



THE ORIGINAL RANCH PALAVER

FOUNDED BY
C.T.HANCOX
SKP#16549
1998

VOLUME XX NUMBER 3 THE ORIGINAL RANCH LAKEWOOD, NM May-June 2013

Phone: (575)457-2303

Web: www.skpranch.com Office: skpranch@pvt.net

FAX: (575)-457-2100

Yahoo Group: ranch_ramblings@yahoo.com

Board of Directors

President - Barbara Walther
Vice President - Wally Mauck
Treasurer - Richard Wygant
Secretary - Orv Schinke
Chuck Queen
Dave Norton
Greg Obst
Marion Braum
Paula Russell

President's Post—Barbara Walther

Ah, Spring in New Mexico. Summer one day and winter the next. Wind – yes but still getting night freezes late in March? Oh well. I am sure it will be hot soon enough and I will wish for those night freezes. Our weather remains dry and the ground is thirsty. Wally tried to recite Len Ratzlaff's poem "Oh Spring" at Happy Hour on the first day of spring, but he flubbed the third verse. We called Lenny and everyone did the poem for him. He enjoyed that.

It has been nice and quiet since the semi-annual business meeting. We are still having a steady stream of visitors. Some are returning while others are here for the first time, many are using the coupon.

I see changes out at the Seven Rivers Sports Complex. The air gun range seems to be changing daily and is getting some use. As I walk Missy out there, I see a net but do not know its purpose yet. Someone has been working on the golfing area, too.

Mike has been spending a lot of time researching solutions for the sound in the Ranch House. He told me last night that he thinks he has found something that will work and that is within his budget. I do not think it is much of a secret anymore that some super nice leaseholders made a donation toward getting this problem solved. It was a nice donation and that is Mike's budget.

The water committee has been busy researching RO systems. Those people really spend a lot of time taking care of our water. They deserve a HUGE () (that is a hug, in case you did not recognize it.)

A committee was formed for the purpose of gathering plans for the empty spaces created by the new laundry and the new pole barn out by storage. This leaves the old laundry and the tractor barn empty. They sent out questionnaires trying to get ideas of what the membership would like to see done with these spaces. Everyone should have one by now. Please send them in so the committee has the direction of the members as they make plans to present at the next semi-annual business meeting.

Mike and Lois Boose have taken over Round Up after the previous chairperson resigned. Thank you very much. I know you will get lots of good help and we will have a great round up.

We also set up a committee to study emergency measures in the event of a weather issues such as tornado or flood. FLOOD? That would take rain! Bill and Lois have also picked up this banner. Bill is an experienced "search and rescue" person and Lois is a true organizer! I really love to see the newer leaseholders jumping in to take some of these jobs.

The Ranch Hands committee keeps putting together a calendar that is full of fun activities. Charlotte stays current on who is in the park to play different games and keep things current. Dominos has faded away along with the players but new games have been started.

All you folks who are on the road, be safe. We will be looking forward to reading about your travels. Take lots of pictures so you can present us with a travel show when you return.

Hugs, to all,
Barbara Walther, BOD President



IN MEMORIUM

In March, The Ranch lost a beloved member, Thayer Tarvin. His obituary, below, gives a brief outline of his life, but there was so much more.

Obituary

Thayer Y. Tarvin

(February 20, 1917 - March 15, 2013)

Mr. Tarvin, 96, died Friday, March 15, 2013 at his home.

Cremation is under direction of Terpening & Son Mortuary.

Thayer was born February 20, 1917 in Englewood, California; the son of Lonnie Tarvin and Wave (Ireck) Tarvin.

On Dec. 11, 1953 he was married to Charlene Pike in Ashland, Oregon. They settled in Lakewood in 1999.



Thayer was a Welder and a member of Seventh Day Adventist Church. He was also involved with the Theatre Group in Medford, Oregon and was a member of the Sheriffs pose.

