



HRRVC Chapter 309

Valley of the Sun

Newsletter October 2015

Volume 2015, Number 10

Special points of interest:

- A wealth of information shared via blogs
- No matter your interest, there is something for you
- So many locations, so many suggestions

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Blogging while on the road

American Gibberish, The Path Less Beaten, and Gone with the Wynns are just three of the plethora of blogs relating to camping and travel that haunt cyberspace. I stumbled onto these and others one afternoon while searching for a completely unrelated topic. I don't know how much time you have to read these blogs - and it seems that anyone with a computer and an RV or tent offers something to review -

but I squandered most of several afternoons reading one after another. Granted that it was 100+ degrees outside, so an indoor project made sense. It is called research.



Marianne & Randy @ Bryce NP

My gateway to this area was a blog by Marianne & Randy, Canadians who in '99 selected a life on the road. The

blog: www.frugal-rv-travel.com. Along with tales of their travels, the site offers a list of other blogs. All are centered around a life on the road. Now we have tried to create an occasional blog of our travels, but by all yardsticks it pales in comparison to those found on the web.

Combining travel, writing, some part time jobs along the way seem to be a successful plan for many.

Continued - p 2 - Blogs

State Rally just weeks away

Our AZ & NM State Rally approaches quickly. Of special interest are the seven units who will be new to the this state rally. All are from other states, and are traveling

through or visiting our state. They will be wearing special badges, so welcome them to our gathering.

Seeking volunteers for several tasks during the

rally: 1) Games; 2) Introduce program speakers; 3) Session leader for "Non Campground Camping" - call or Email me for details (see contact info on page 3).

Con't from page 1 - Blogging

Out of the dozens and dozens of blogs I have read, by far a most interesting one is "Roads less traveled"

Simply stated the goal of Mark and Emily is to, "Inspire you to get out and go, to lift your spirits with a fun travel tale or two from the road, and to share some tips for how to live this way."

Sharing adventures of both RV and sailboat travels covering a wealth of topics, these are the core of their blog. Arizona was their home, prior to 2007. They have a large number of articles on all aspects of quirky, yet wonderful, location in AZ.

They also spent several years on a sailboat going along the Pacific Coast of Mexico and into the Sea of Cortez. Emily

has written a great blog about the purchase and first sailing of their boat "Groovy". It reminds me of our first RV purchase



Emily & Mark at CO Nat. Monument

and that drive down I-65 from Chicago to Indianapolis and then on to Ft. Myers. Whether on land or sea, that first journey is a test of faith.

Clearly the content of these blogs is mostly about the journey. Those travels to some amazing locations that one may only occasionally visit via video or book. The writ-

ing allows you to see though a different lens, a view of landscapes, vistas, and people that await along that "Road Less Traveled."

Late during my reading came a website that also served up a full list of blog sites. It is the Mother Lode of camping blogs: Hitch-

UpandGo.com offers an alphabetical list of hundreds, yes hundreds, of blogs relating to the RVing lifestyle. There are also links to websites that cover all aspects of camping. If a topic exist, it is listed. Easily one could spend their remaining time, just reading about places to visit..

A better choice is to get out and go!

Are you a "Shunpiker" I am guilty

Webster's dictionary defines "shunpiking" as the practice of avoiding super highways, especially for the purpose of driving on back roads. The word became common between 1920 and 1940 as a combination of shun (to

avoid) and pike (short for turnpike). It originated possibly in Virginia, when tolls were collected for certain roads and bridges.

Rather than pay the tolls, locals and other

travelers protested by driving the back roads, often going miles out of their way to avoid payment.

We do prefer the scenic back roads to the interstate highways whenever possible.



Boondocked at Sun Valley, ID.

Photo by Mark Fagan

"Thanks to the Interstate highway system, it is now possible to travel from coast to coast without seeing anything."

Charles Kuralt - CBS reporter



Canyon de Chelly National

Monument. Photo by FrugalRVTravel.

