yahoo.com
May 15 - 22, 2017	Jackson Rancheria RV Park Jackson, CA	SoCal	Jim & Stephanie Archer saarcher@cox.net Jerry & Toni Smith geraldsmith18@hotmail.com
Jul 10 - 17, 2017	NorCal Mystery Rally ???, CA	NorCal	Tom & Nancy Polk tomvending@msn.com
Jul 12 – 15, 2017	FMCA 96th Family Reunion Indianapolis, IN Register Directly w/FMCA	FMCA	FMCA
Sep 07 – 14, 2017	Mammoth RV Park (9/7-9/11) Boulder Creek RV Park (9/11-9/14) Mammoth/Lone Pine, CA	SoCal	John & Lorraine Foster fofstreez@aol.com Mike & Ann Fleming meflemin@pacbell.net
Oct 13 – 23, 2017	TENTATIVE DATES !!!!!!! 10/13-10/16 or 10/20-10/23 Temecula Area, Pechanga or Pala Temecula, CA	SoCal	Dean & Susan Vargo dunejumper221@gmail.com Milo & Janet Prodanovich jmacneillo1@att.net
Nov 01 – 07, 2017	ACA Heritage Rally New Braunfels, TX	ACA	ACA

*Last day listed is date of departure

A bit of Alpine SoCal History



R to L: Dan Oriente-Vice President, Donna Fernandez-Secretary, Jim Klinko-President, and Sharon & Bob Turner.

Back in 2001, Jim Klinko and other southern CA Alpine owners attended an ACA Homecoming Rally at Yakama Nation in Toppanish, WA. After discussions of starting chapters by geographic areas, Jim and others volunteered to start SoCal. A meeting was held and it was decided to basically divide California with Highway 58, based on the number of Alpine owners residing in CA at that time.

A rally was then planned for April 1, 2002 and was the First Official Alpine SoCal Rally. It was held at Pechanga, CA and became the first of many memorable SoCal rallies.

Fifteen years later, we are celebrating our success as the longest continuously running Alpine organization at the chapter level. We are especially proud that five of the original 13 members that joined in 2002 are still actively involved in our chapter. We are now 75 coaches strong, and looking forward to our anniversary rally in Chula Vista, March 31-April 3, 2017.



Alpine SoCal Coach Association
15 years & going strong!



15th Anniversary Celebration

Join Us in attending the
15th Anniversary Rally
Chula Vista, CA

March 31 – April 3, 2017

We are hoping to have the Charter members: Jim and Polly Klinko (Jim was First President) Member 2001, Dan and Margaret Oriente (Dan was Vice-President) Member 2003, Dave and Donna Fernandez (Donna was Secretary) Member 2004 as well as other initial members: Carol and Noel Peck, Member 2010, John and Gail Stacy, Member 2011 & Jack and Linda Giddens, Member 2013. Additionally we would love to see as many as possible attend this rally.. After all It has been 15 Years of great friends and many, many travelling adventures.

Member Carol Peck's recollection of SoCal History

As being the "old timers" to the SoCal chapter of the Alpine Coach Association, we were asked to write something about what happened during the old days. Can't remember much; but will try and give my best recollection of those days.

The first rally of Alpine Coach, that we attended, was 5/14-19, 2002 in Toppenish, WA at the now defunct Yakima Nation RV Resort. At that rally, Jim Klinko asked us to join the SoCal Chapter and we became members.

The rally, as I recall, was meeting coach owners, eating lots of good food and having a lot of fun. Some of the activities we participated in; drag racing the new Alpine Coaches, driving through an obstacle course and touring the factory. We also had a show and tell of our motor homes as many had made interior and basement modifications. This included our Harley rack which few had seen at that time.

Cannot believe it has been fifteen years ago and we still have our Alpine Coach.

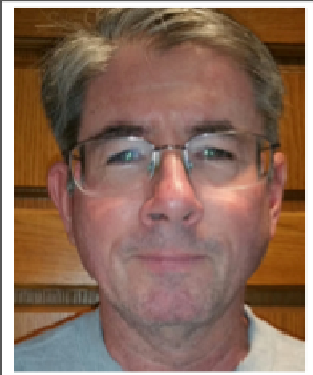
Carol and Noel Peck #2010



ENGINEER MIKE'S .02 CENTS

Something to Monitor:

At the Paso Robles Rally, my attention was called to a developing issue. The cross-frame bulkhead just ahead of the rear wheels will fatigue & crack over time and mileage. Sometime around (very) approximately 70,000 miles, the twisting of the frame while driving (and maybe while jacking the chassis to park) will begin fatiguing the bulkhead metal around the Huck bolts, and the cracks begin at the lowest of 4ea Huck bolts visible inside that last compartment. For some that compartment has storage tanks on PS & Utility Bay on DS, for others (38-40 footers) it is open for storage. We don't have a fix at this point. Stay tuned.