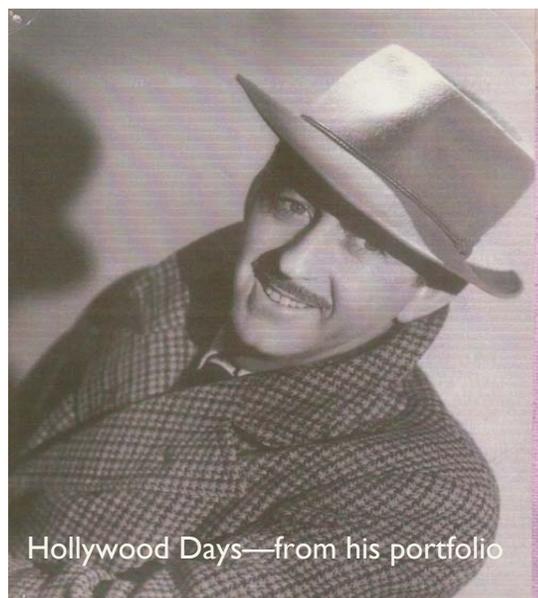
He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife Charlene Tarvin of the family home; daughters

Judy Tarvin of Spokane, WA, and Vicki Ropp of Colona, Iowa; son Terry

Tarvin of White City, Oregon; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and a sister Lorraine Blake of Central Point, Oregon.

Thayer played keyboard for The Ranch Happy Hour for many years. That wasn't his only musical talent or performing talent. He acted in the movies from the time he was a young man in Hollywood until he was an "older" man living on Galveston Island.



Hollywood Days—from his portfolio

Remembrances of Thayer

Beverley and John, Lot #49

We will always remember Thayer's infectious sense of humor, his talent on the keyboards, and his kind and gentle spirit. He brought a lot of joy to the world and made a lasting impression on all who met him. He will be missed.

Martha Nyman

My memory of Thayer will always be his sense of humor. The first week I cared for Thayer, he was in bed with pain, but it was as though he was standing up, pain free, and playing the part of a comedian. He made me laugh with his short stories and his funny faces. I miss him terribly.

From E2

In every lifetime the privilege of knowing a few very special people comes along... Seems to me that when meeting new people, it is a good idea to pay attention, and listen closely to every new person, as each one might just be the most special person you will ever know.

Shortly after I had settled in as a leaseholder at The Ranch, I met two musical men who both became very special new musician friends. Art Chenoweth, who has been gone for several years, was a "Big Band" player from whom I learned so much more about music, and enjoyed all of the music he played with me. Thayer was not only a wonderful musician; he was multi-talented, fun, and funny. Always an optimistic and positive outlook seemed foremost in his presence. I do not remember that we ever actually played music together. We shared our thoughts about music, and we did play for each other from time to time. When I asked Thayer to

play a piece I wanted to learn, into my keyboard, he was always willing to comply, and to provide the sheet music as well.

It was not long after I realized that Thayer & Art both played for "Happy Hour" at different times during the year, I wanted to participate. I mentioned my desire to both men. They decided to let me play for Happy Hour during the summer and winter. Then when Art died, there was the whole year to fill with music between "T2" and "E2"..... We decided that one of us would play during Winter and Spring and the other Summer through Fall. That worked great for quite a while.

For 10 years I played every Friday at the Nursing Home in Artesia and a few other Senior places in Artesia, and Carlsbad. T2 was on his own for Happy Hour for those years.

One evening as I sat on the stage edge to chat with T2 before Happy Hour started. He looked at me with sad teary eyes and said, "Will you show me how to play this keyboard, I don't remember anymore." I burst into tears and hugged him close.....That evening is still vivid in my memory and always I cry when I see my buddy there.....

That was the last time Thayer played for Happy Hour. Thayer will live in my heart, as LOVE, where he has been since I met him, in late 2000. He is also present in that little tiny maroon vase that sits on the piano in the Ranch House "musical corner."

Thayer Tarvin, aka T2 was indeed a VERY Special Person.....

Thayer's ashes have been placed in several places. Some were strewn along his favorite walking path with a view out to the desert horizon. Some were placed in a cairn near a circular surveyor marker on a mountain in our vicinity that had the name "Thayer" on it. Finally, on the piano in the Ranch House a small vase sits with Thayer's ashes.

