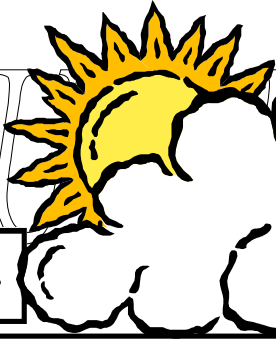


July 2001
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SUNRISERS GAZETTE

CAROLYN'S CORNER



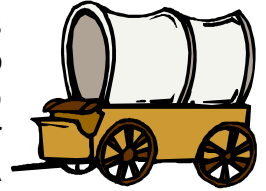
This issue of the Gazette shows how hard Kathryn Garret has been working. She has, single handedly, put together an outing schedule for the East Coast which will bring the Sunrisers together as a club. Our difficulty has been that we cover a huge geographic area and our members, for the most part, are not full timers. This meant that having two or three outings a year allowed only the people lucky enough to live in the area and not working at that time to attend. Kathryn's plan and her work implementing that plan is changing that.

The idea is not new. The Spencers, former President and Sec/Treasurer, had begged in vain for help in setting up local campouts. The real problem they had however was that they didn't have Kathryn to organize and put the plan into operation.

And that brings me to the actual point of this article. If this Gazette was addressed to you, you are a member of this club. That means it is your club. Not mine. Not Bill's. Not Kathryn's. This is your club. And you have a person who is working her buns off to make it a better club for you. Outings are the reason an RV club is organized. Not the Newsletter. Not the vest or sticker on the back of your RV. Outings! A place to meet with old friends and make new ones. Outings! New places to explore with other people. Outings! An opportunity to talk to other Rvers and learn about Rving. Call with your suggestions. Volunteer to help. Run for office. It's your club. Make it better. See'ya.

KATHRYN'S KAMPING

The Indiana Outing was a huge success. Many thanks to Ron and Donna Sutton who worked as Wagon Masters prior to the outing until their ALFA had to go into the shop for repairs causing them to miss the outing. Terry and Dianne O'Keeffe were the Assistant Wagon Masters and were wonderful. They worked hard insuring that everyone had a great time.



The Wisconsin Outing signup forms were with the last Gazette and needed to be returned by August 8. If there are last minute stragglers and you get this issue of the Gazette in time call the Wagon Masters, Ed and Alice Allard, at (847) 612-4560 for last minute registrations. Bill and Carolyn Tickel are the Assistants.

The Pennsylvania Outing in Stroudsburg includes the Ballon Festival and should catch Sunrisers returning from the Fall foliage in New England. Registration Forms were in the last issue of the Gazette. Some have already been returned. These forms must be received by Sept 2nd. Assistant Wagon Masters are needed. Call me (Kathryn Garrett) at (503) 819-4717 to volunteer.

The Sunrisers in Florida, those who live there and those who winter there, requested some Florida outings. Most wanted an Orlando Outing. Finding an Orlando area park within our price range was difficult but not impossible. An Orlando Outing is scheduled for November. AND a Panama City Beach Outing on the Emerald Coast is scheduled for January. The park is 300 yards from a beautiful white sandy beach. Both registration forms are included with this Gazette. Please register ASAP. The RV Parks there need to know how many. (CONTINUED PAGE 2).

The Elkhart, Indiana SUNRISER'S Campout Report

By Dianne O'Keefe

The July campout for the Sunrisers was a rousing success. We met at the Elkhart RV Campground in (you'd never guess) Elkhart, Indiana. Ed and Alice Allard were the first to arrive. They came nearly a week early to make sure they got the best campsite. I'm sure it wasn't because they were the Wagon Masters for another event (Cabriolet Rally) and had to be there anyway. Kathryn Garrett showed up a day early with a TENT. She claimed it was an early ALFA and since she was Wagon Master no one argued. She then begged, cajoled, pleaded, bribed, and finally threatened Terry and I into becoming her assistants. What a trooper this lady is! The Suttons were the original wagon masters, but they had a major breakdown on their RV and couldn't be there. Their RV was in the shop. Jack, Kathryn's insignificant other, had the RV in Virginia and couldn't come so Kathryn rented a car, loaded her tent, and headed for Indiana. WOW. Other attendees were Roger and Nancy Dyke from Holland, MI; Darrell and Betty Householder from Belvedere, IL.

(continued on page 3).

An RV Blessing

May the wind be always at
your back,
May the rain fall gently on
your rubber roof,
May the sun shine softly on
your awning,
May all your tires roll smooth-
ly down the road,
And may God hold you in His
Hands until we meet again in
fellowship and grace.

Stolen from the Irish by
Bill Tickel.



SUNRISER CLUB OFFICERS

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Bill Tickel
(Lives with the president)

NATIONAL BOARD REPS:

Tom & Barbara Taylor
2161 W. Williams Ave.
PMB 255
Fallon, NV 89406-2612
(775) 742-0255

KATHRYN'S KAMPING (KONTINUED)

An article in a travel magazine about a "family friendly" Mardi Gras in Louisiana caught my eye. It was billed as "all of the fun with none of the craziness," and is the second largest Mardi Gras in Louisiana. It is held in Houma. We plan on an outing there in February during Mardi Gras. Finding a park was a bear. The city opens an RV park for the celebration and agreed to hold spaces until early December. We must have all reservations in by then. So plan ahead, this will be a great outing. Hope to see lots of you there!