Cracks look like this:



That's my \$0.02 for today,
 Engineer Mike
 916-240-2141 mike@fleming.cc

Webmaster Jim Archer

949-874-1082

Alpinesocal.com



The website is constantly being updated with:

- The SARC committee is keeping the rally schedule up to date, and
- Registration forms for upcoming rallies are being uploaded as soon as available.
- Member roster is also being kept up to date.
- Current member email addresses, phone numbers, and snail mail addresses are available in the Members Only section.
- Member photos are available in the main area without login. Members wishing to change these photos should send a replacement photo to Mary, and she can do the change.
- If you forget your password, there is a link to request that the password be reset. A new password will be created and you will receive an email with a link to revise the temporary password. It is all automated.
- The website does not have a section for travel photos or "blogs" from members. Mary Langord has created a Facebook group page that is better for this application.

For users of GPS units, do you keep a list of "Favorite" points of interest? I have a Garmin unit (not the RV unit), and try to keep all of the camping locations we use for future consideration. If any of you do the same, is there any interest in setting up a webpage where we can exchange these data points? There are ways to import and export these locations on the Garmin, and I assume other brands as well.

Happy travels!!

MATTERHORN



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME



Thirteen coaches gathered at Cotton Lane RV Resort in Goodyear, AZ for our spring training rally. The Cubs, Dodgers, Padres, Brewers and Rockies were rally attendees favorite teams. In addition to attending ballgames, folks attended an art and crafts fair; rode Harleys to Wickenburg; shopped in Scottsdale; had windshields replaced on their Alpines and learned more than they ever wanted to know about musical instruments at the Musical Instruments Museum.

Many thanks to Bob and Connie Bowers for hosting this rally. They were up every morning at the crack of dawn preparing fresh fruit, toasting bagels (thanks, Dave Guhse, for starting that tradition at the Lake Powell rally), buying fresh donuts and breakfast burritos. They also introduced us to several local eateries....Raul and Theresa's for tasty Mexican food, Rudy's for excellent BBQ and Waddell's for a funky cowboy bar atmosphere. Thanks to Bill Figue and his band of merry margarita makers for another outstanding margarita party. Yes, we did eat a lot at this rally. ***A special thanks to Ed Mathews and Jack Giddens for donating to our club a flag pole they made and an American flag which will be proudly flown at all future rallies..... Stephanie Archer***



So Cal Alpine Newport Dunes Rally

April 22 through 25, 2016

By Donna Hambarian...

Just recently I was asked to write about our rally at Newport Dunes.

Now first let me tell you that I was one of the wagon masters so of course I am going to say it was "A Fantastic Event".

We arrived on Wednesday before the Friday rally. The resort gave us a great rate two days prior and two days after. Mike and I and Greg and Marcy Vaughan shared the duties of wagon masters. How fortunate we were to have a lady who has a catering business and a man with lots of enthusiasm.

Those who were there early ordered pizza on Thursday night, yummy! Friday night we drove around Newport Beach and ended up on the Balboa Pier at Ruby's Restaurant. The staff at Ruby's was thoughtful enough to drive their van and picked those who were not able to walk the length of the pier. Very kind of them! After dinner we took the fairy across the bay to Balboa Island.

Friday seven more coaches arrived making a total of twenty. The chairs and tables got there, and we decorated with a nautical theme. \$4.00 dollar table clothes from Big Lots, Yahoo!

Friday nights gathering we had Chili from the famous Charlie's Chili in Newport Beach. Our wagon masters barbecued "really long hot dogs", delish!

Most of our days were free and Saturday many of us went to the woody car show at Doheny State Beach. Greg and Marcy brought their 1940 beautiful Ford classic woody and we had an awesome day looking at cars and enjoying each other.

The Figge's had to leave their coach and go home to some previously planned event. As we all know they have spent the last six months beautifying their Alpine. Now their neighbors at the rally, Bob and Connie Bowers, decided to put a for sale sign and various other notes all over the rig. So funny to see the look on Bill and Patti's faces when they arrived back at camp. Watch out if you are ever parked next to the Bowers.

Sunday night we had our margaritas and a catered Mexican dinner from Joaquin's in Yorba Linda. Of course, we ordered too much food but everyone got left overs for the next day. Tris and Carolyn Swan join us for dinner. A general meeting followed led by our president Dave Hobden. He brought his daughter and grandson to the rally and they really enjoyed doing all the "tourist things" in OC. Great meeting, with lots of discussion on our 15th anniversary celebration next year.

SUCH A FUN WEEKEND! Mike and I and Greg and Marcy truly enjoyed being your wagon masters.

P.S. It was so good to see the McDougal's, Anne drove the coach to Newport, but Mac parked it!