The Ranch's 30th Anniversary Celebration — The Way It Was

Maureen Bigelow remembers:

Sitting at the table with Barb Heaver in January talking about "Making this fun; affordable for all; how about some things that are different, and let's learn something too" I think Barbara got her wishes. All the input from the Ranch Hands meeting helped us too. The willingness of so many to help doing things MADE THE TIME HAPPEN. When I got back in February...rehearsals started for the Play, plans had changed for a dance (yippee), a schedule shaped up and badges ordered. Away we went.

SOCK HOP with Root Beer Floats ---Friday night opening to our 30th Anniversary Party Weekend was such a blast we were a little worried that a few people might not be moving as normally the next day. Soaped figures on the sun room windows Dancing!!! "The Twist"...."SHOUT"...."Rock Around the Clock"... with DJ Brown (Mike not Leroy in a white prom coat and a pink carnation) was go, go and more go. The choices by Jan and Mike were fabulous for all of us who surely were DANCING. Couples were chaperoned by Julio and Martha as



they snuggled up for the slow dances too. There was a lot of laughing. Many visitors really remarked about the dance, the wonderful root beer floats and the great time looking at the memories along the Ranch House wall. The estimate was 70 people were involved...and most over 70 listening to the 70's music.

Breakfast in the AM was **compliments of the Men**. Participants went through 9 dozen donuts, bagels and cream cheese, coffee, tea and FRUIT. This

was a great job and all the ladies really appreciated it.

Then at 10:00 two workshops...

Kindle with Betty Campbell in the sunroom and **Solar with Bill Bigelow** held in the Ranch House room. Twenty-five in each group brought smiles to the two leaders...who weren't sure anyone would show up!

Betty's group was very informative to the new Kindle user, while the "old hands" at Kindle helped each other in little buzz groups as the meeting continued.



The Book Bunch --3rd Monday of the month (?), brings Kindles — hardly a paper book shows up.



Solar included items that one uses; a Power Point presentation on setting up a rig solar wise and a field trip to 3 rigs with varying uses of solar - one visitor had SOME WOW SYSTEM. Also, participants could sign up for advice or help with their solar ideas at their lot after the weekend.

Memories at 2:00 with Marilyn and Bob Railey

Such a great trip down the lanes of the past here at the Ranch. Stories shared by Marilyn during Happy Hours this week readied many of us for more...and they came with wonderful style and flair. The DVD from Canada showing our park as a "Community" was shown at the finish. Sixty-eight members enjoyed this event.

Outside, **the golf cart blind-folded driving course** was ready. Twenty-four sets of drivers and 20 in the audience along the porch...laughed till we cried as the passenger directed the blindfolded driver around cones and backing up to a specific spot to hook up. (continued...)

The Ranch's 30th — The Way It Was (continued)



Jan Brown was the most memorable—rolling over 7 cones while Julio directed her. But Julio and Wally were the final winners when they did the course together. Is there something wrong there? Thanks to **Neil and Jolieanne Brunton** for helping organize this fun event. Their prizes were priceless...fuzzy dice for the guys and a bright pink steering cover for Jan.



Dinner -Theater next -After a long day of smoking and roasting ---stirring and spooning. **Barb Heaver** invited the cast and the wonderful cooks - like Trish Teegarden, to serve BBQ pork, smoked by Dennis Bratcher, on buns, with beans and coleslaw. Ninety-six were fed well.

We had so many sign up for the weekend, that we ran out of badges - your ticket to attend!!! Staff gave up theirs to allow the visitors to have one. (New ones arrived recently to give to the donors).