We are just beginning to plan for a Charleston, SC Outing in March, and a Williamsburg, VA Outing in April. Planning at this point has not gone beyond that. Ideas for locations, parks, activities, and attractions will be accepted and appreciated. Please get involved. We need your ideas. **Send an email to jackexum@juno.com or call (503) 819-4717 with your ideas and suggestions.**

There is a Outing Schedule published with this Gazette. The Sunriser schedule along with the other Alfa chapters outings is on the internet at:

WWW.ALFALEISURE.COM.

Thanks, Kathryn Garrett

What do you get when you cross a pit bull with a collie?

A dog that rips your leg off and then runs for help.

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OUTING SCHEDULE

2001

WISCONSIN DELLS

Sept 18 - Sept 25

Ed & Alice Allard

(847) 612-4560

PENNSYLVANIA FOLIAGE

AND BALLON FESTIVAL

October 9 - October 15

Kathryn Garrett

(503) 819-4717

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Nov 8 - Nov 15

Wagon Master TBA

2002

FLORIDA EMERALD COAST

Jan 9 - Jan 16

Wagon Master TBA

MARDI GRAS in HOUMA, LA

Feb 6 - Feb 13

Wagon Master TBA

CHARLESTON, SC

Late March

Kathryn Garrett (503) 819-4717

PRE-NATIONAL AND

NATIONAL

Sierra Vista , AZ

Apr 3 - Apr 10/Apr 10 - Apr 17

WE GET QUESTIONS

When space permits (we are limited to two pages plus inserts because of postage costs) we will try to answer any RV questions you may have. But first, let me beat the drum once more about attending outings. There are many reasons to attend. One of them is to talk to other Alfa owners. We have been full timing for 8 years. In addition, I attended a 12 week RV Tech School, have a rating as a Certified Master RV Tech, and taught at an RV Tech school for a year. The point is, I have never attended an outing that I didn't learn something I didn't know about RVing, or my RV.

Let's begin this first column talking dirty. Many newcomers are confused about gray and black water do's and don'ts. There isn't enough space to explain the reasons for the rules below. But they are sound rules:

- 1) Never leave your black water shutoff open. Dump your black water when it is full or nearly so. Then wash the hose with gray water.
- 2) Always have your gray water valves shut when you dump the black water.
- 3) Once a year put about 25 lbs of bagged ice down your toilet into an empty black water tank **just** before departure. The ice will scrub the tank bottom and melt.
- 4) Carry a spray bottle of either hydrogen peroxide or a clorox solution and spray the water connection at a new site before connecting your water. I've seen departing units wash their sewer hose by holding it up to the faucet. The editor.

O'KEEFFE'S ELKHART REPORT

The outing was a series of firsts: Kathryn as wagon master, Terry and I as assistants, first campout for the Dykes and Householders, and the first Sunrisers Outing organized for a specific area. Our group of nine got right to business by going to Wally World, and then locating all the RV manufacturers. The Wagon Master dinner consisted of Terry's "Ghetto Burgers," and my "Garbage Beans" (don't ask).

We met for dinner Friday at Das Dutchman Essenhaus to sample Amish cooking. After insisting on a doggie box Betty left it and the waitress had to run her down in the parking lot. Good thing she had the box for her 85# Dobermann when she got home.

The remainder of the week saw Kathryn sampling all the donuts in town to be sure we had only the best, a pot luck breakfast, and rain. Fines were assessed, we went to the flea market and a band concert in city park. We left Thursday with goodbys to new and old friends.

Alfa Sunrisers
Bill Tickel, Editor
2010 Spring Place Rd.
Box 192
Cleveland, TN 37323

The
Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

SUNRISERS APPLICATION FORM:

Attention Sunrisers: Below is a convenient form for you to use for Alfa owners that you meet on the road who are not yet SUNRISERS. Recruit!

MEMBERSHIP \$10.00/year

SEND TO:
Alfa Sunrisers
Bill Tickel, Secretary
2010 Spring Place Rd.
Box 192
Cleveland, TN 37323

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____
ZIP/Postal Code _____
Alfa Length _____ Number of slicdes _____

**NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME &
OTHER IMPOR-
TANT STUFF.**

We have not received any correspondence from the National Board since the National Rally. Therefore there has not been any new members from new Alfa buyers this quarter. This is disturbing because I have received emails from new buyers who bought in November who want to know why they haven't heard from

me. There has been a goodly number of renewals. There are also some regular members that have not sent in their dues. I assumed this is an oversight and continued to keep them registered as members. You know who you are. Please do so.

We do have a new member recruited by Kathryn Garrett. Welcome to Lee Mobley and Katherine Sander from Austin, Texas.