Chapter 309 & HRRVC SCHEDULE

2015 / 2016

Chapter 309 Breakfast Gatherings

We meet on the first Tuesday each month during the season, (November - March) beginning at 9:30 am. First meeting of the upcoming season will be on November 3rd. Location: Coco's Bakery & Restaurant, 2026 N 7th St., Phoenix. (I-10 exit #145)

The breakfast meetings are open to any HRRVC member who may be traveling or as one of our winter visitor's here in the Phoenix area. Check our AZ website for further information, click on Phoenix Meal Meetings

Visit our website
www.AZHRRVC.org
Come join the fun

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

January 2016, 10 - 15: Dry Camping on BLM area south of Quartzsite, AZ

January 2016, 15 - 20: Quartzsite AZ Outing, Rice Ranch RV, Quartzsite, AZ

February: Dates TBA, Lake Pleasant RV Park, Lake Pleasant, AZ **March: TBA**

April 3 - 7: Western International Rally, Palms RV Resort, Yuma, AZ

July 17 - 23: Eastern International Rally, DuQuoin SFG, DuQuoin, IL

HRRVC Chapter 309 Officers



A loving couple in the moonlight.

Photo by Mark Fagan

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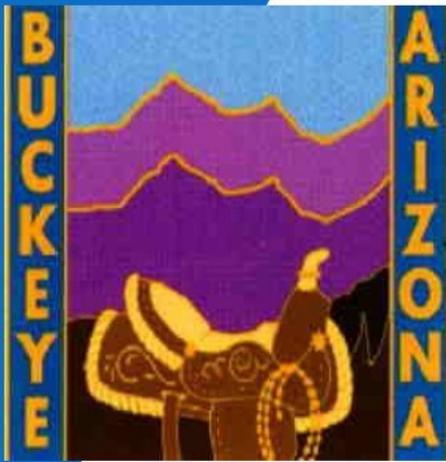
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A SOUTHWESTERN ROUNDUP

ENJOY THE AZ&NM

HRRVC STATE RALLY

OCTOBER 27 - 30, 2015

Arrival date 27th, rally begins on the 28th, depart on 31st.

Leaf Verde RV Resort, Buckeye, AZ

1500 South Apache Rd, Buckeye, AZ 85326

- ◇ Enjoy the glow of our stunning Arizona sunsets at this best time in the Valley of the Sun.
- ◇ Relax each evening around a glowing campfire as you share experiences, reconnect with friends, in the evening air of the desert.
- ◇ Each morning begins with a full breakfast.
- ◇ Three evenings dinners: a Mexican Fiesta, an Oktoberfest with brats, kraut, & beer and a Cowboy night with ribs, chicken, slaw, potatoes and a side of ranch beans.
- ◇ An evening of pitch-in "*heavy hors d'oeuvres*"
- ◇ Rally fee includes: meals and four nights w/full hookups
- ◇ Come and enjoy some friendly competition in : horseshoes, beanbag baseball, pool / billiards, pickle ball, ring toss, card games and other camping sports.
- ◇ Enjoy the warmth of a heated swimming pool.
- ◇ 3 nights of entertainment will be part of the rally.
- ◇ A variety of local tours are being planned: Cerreta Candy Co., Univ. of PHX Stadium, AZ Challenger Museum.
- ◇ Presentations, roundtable discussions, and craft activities will all be part of the schedule.
- ◇ With time designed for you to explore the wonders of this western desert area.
- ◇ Gift baskets & raffle for charity.
- ◇ Rally open to invited guests of HRRVC members.

Name: _____ National # _____

Address: _____

City / State / ZIP _____

Contact Phone _____ Email: _____

Type of unit: _____ Length _____ 1st Time State Rally Attendee? ___ Handicap parking _____

Rally Fee: 2 in unit = \$250 1 in unit = \$220 Rally Fee Amount: _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____ Early Arrival (26th) add \$30 _____

After Oct. 1st - add \$30 _____

Make checks payable to: AZ State Fund HRRVC Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Mail to: Thom Feit, AZ/NM State Manager, 911 W Laguna Azul Ave, Mesa, AZ 85210-7109

Deadline for registration: **October 13th** Questions: thomfeit.az@aol.com Cell: 317.507.3557