



GOLD PANNERS #154

Newsletter

May and July 2018

MASTER OF TRAVEL Message (May)

Well, the warm weather is finally here although it was really pretty nice at French Camp. I think we were fortunate to get both clubhouses for our use. It made it nice not to have to setup and takedown for beanbag baseball.

Elections were held, and Lew Young will be installed Master of Travel and Bert Frey will be installed Wagon Master at the June meeting. Congratulations to both, especially to Bert who has been a long-time member and is finally able to hold office.

As many of you know, I am the Grand Representative of Nebraska in California for Eastern Star. This past May we went to Nebraska's Grand Chapter. We took our trailer, and this was a real adventure for us as the farthest we had previously gone was to Lincoln, Oregon. We did it in three days with stops in Elko, Nevada, where we had dinner with one of my DeMolay boys, Rawlings, Wyoming and the final stop in Kearney, Nebraska. I-80 through Nevada, Utah, Wyoming and Nebraska was very interesting, what with their higher speed limits and there not being a speed limit on towing vehicles like we have here in California. Getting passed by semis doing sometimes 80 was a thrill. I finally managed to convince myself that 65 was reasonable speed at which to travel.

We spent 5 nights at Kearney with the last night being especially memorable as we

were in a severe thunderstorm area. Thunder, lightning, rain and 78 MPH winds, OH MY! The trailer really shook for over 2 hours and then everything settled down.

We pulled up stakes Friday morning and headed for Denver to spend the night. We went to the Georgetown loop narrow gauge railroad on Saturday. They were having a Mother's Day special and mothers received a small box of handmade chocolates, a long stem red rose and a coffee mug with the railroad logo on it. Continuing on we spent the night in Green River, Utah and stopped at Great Basin National Park to visit Lehman Caves. Then on to Ely, Nevada to spend the night. When we got there, we were informed that it had been raining off and on for 3 days. The trip on into California had a lot of rain. Strange to see so much rain in the desert! Our trip totaled 3,104 miles and 11 days. We may even repeat it next year.

See you at Plymouth in June!

Dennis

MASTER OF TRAVEL REPORT (July)

Congratulations to Eugene Boesch for becoming the NCT National 1st Vice-President. We also congratulate Lady Karen Boesch. In less than two years The Gold Panners will sponsor a National Rally. This rally is a big deal. This event will rank at or near the top of Gold Panner achievements. Each and every one of us

must bring our “A” game in support of this event. We want people leaving this rally saying, “that was the best yet.”

The passing of Billy Cain was a great tragedy. He had just visited us our 49er Camp rally and was in great spirits and appeared to have a good time. I’m sure he is in an even better place.

Please talk up NCT and what good times you have at our campouts with fellow Masons. You may want to invite them to join us at a campout. We really need new members. Your one-on-ones with potential members will be the key for increasing our rolls.

See you all in Vacaville.

Lewis Young,

TRAIL BOSSES REPORT (July)

Bob and Carol Morgan served as Trail Bosses for the June outing at 49er Village. 13 rigs made the trek to Plymouth. Paul and Ivy Laffoon would have been the 14th rig except that the air conditioning for their rig decided at the last minute that it wanted to take its own vacation, so it refused to work – and there’s no way they were going to spend each night being cooked medium-well in an uncooled rig. Anyway, with 14 rigs on the manifest the RV park agreed to give us exclusive use of the social hall – and, that is one of the greatest halls among the many RV parks that we routinely visit.

Hot dogs, salad and chips were served, together with their choice of ice cream or popsicles for the light Sunday supper; pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausage were featured for the Trail Boss Breakfast; and, our catered dinner consisted of rotisserie chicken, potato salad, beans with

bacon, rolls, and watermelon for dessert. Thanks, are extended to Robbin Carlos for scrambling the eggs, and Gene Cripe for flipping pancakes, plus several others who pitched in wherever they were needed. Dennis and Peggy LeClert took care of the ice cream social (which included a birthday cake); Pat Neu handled the bingo event; and Bobby Wood took charge of Bean Bag Baseball. Such great help really lightened the load for the Trail Bosses.

A dozen of us trekked into Sutter Creek for some antique browsing and window shopping. Eight of us stayed in Sutter Creek for lunch at the Back Roads Café, with the others choosing to head for Jackson to continue their shopping.

Tuesday night found 16 of us enjoying a great selection of Mexican foods at Colina de Oro Restaurant. This was a return visit for many of us, and, as usual it proved to be very enjoyable

During the time between major events there were the usual card games and jig-saw puzzle work, plus the craft work of stuffing and sewing comfort toys for children. Those comfort toys were really appreciated by the Sutter Creek Volunteer Fire Department, and they reported that just a few days previously there were some children who were left stranded after a home fire and were in the care of the Red Cross. Having something that they can hang onto as their very own, at such trying times, can help a child through a time of adjustment. Thirty-seven toys were delivered. By the way, each of the toys now have a label indicating they were made by our group. Our collection of non-perishable foods was delivered to the Plymouth City Hall, as they serve as the distribution point for those in need.