MATTERHORN

ALPINE SoCal RALLY - PASO ROBLES CA May 31 - June 8, 2016

Eberle Winery Wine Tasting & BBQ Buffet Dinner by MaryAnn Ratliff

This evening several of the group had pre-purchased a ticket to partake of this delightful evening at the Eberle Winery Cave (equivalent of a wine cellar, but it is a cave.)

The first stop was the wine tasting room, and as you can see from our photos, the Alpine members are like moths to a flame when you announce free wine before dinner! We all sampled, swirled, and swished each of their samples until we decided on what we wanted to purchase to take down to the Cave to enjoy with our beautifully prepared BBQ dinner. The menu included carved tri-tip roast, turkey breast, baked beans, potato salad, garlic bread and a Cesar salad, almost more than one plate could hold.

It also happened to be Marilyn Fogel's birthday, so to help her celebrate, we all joined in, (with perfect pitch), and sang her the Happy Birthday Song.

The evening was topped off with dessert plates that were brought around with lemon and chocolate bars and fresh baked chocolate chip cookies, and coffee. So all went home with full tummies and smiles. Fun, Fun Evening!



wine...food...wine

PASO PINOT AND PAELLA FESTIVAL

BY DONNA HAMBARIAN

I'M SO GLAD WE BOUGHT TICKETS TO THIS EXTRA EVENT. BEAUTIFUL WEATHER AND THE PARK WHERE IT WAS HELD HAD REALLY BIG SHADE TREES. WE ALL BROUGHT CHAIRS AND SAT AROUND AND ENJOYED THE ATMOSPHERE. THE PAELLA SMELLED SOOOO GOOD AND THEY HAD A LIVE BAND ENTERTAINING US OLD FOLKS. I AM A REAL "PEOPLE WATCHER" SO I ESPECIALLY LIKED THE AFTERNOON. TOM AND HELENA MAZZOCCO JOINED US FOR THE EVENT AS THEY WERE IN CAMBRIA WORKING ON THEIR VACATION HOUSE. SO MANY DIFFERENT PAELLA CHOICES. I HEARD OUR TWO FOOD EXPERTS, OUR CATERING KING AND QUEEN MARCY YAUGHAN AND FRANK KRAULAND TALK ABOUT THE DIFFERENT FLAVORS AND THINGS IN THE PAELLA. CHORIZO, DUCK, SEA FOOD, SAFFRON AND MANY MORE. I ALSO LOVED WATCHING LORRAINE FOSTER AND NANCY POLK COMPARING THE PINOTS. THEY WERE DISCUSSING THE WINE, TAKING NOTES AND TALKING ABOUT THE DIFFERENT VINEYARDS. I WAS TRULY IMPRESSED.

YOU CAN'T GO WRONG WITH AN EVENT LIKE THIS. FOOD, WINE AND MORE WINE AND MORE WINE AND GREAT FRIENDS.

ALPINE SoCal RALLY - PASO ROBLES CA May 31 - June 8, 2016

Do You Like Zoos?

By *Marilyn Fogel*



Well I do. and the June 3rd Alpine SoCal side trip was not disappointing! Our guide, Scott, explained all their animals were rescued from one situation or another. Many of their animals travel to schools and other destinations to provide education about their species. They are trained to be especially gentle and friendly.

We started the tour viewing colorful parrots. "Ruffles" stood out by making a very noisy fuss. So Cute!!! In the distance we could see the wolf hybrid area where animals were being trained for future placement. We saw owls, vultures, hawks and even several bald eagles. Such amazing birds!! I especially liked the tiny screech owls that you could hold in the palm of your hand. Very Adorable!!

The lemurs caused a racket with their shrieking voices. Grrr.... We continued on by petting a sweet gray fox. Other animals included raccoons, monkeys, lynx, cougars and a mountain lion. There was a memorable 90-pound alligator named "Spike" that was so tame he came from his cage so that we could touch his rough skin. Go Figure!!! The large black bear named "Trouble" entertained us as he played on a swing. He was so cute and cuddly, I might take him home!! Well, we ended our enjoyable tour by feeding fruit to four female (well mannered) kangaroos.



MATTERHORN

TRAVELING COLORADO'S STATE PARKS, and a few sites to see....Part 2 – Western Colorado

I hoped you enjoyed Part 1, the Eastern side of Colorado's Front Range as I will finish with Western Colorado, which actually became our favorite area. I hear the wonderful music of an Alpine diesel ready to go, so come along and find your favorite State Park too, (website is cpw.state.co.us). Remember if you see this symbol it means a "travel tip" is next and this symbol is a place to visit.

Our journey began our decent down, towards western Colorado with a night in Walden, aka "Never Summer" at a backyard with 3 beautiful, flat sites with full hook-ups called Granite RV, a really nice spot to camp. This area is very close to the Continental Divide as we trekked over Rabbit Ears Pass with more beautiful scenery of gorgeous rocks jutting out, flowers and meadows with the Steamboat Springs area as our destination. Stagecoach State Park is a wonderful park on the shores of the lake with trout and pike. This was one of our favorites. The other parks surrounding Steamboat Springs are Pearl Lake State Park and Steamboat Lake State Park.

Across the top of the state heading further west, outside of Craig we stayed at Yampa River State Park. The terrain here is flatter, more arid and wide-open filled with cattle ranches. The campground was again very nice and we took a free fly-fishing clinic put on by the Rangers at Elk Reservoir. Elkhead State Park is another park near the reservoir. In Craig is the Western History & Outlaw Museum. Along with a great history of the west and outlaws, they had a complete set of photos of every graduating class from the high school since it started in 1903!

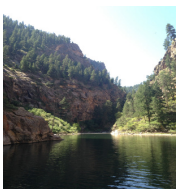
Drove through Rangely along the White River to Meeker, a very quaint town. No state park campground but we really enjoyed a private one on the river, River Camp RV Park! We could walk out 5 feet and fish! Bring cash or check, no automated new-fangled credit card machine. Fun place to stay! Going south down the 'Western Slope' of the Rockies we went to Rifle Gap State Park, a newer campground at a reservoir and very nice with easy access. Just up the road is Rifle Falls State Park so we checked it out and did the simple hike to Rifle Falls and Rifle Caves. Both were wonderful, the falls are three falls and the caves you can climb around inside.

I had to stop in Montrose because my dad was on the USS Montrose in WWII. There we took advantage of another very friendly Elks lodge to camp. A must is going to Black Canyons of the Gunnison National Park! Gorgeous, fantastic scenery everywhere you look. The Curecanti National Recreation area proved to be a new, favorite area because of the park. At Morrow Point Reservoir for \$16 and 236 stairs down you can take an awesome boat ride through the canyon and see the National Park views looking up, oh and then take the 236 steps back up. The Museum of the Mountain West is a town of historical buildings from the 1880s-1930s along with the large museum of a reconstructed western storefront and offices. You felt as if you were right there!

Next stop, Ridgeway State Park is a really nice park with a good central location for daily drives. Drive 1: Ridgeway is a very cool, old west town with dirt streets and little shops. Drive 2: Ouray, the Switzerland of North America, a quaint town with many shops and beautiful mountains. A little more upscale than Ridgeway but still in keeping with the old west as the back streets are dirt! Also visit Box Cañon Falls, an earthquake fault with a massive waterfall cutting through. Drive 3: Silverton, gorgeous drive up the Red Mountain Pass at 11,000' to Silverton and the bonus over the train is you have time to wander the shops and sites. We agreed this was probably the most beautiful drive we've ever been on! We enjoyed a true Gold Mine Tour while there. It was pretty cool to go inside a real gold mine, feeling the intense dark, damp isolation.

This ends our travels circling Colorado and taking advantage of as many State Parks as we could get reservations! There are many, just plan further ahead because as I said, all of Colorado camps Friday and Saturday nights! I hope you've enjoyed this and I've given you some ideas for travel. Reality is, wherever you go in an Alpine is wonderful, great traveling! Happy trails and enjoy life in Colorado from the AD period of Ancestral Pueblo people, to the wild, wild west and the wonderful National Parks and Monuments to visit!

We hope you enjoyed our travels in Colorado.....Lorraine & John Foster



MATTERHORN



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PERSON FLY BY YOU?



ALPINERS AT PINOT & PAELLA FESTIVAL



ZOO TO YOU - VISITING THE KANGROOS

This wraps up our summer issue of the Alpine SoCal Newsletter from your faithful editors, Ann & Lorraine! Where has Alpine SoCal been? On the small scale we began with Glendale, AZ then a stop along the California beach at Newport and then north to Paso Robles.

But in the BIG picture, what have we accomplished in our Alpine SoCal Club? FIFTEEN years of friendship traveling together, sightseeing together and of course, sharing a little food and libations! For 15 years there has always been laughter and well-wishes; tales of trips far and wide; and shared love and hugs enveloping the closeness we have whenever sad times have affected any of us. Our Alpine family has been true and strong and will continue on. Can anyone forget the challenge of counting how many feet can stick out from under an Alpine Coach at any rally? Or how many dishes have been prepared? Rally Masters have been awesome putting together fun times with activities and food while continuing to smile! Our Board keeps us informed, accountable and well lead, though at times they probably feel they are herding cats! Thank you to all our Boards for the past 15 years and to come, we need you and appreciate you. [Congratulations to Alpine SoCal !!](#)

Again, please send us your articles and pictures for future editions. From your editors,
Ann Fleming meflemin@pacbell.net and Lorraine Foster fostfrez@aol.com