The evening was warm and close in the Ranch House as the lights went down and **the play** **written and directed by Maureen Bigelow** "**Our Ranch**" began. E2 performed the themes for each of the 5 characters --Ken Payne (sculptor and father

of Vic - Artesia sculptor)-**Orv Schinke**; Agnes "Roma" Crozier (wife of Lakewood Tomato Factory owner)- **Sherry Lumb**; Sallie Chisum (niece of John Chisum & 1st PO mistress in Artesia)- **Debra Simmonds-Amari**; Jim White (founder of the Carlsbad Caverns)-**Bill Bigelow**, and Joe Peterson (founder of Escapees and The Ranch) -**Olaf Thingvall**. Also in the cast were a group of



mourners.

Marching Joe up to the stage, funeral style (the entertainer music) were the mourners, Greg Obst, Mike Brown, Tony Simmonds-Amari, Roger Heaver, Art Lumb, and the director, Maureen Bigelow to begin the play. It was a short visit to a cemetery where all are in rocking chairs having "Happy Hour all the time, Honey". Joe learns a lot about the people in the area (and the audience did too). As Jim White leaves the stage at the end the group sang Happy Trails. Jim stopped to touch a rocker set on the pool table with a score of music in it and some flowers in honor of Thayer Tarvin.

Everyone seemed to have fun and on came the peach cobbler for a wonderful birthday dessert!

(continued....)

The Ranch's 30th — The Way It Was (continued)

Sunday...the fun continued...**Burrito breakfast by Barbara Walther** with helpers (2 visitors too). We served up 100 burritos (prepared at the Cooking Group, by many Ranch Hand Ladies).

The day was your own, but **PM...a double feature with pizzas — RV and The Long Long Trailer**. The laughter could be heard to Carlsbad, I understand, as Robin Williams worked on his sewer hose in RV---and it continued right through all the rocks loaded into the trailer that Lucy and Desi trekked over that steep mountain.

Many kudos to Barbara Heaver - the chairman of this wonderful weekend. She had not done anything like this before. She jumped in with both feet and she did a FABULOUS job. I loved working as the "co" with her. We are both very, very happy.

THANKS TO THE RANCH AND ALL THE HANDS THAT SHOWED UP.....THANKS TO YOU ALL THAT MADE IT HAPPEN.

Ranch Hands Check In

Art and Sherry Lumb

I had a wonderful time at the 30th Anniversary Celebration. I was in the play, Roma, the plump red headed Italian tomato, was my name. Orv and I had such a good time that we'd like to do it again.

This month I had another cooking class. No one could decide which one of the three I should make, so we made all of them. We had Green Chili Stew, Green Chili Soup and Chicken Mole'. We ate everything with the help of Art and Rudy. Neil wanted to come but couldn't make it, so I took him some of the mole' that he wanted to taste.

We will probably be in WI by the time this

printed, They had flood watches so will take our time. We usually take 54, but I think we'll try something different. I really like 54, no big trucks and only two areas, Osage Beach and a small area of 90, where we both have to pay attention.

Friends of ours didn't like the small bridge over the Mississippi and he was a truck driver—I think he had a wide body MH.

Hope everyone has a great summer.

Hugs,
Sherry & Art Lot #6

Pat Gorsuch & Bill Kukes

Well, I've missed getting my updates in for the last two issues, so some of this is definitely old news. In any event, we really enjoyed our volunteer stint at Bosque del Apache and even extended our stay through the month of March due to staffing shortages for the spring season. The Sandhill cranes and light geese finally started their migration northward in mid February and the place sounded so quiet without those thousands and thousands of birds out on the refuge. But there were still lots of ducks and other waterfowl, a couple of bald and golden eagles that were still hanging around as well as numerous types of owls. Then some of the shorebirds started to arrive to herald the spring season. In addition to all the birdlife, we saw elk

herds, plenty of mule deer, javelinas, coyotes, skunks, and even two bobcats, but the mountain lions remained elusive to our searching eyes and poised cameras. The Festival of the Cranes held back in November kept us busy, busy, busy, but we had time to attend some of the programs and wander through the exhibits and the staff did a great job keeping us fed during that hectic week. Several other volunteers at the Bosque were also Escapees so we ended up doing a group Christmas dinner, plenty of potlucks, bonfires and weenie roasts, and other food-related activities.

Some of our sightseeing in the Bosque area included visiting the Ladd S.

(continued...)

Ranch Hands Check In

Pat Gorsuch & Bill Kukes (continued)

Gordon waterfowl area in Bernardo (where "our" cranes occasionally went to feed in the cornfields when we weren't knocking down corn at our refuge), to the excellent mining museum at New Mexico Tech in Socorro, to Valley of Fire, and other drives and hikes in Magdalena and other nearby areas.

We drove out to the Very Large Array and did the behind the scenes tour at the radio astronomy observatory. There are 27 independent antennas that are typically rotated through four different configurations during the course of 16 months, and the VLA has been featured in many movies and music videos and other pop culture events.

We became great friends with Kay and Andy, the couple we were paired up to work with, and on Thanksgiving week we all went camping near the Gila Cliff Dwellings and hiked, sat in the hot springs, and enjoyed turkey and all the trimmings. On another one of our days off we drove to Albuquerque and went to the BioPark Zoo, Botanic Gardens, and Aquarium and had a tiring but fun day.

In January, Pat had to do a follow-up on a suspicious mammogram from 6 months ago and Albuquerque seemed like the logical location so we celebrated our New Year's break and indulged in a food and movie fest for several days to celebrate being back in a big city. Subsequently, Pat had to get an ultrasound and a core needle biopsy and -- after a consult with a surgeon -- a wait-and-watch approach for 6 more months was recommended, so we're continuing on with our travel and work camping plans.

When most of the volunteers left the end of February, we spent a few days with Kay and Andy at Valley of Fires and Three Rivers Petroglyphs before we parted ways, although we just found out we've all been accepted back at the Bosque again next winter, which should be great fun.

We basically spent the month of April back at The Ranch and, in addition to doctor and dentist appointments, spent some time and money trying to get our "camper van" cleaned up and back in running order after sitting in storage for over two years so we can take it with us on our next trip...talk about dust and dirt everywhere! We had hoped to tidy up some of the landscaping and get our casita cleaned out of all the accumulated junk from over the years but unloaded even more "stuff" and weren't able to devote anywhere near enough time to make a dent in those projects.

Now we're getting ready to head out for a brief rendezvous in the Moab area with Kay and Andy before we continue on to our summer assignment working for the Yellowstone Association at Grant Visitor Center and West Thumb from mid May until the beginning of October. We're looking forward to an interesting summer.

Yellowstone is the first national park I ever visited and holds a special place in my heart. Years ago, I met a couple who had retired, sold everything, bought an RV, and worked at Yellowstone every summer for 20 years -- and THAT'S when the seeds of full timing were planted in my little brain. Fortunately, Bill watered and nurtured those seeds and convinced me we didn't need to wait for retirement to begin our Vagabond Days adventures back in 1999... and although he still occasionally talks about doing one more contract, he's already turned down a 6-month job in Ohio so he definitely seems to be liking this retirement stuff!

On a sad note, this is the first time that we're pulling out that our beloved Samantha the Kamper Kitty is no longer with us. At nearly 18 years old, she had been suffering from severe arthritis and other assorted maladies for the past several years and the medications seemed to be losing their effectiveness, so it was a really difficult decision. On April 15, we took her in the truck camper to the vet in Artesia and Dr. Young was nice enough to come out to the rig. This sweet lovable kitty always hated the vet's office with a passion and turned into a howling, biting psycho cat, so it was very important to me that her last moments were as stress-free as possible -- and afterwards, we had her cremated. It's been a tough few weeks and it's the first time in 40 years I haven't had a cat by my side, but she'll still be in our hearts as we continue our journey. She really was a great traveling companion and had a lot of miles under her belt (even if she slept through many of them, stretched out on the dash, usually asleep on the road atlas!).

Hope everyone has a safe and happy summer whether back at the Ranch or traveling hither and yon.

Pat Gorsuch, Bill Kukes, and Samantha the Kamper Kitty
106 Windmill Vista

Ranch Hands Check In

Norm and Shirley Partch

If you are ready for an adventure, try gate guarding in the Texas oil fields. Prepare to enter a parallel universe where there is no night or day, no weekend or holiday, where it is either dusty or muddy, where you may be 30 miles from the nearest Wal-Mart and so remote you can see the edge of the earth. However, it is also a job that is sometimes exciting, totally unpredictable and you will meet interesting people and learn about the complex and fascinating oil industry, plus building up a supply of tales to tell around the campfire



Fashionable uniforms provided



Full hook-ups—sewage tank, generator, fresh water tank

Job description: Log in and out all vehicles which come to an oil industry-related site, which may be a drilling rig, a fracking site, a storage facility, or oil activity on a game preserve. There may be as many as 300 gravel trucks a day or as few as 2 pickups.



Sometimes busy.....



.....sometimes not so busy

continued.....

Ranch Hands Check In

Gate guarding — Norm and Shirley (continued)



The neighbors often come to call.

Perks may include catered meals, (oil workers have big appetites and the portions are Texas-sized), hand-outs from salesmen (coffee, hats, pens, notepads, breakfast burritos, or candy) and sometimes goodies from the landowners.

Gate guarding is not for the faint hearted but it is definitely an adventure!

Elizabeth Evelyn (E2)

Playing music pre Happy Hour and for Happy Hour as well.

To play music is so much fun! To be able to share my love of music with everyone who comes to listen before Happy Hour is a bonus! Usually I am there at the keyboard about 3:30 every afternoon.

The music I choose to share is often dependent on who is there. When those who like Country are there, then country it is! If you want to hear and sing-along, just let me know your preferences.

If I have what you like with me, great. If I have what you like at home, I can bring it soon. If I do not have what you want to hear, either bring it or I will try to find it for you...and learn it if I do not know it!

Actually, why not put a list of songs you want to hear on the table? Seems like a good plan to me! I will check the list and make every attempt to fulfill your requests.... Keep in mind that I am not a concert pianist....nor am I a Church Organist....

Playing music so that those who listen will want to listen, is very very different in different venues. In our Ranch House, sound bounces off the walls in such a way that when more than one person is talking, even at whispers, there is a cacophony of sound! Adding music to the mix increases the cacophony, unless the audience listens or sings along! The same is true at the Nursing Home in Artesia.

This is why I begin playing well before Happy Hour begins. At 4:30, cued by the "ding-a-ling, the gathered Ranch Hands and visitors/guests will hear "Rancho Grande". Happy Hour begins.

During Happy Hour should anyone present have a birthday or anniversary, the audience is invited to sing-a-long with the music. Then at the end of Happy Hour should someone be leaving the following day, "Happy Trails" is the song that everyone is encouraged to sing-a-long to end Happy Hour for the day.

Should anyone want music for any activity here at The Ranch, I would love to be the volunteer provider. Should your event be somewhere other than the Ranch House, my awesome keyboard would need to be moved to whatever location. I can no longer lift or carry it anywhere.

It is always my greatest pleasure to share my music with others. Over the years that I have been playing music, I have met and played with a number of others who play a variety of instruments, and/or sing. While I love playing solo for an audience,

(even one other person, or my Clyde Cat), "jamming" with others is absolutely the best!

I could write several more paragraphs about the people who have come here who have jammed with me. Several have stayed longer than planned because we really wanted more time to play music together. One couple comes here JUST to have time to play music with me!



Recipes from Nancy

Nancy and Dan Newland have a blog, [View From The Dashboard](http://cosmicpossums.blogspot.com/), at <http://cosmicpossums.blogspot.com/> Nancy is going to share some of the recipes from the blog along with little stories to go with them (if they have a story).

Ken's Fav Movie Theater Popcorn

My son Ken is a Captain for Southwest Airlines.

Recipe

1 medium size brown paper sack

1 bottle tabasco sauce



Before you leave home stick in your pocket the above ingredients.

Upon arrival at movie theater, after you've bought tickets and got your seats, leave your spouse to sit by themselves for what seems like forever to go wander for awhile.

During this walkabout, purchase a large non-buttered popcorn, large drink, and anything your spouse desires - chocolates work good here.

Return to your seat now because the movie is about to start. Empty half the popcorn into the paper sack, add tabasco sauce to taste, shake the bag until you've totally annoyed all your neighbors. Now eat!

This is now the time that you will be needing that drink - water works best. Try to pick a slow time in the movie to do the other half of your popcorn in the empty bag, or you may really make your neighbors angry with you.

Don't forget - sit back, relax, and enjoy your flight - I mean movie!

Banana Stuffed French Toast

There is really no story behind the **Banana French Toast**. Just me looking on the internet and being hungry. Needed something new for breakfast. Dan cooks our breakfasts. He is always ready to try something new and different too.



Use thick slices of bread and cut almost through, making a pocket.

Stuff in thinly sliced banana.

Dip and soak in a mixture of 1 cup of egg beaters or 4 eggs; a pinch of salt; a little cinnamon or nutmeg or both, and vanilla.

Fry in an oiled skillet or griddle until golden brown and banana is soft.

Serve with syrup and blueberries on top .



Update on recent Ranch Hands moving out, moving in and moving around

Moving Around

Lot 41 to Lot 112 — Jerry & Betty Campbell

Moving On

Just for Fun

Can You Guess Who This Is?? —This gentleman was invited to put on a skirt and join women's coffee one Friday morning. He offered these pictures to prove he could pass.



I would like this to be a regular feature. Send me old pictures (pam.mcmickin@gmail.com) and we'll see who can make a correct guess. Next issue I'll provide the answer to this one—first name only and lot #.

Airstream Trailers Get New, Glamorous Lives

I was surprised to see this "Ideabook" (article) at the Houzz web site. There are multiple pictures of interesting uses and renovations of Airstream trailers. This is just a sample from the "Ideabook" **Haul These Fab Airstream Styles**. To see more, go to <http://www.houzz.com/ideabooks> and type *Airstream* in the "Search" box to get to this article. I hope you enjoy it.—Pam McMickin

"Interest in the classic egg-shaped metal trailers has spurred a devoted fraternity of followers, complete with its own terminology. Bambis, for example, are people who own or are on the hunt for a '60s-era Airstream Bambi model. And since so much love and attention is paid to just acquiring an Airstream, trailer owners are devoted to designing the interiors, tricking them out with modern materials and stylish creature comforts."



Glyn's Driving Tips (Part 2)— From a Post-Drivers Education Class

Glyn Carson has been a commercial driver for 36 years. He has driven in 49 states and 6 provinces of Canada. He has driven Limousines, buses, tractor trailer (local PUD, long haul, and off road), heavy equipment, and farm tractors. This is the continuation of the “Class” from the previous issue.

Introduction

The purpose of this material is to learn how to share the road with other vehicles in such a way that safety is enhanced. Vehicle accidents occur all too frequently; and most of the time they are preventable.

This is tailored for RV driving, but is “good to know” information for driving all types of vehicles. It is largely oriented toward driving on two lane roads.

The topics in the previous issue:

General Thoughts

Over size loads—meeting and passing—Wide Loads

The topics in this issue:

Over size loads—meeting and passing—Long Loads

School bus—loading and unloading on the highway

Flagger—proper, safe and respect of people working on the highway

Emergency vehicles—unwritten safety guide lines

Bicycles—safe way to pass

Passing or being passed—safe and easy ways

Small town driving—cars parked on the side of the street and local people’s thinking

Safety equipment

Long loads:

If you are in the straight part of the road slowing down is all that is needed. If you are in the turn of the road be sure to pull over to the right and slow or stop until he gets by. This is where the pilot car uses the “Stop” sign. They may need more room than the lane provides to make the turn.

Flagger:

When you see the signs “road construction”, “prepare to stop” or “flagger “ you should slow and watch for the flagger. Don’t drive 60 MPH until you get with-in a quick stopping distance and slam on your brakes. When you see the sign release the

throttle and coast or stop slowly. That depends on the distance to the flagger. Turn on your 4-way flasher and turn off the head lights. (Most vehicles the head lights and flashers are so close together you cannot see the flashers with the head lights on.)

If the flagger has the STOP sign out Stop. Before stopping. move to the right of the lane. Many

Flagger come and talk to you, so you know how long the wait. By pulling over to the right the flagger has a place to be without being in the oncoming traffic lane. If it is a long wait turn off your engine. If they are using a pilot car it will be a long wait if you can’t see it.

If the “SLOW” sign is out, move over as far as safely possible and slow down. Move over as soon as you see the flagger telling you to.

Keep your speed down until you pass the flagger on the other end of the construction.

Emergency vehicles:

On Interstate highways, move to the right side of the right lane. Check your speed and his speed so you don’t block an exit ramp or make them slow to get behind you so they can exit.

On two-lane roads move to the right and stop. Don’t block streets or drive ways. You don’t know where they are going.

If it is night turn off your head lights and turn on 4-way flashers. With your head lights on they cannot see past you, because they are looking into your lights.

Bicycles:

In Texas the law says you must give 5 feet of room between you and the biker.

In WY. The law for passing a state trooper with their lights on is to slow by 20 MPH. That is a good rule for bikes also.

For safety sake I say give them the complete lane if possible. The bike is entitled to it. Once again I say “slow down”. The wind displacement from a large vehicle can cause the bike to wreck. (continued...)

Glyn's Driving Tips (Part 2)— From a Post-Drivers Education Class

(continued)

Passing or being passed

Passing:

Leave a safe following distance between you and the vehicle you are passing.

When there is space to pass. Check your mirror. If the lane is empty, use your turn signal and then pull into the other lane.

Apply as much throttle as you have and pass as quickly as possible. Don't pull back into the lane until you know there is a safe distance between the two of you.

You should wait until you can see the whole front of the vehicle you are passing in your mirror.

Being passed:

When a car is trying to passing you. You should move to the right side of your lane. This allows the car to see around you without getting in the oncoming lane.

If a truck or bus is passing you, follow the above mentioned procedure. In addition, when they are in the other lane, touch your brake so they know you are slowing down to allow a safe and quick pass. That helps in the safe passing. If you hold the brake lights on too long they will think there is a problem they don't see and will not pass.

In Alaska you are ask to pull over to allow passing if there are more than 5 cars behind you.

Small town driving:

These are unwritten suggestions.

This could take days, because there are so many variables.

Watch for cars parked parallel or diagonal to the curb. They can back out or open a door at any time. Stay close to the center of the street.

Watch for turns or stops without warning. In their mind they have been turning there for 20 years you should have known that.

Probably no one will drive the posted speed limit. They are in no hurry.

Don't count on the turn and brake lights working. (that goes anywhere)

There can be hidden signs. (a tree, building, or faded and not readable).

Some towns have red blinking lights at stop signs. (4-way stop and 2-way stops). The other way is a yellow caution light.

Train tracks. Not all tracks have light at the crossing. (follow the old saying "Stop look and listen").

Traffic tickets are some towns only source of income. Obey the laws.

Some places allow ATV, snow machines, motorized wheel chair, etc. on the roads

Safety equipment:

- Flash light
- Jumper cables
- Blankets
- Tire chains
- Tow strap
- Safety vest (reflection)
- Tools
- Duck tape
- Bailing wire
- Gloves (leather, surgical, winter[works for hot work])
- Rain jacket
- Small Tarp





Birthdays and Anniversaries



MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 – Pat Brous
 1 – Dave Stribling
 2 – Karen Ireland
 6 – Nettie Haase
 9 – Nancy Schneider
 11 – Mary Gallivan
 12 – Rich Baker
 12 – Shirley Culpepper
 26 – Cindy Pulsipher
 31 – Phil Sharp

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

4 – Jim Hughes
 7 – Paula Russell
 10 – Beverly Hughes
 13 – Tony Simmonds/Amari
 15 – Linda Frey
 16 – Mark Ireland
 20 – Bill Kukes
 21 – Sherry Lumb
 21 – Jerry Krebill
 22 – Charlene Tarvin
 24 – