



# HRRVC Chapter 309 Valley of the Sun February 2015 Newsletter

Volume 2015, Number 2

## Special points of interest:

- Quartzsite outing attracts members from seven states.
- Dry camping part of the total experience
- New March outing noted below.

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## Quartzsite Campout: Lots of special memories

Thirty eight units, seventy six guests, and a desert setting all became part the recent Quartzsite outing. This outing in the desert has become a feature of January. The Sport - Vacation - RV show under the big tent is the main draw. That along with a number of recreational vehicles - both new and used - all vying for attention. Combine those items with a long line of stores with clothing, gems, RV items, and

food. Lots of food.

Of those attending we were happy to welcome a large faction from



Wagonmasters Emery & Roberta Olson, Neil & Kay Honn, Thom & Barb Feit at the final dinner in Quartzsite.

Texas. Those Texans prepared a wonderful dinner of "Texas Tacos" with all of the top-

pings needed to make this a grand event.

Along with an evening campfire most every night, there was much time to enjoy all that makes Quartzsite so special at this time of year.

Emery and Roberta Olson were our host for a dry camping experience on BLM land south of the town. For some it was an experience to just park and enjoy the nature that comes with the desert - stunning sunsets included.

## New Outing for March

The Chapter 309 outing scheduled for a Casa Grande RV park has been cancelled. There were several reasons that lead to the decision.

In place of that outing, Chapter 309 has been

invited to join with Chapters 71 and 433 at Silver City, NM for what plans to be a wonderful experience.

A flyer with all information can be found on a separate attachment to this newsletter

Deadline for registration is March 1, so a quick response will assure you a camping spot with us.

Having never been to Silver City, it looks like a great place with many intriguing locations.

## And the band played on.....

Returning for the third year, Ray Nichols and friends played for our Quartzsite campout. The afternoon concert preceded a meal prepared by our friends from Texas.



rewards of much adulation from the fans assembled.

Others from the campground came by and also enjoyed the music.

These concerts have proven to be one wonderful way to gather those on

the campout together for an afternoon of fun and dance.

In keeping with current trends, leader Ray has renamed this fine group "Deflated Balls" - no com-

ment needed.

It was a great occasion, and the group reaped the

## Planning for our AZ/NM State Rally

While it is several months away, the planning has begun for our Southwestern Roundup in October.

Using the facilities at Leaf Verde RV Resort in Buckeye, AZ, there will be plenty of space for activities. All RV sites are pull-through, and have full hookups. We shall be all in one area, just a short

walk to the Rally Barn. By coming the last week in October, we will have full access to the space, for the season for Leaf Verde does not begin until November 1st.

Plans are for some excursions for visits to: a candy company, the University of Phoenix Stadium, The Challenger Space Center

AZ, located in nearby Peoria and other interesting sites.

Food, music and programs shall also play into the mix of what promises to be a great time in our Valley of the Sun.

Dates in October have arrival on the 27th, the rally starting the 28th and depart on the 31st.

"Food, music and programs shall all play a role in upcoming AZ/NM State Rally"

## The Mother Ship was close.

There we were, gathered around the campfire at the end of a great day of shopping. Some had even enjoyed some s'mores they had roasted over the fire pit.

In the distance one could hear a faint mechanical noise. Then came the blinking of red and white lights. The object was not

high in the sky as one might expect for a plane, or even a helicopter. It came closer. Night had fallen, so shapes in the dark sky were difficult to detect. Suddenly that shape loomed directly overhead. "It's a blimp," shouted a camper. Yes, the Goodyear blimp, on the way to Phoenix came into view. One could just

make out not only the shape but also those large yellow letters on the side of the airship.

We waved, flashed our lights, and watched as the ship moved eastward following I-10 on the journey toward not only the Super Bowl but also the Phoenix Open Golf Tourney. It was an experience.



Sunset our last night in Quartzsite.



As seen during the daylight. At night, quite a different view.

## Elks Lodges along the road.

Traveling along, one of the continuing thoughts is where to stop during the evening. There are RV parks, even dry camping at a truck stop, rest stop or Walmart. We try to plan our stops at Elk Lodges. While some have just a parking lot, other Lodges offer full hookups. Of course there is also the fellowship of a visit to the Lodge, especially if a meal function is on the schedule.

A couple of locations that we have really enjoyed range from the Amarillo, TX Lodge 923 to Napa, CA Lodge 832 to Lodge 652 in Eureka, CA.

First to Amarillo. RV spots are on just a field behind the Lodge, offering 30 amp (they are upgrading to 50 amp) and water is available. There is a great open area, perfect for allowing our Ko-

na a place to run and exercise after a day or so in the coach.

The Lodge in Napa befits the surroundings. There are full hookups, picnic tables, and shade umbrellas. We have stayed there on a couple of occasions, and as always the restaurant and lounge was inviting. Once the waitress pointed us to a fantastic local bistro for our evening meal, even suggesting what we should order and the perfect wine for the meal. It was wonderful.

Eureka offers not only several spots for RV hookups, the Lodge has a great restaurant and lounge. We were there on a Friday night, great night for choice of ribs or fish. In the lounge a small group entertained. We were made to feel this was our home.

I would be remiss not to mention two other locations we have enjoyed. Santa Barbara, CA Lodge 613, and near to home is Tempe, AZ Lodge 2251.

The Santa Barbara Lodge offers the choice of advance reservations, something unusual for Elks. There are 50 amp service, water and a dump station on site. The town is one to enjoy, as is the off leash dog park on the beach. Kona learned to “body surf” there during one of our stays.

The Tempe Lodge offers full hookups at each site, large area, easy in and out along with an onsite host to assist. The Lodge offers food service and the lounge.

These are just a few we have experienced during the past couple of years - tell us your story.



Along the Oregon coast is the Tillamook Elks RV Park.

*One can use Passport America, look for a Walmart or seek out the amenities of an Elks or other social club in a location as you travel.*



RV parking lot at the Santa Barbara Elks Lodge 832.

## German Potato Salad ala Barb / Quartzsite

So many asked for this recipe at the recent outing ~ here it is:

- 12 potatoes, cooked & cubed (used red potatoes)
- 6 eggs, hardboiled & sliced
- 1 sweet onion, finely chopped
- 1/2 lb bacon, cooked, drained & crumbled (save the fat)

Mix these items gently in a large bowl, careful not to crush the potatoes.

The dressing:

- 1 Cup sugar
- 2 heaping T flour
- 1 Cup vinegar
- 1 Cup water
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Dash pepper
- the drippings saved from the cooked bacon

Cook the dressing until thick, then pour over the potatoes, eggs, onion and crumbled bacon. Gently toss the entire bowl of ingredients.

This can be made in advance (as did Barb), refrigerated then slowly warmed in oven or convention microwave for serving. This recipe was repeated thrice to feed forty.



Warm German potato salad.

## Chapter 309 Breakfast Gatherings

We meet on the first Tuesday each month: Nov. 4th, Dec. 2nd, Jan. 7th, Feb. 3rd, Mar. 3rd and April 7th.

Meet at Coco's Bakery & Restaurant, 2026 N. 7th St., Phoenix. We begin at 9:30 am. Brief announcements, then a speaker, if you choose you may order breakfast.

February 3rd ~ Coach Care - Cummings (at their Avondale location) 651 N 101st Ave, Avondale, AZ 85323-5300. Meet at 10:30am.

March 3rd, & April 7th ~ TBA

We welcome your suggestions. Topics need not relate to RV or camping, but of general interest for our members.

Visit our website  
[www.AZHRRVC.org](http://www.AZHRRVC.org)  
*Come join the fun*

## Chapter 309 & HRRVC SCHEDULE 2015 / 2016

February - open

March 18 - 21 : Chapters 71, 433 & 309 Joint Campout, Silver City, NM

April 19 - 21: Chapter 500 Western Pusher Rally, Golden Village Palms RV Resort, Hemet, CA

April 22 - 26: Western International Rally, Golden Village Palms RV Resort, Hemet, CA

May 1 - 6: Chapter 419 Ramblin Pushers MS, Goshen, IN

July 21 - 25: HRRVC Eastern International Rally, Escanaba, MI

October 19 - 23: TX / Region VII Rally, Skyline Ranch RV Park, Bandera, TX

October 28 - 30: AZ & NM State Rally, Leaf Verde RV Resort, Buckeye, AZ

November: TBA

December 8 - 11: Chapters 309 & 71 Christmas Outing, Community Center, Wickenburg, AZ

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A Sky Lantern goes aloft during our last night at Quartzsite