We were all pleased to welcome Dean and Mary Ella Williams, the newest members of

our Gold Panners Chapter - - we look forward to seeing them at all of our events. Special guests dropping in to visit with us included "Honorary-Member" Billie, and his parents; Ole and Darlene Olson; Martha Brune, who is Peggy LeClert's mother; and Jeanne Reynolds who brought along her significant other. Our less-than-active members are always welcome, and we look forward to their visits whenever possible.

Peggy served as the Judge of Kangaroo Court, assisted by Sheriff and Sherifess Gene and Karen Boesch, who picked up some spare change to add to our treasury. In the process we learned all about the "sins" of our companions, including Ben and Pat Neu whose right-side mirror of their rig just mysteriously decided to disconnect itself from their rig right out in the middle of a freeway - - but did they hit something? Oh, no, no, no, at least that's the story they told the Judge - who responded with an appropriate fine!

With that we wrapped up our event, bidding safe travel to all, especially those who are faced with several days of driving while headed East for the National Rally.

Thank you,
Bob and Carol

Hi All, I just wanted to thank all of you campers that made Dennis LeClert's Master of Travel year a pleasure. We really appreciate all the trail bosses who took on a campout. We couldn't have gotten through the Tri-State Rally without so much help. It seems every one of you has stepped up in one way or another to help this year. We had some take on dinners, breakfasts, ice cream socials, sewing bears & angels, bringing craft supplies & helping with crafts. Also, a big thank you to those who took over chaplain duties when I couldn't be there. At the rally some took care of the decorating while we were in Oregon for the eclipse,

others took on the dinner, while some made the silent auction a great success. Some of you performed a wonderful memorial service while others helped with the crafts & games. We can't forget our wonderful bean bag baseball score keeper, bingo caller & umpire. Our group is so blessed with all the people who always take responsibility for one or more things.

We have been told by many campers that come to visit from other groups that our campouts are like mini-rallies. I assume that is true because we have such full agendas. I have only been to one rally in Oregon that was very different than ours. I know Gene & Karen will have lots of willing helpers in 2020 when we have the national rally here in California.

Thank you all again as we go into a new year. I know you each will help Lewis & Shelley in any way you can. I would also like to say that we miss so many of our members that are not able to camp anymore. Every time someone is missing there is a hole among our ranks. We get new members, but you will always be in our hearts.

God Bless,
Peggy LeClert
2017-2018 First Lady

The Vineyard RV Park – Vacaville Trail Boss

I hope everyone had a good time at Plymouth. The weather cooperated and wasn't too hot and we got the whole clubhouse to ourselves, couldn't ask for much more than that. I would like to congratulate the new officers and hope that they have a successful term. I would also like to thank everyone for their support throughout the past year.

As Peg and I are the next Trail Bosses, we would like to throw out the possibility of a tour for the next camp out in Vacaville. What we were considering three destinations, Jelly Belly in Fairfield, Western Railroad Museum on Hwy 12 between Rio Vista and Suisun City, and the California Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento. There are a number of pros and cons about each. We've been to Jelly Belly and the Western Railroad Museum before, never (to my knowledge) to the California Railroad Museum. Jelly Belly is free to visit and has a café if we get hungry. The Western Railroad Museum will cost \$9 for us seniors, *but* we get a free train ride out of it. The Sacramento Railroad Museum will cost \$12 and unfortunately there will be no train rides available, weekends only. However, there is Old Sac with its shops and restaurants just a few steps away.

So, there you are! I would like your opinions on what you would like to do. Obviously going to one of these tours will take some time and some of our activities will have to be modified to fit these tours, but if the club is willing, we will be happy to make those arrangements. Please let us know your thoughts.

As I write this, it is shortly after the 4th of July, I hope all of you had a great day with plenty of fireworks. I know we did, even though the Galt celebration was June 30, (can't mess up the Galt Market) on the 4th it didn't stop until after midnight.

See you at the next camp out,

Dennis
JPMOT

SUNSHIRE AND CLOUDS

I may have told some of you but not all, so here is my latest information.

Erland Myers wrote to say his Midge passed away in May and had Alzheimer's. Erland said that he is 88 but must be still doing well. We sent a note from the Gold Panners. He knows what is going on with our Gold Panners. Probably enjoys doing the computer.

Peggy received a note in regard to our new members the Stewarts. Carrol Stewart's husband Roscoe passed away recently. It was on his birthday.

As most of you know we also lost Billy Cain very recently. He fought a good battle. Some of us went to his celebration of life and graveside service. It was a great look at his lifetime. Billy was 40 years old and loved camping with us. He was also a member.

If you have any sunshine or clouds information on any of our members, please let me know.

Thanks,

Ivy
Sunshine and Clouds



Contact/Trail Boss

Location

City

2018

August 26-31	Dennis & Peggy LeClert	Vineyard	Vacaville
October 7-12	Gene & Karen Boesch	Casa De Fruita	Hollister
December 12	Christmas Party	Camellia Gardens Clubhouse 197 Garden Circle Dr.	Manteca

2017-2018 OFFICERS

Master of Travel	Lewis Young
Wagon Master	Burt Frey
Trail Boss	See list of individual campouts
Secretary	Karen Boesch
Treasurer	Pat Neu
Chaplain	Peggy LeClert
1-Year Trustee	Gene Cripe
2-Year Trustee	Bobby Wood
3-Year Trustee	Brad Carlos

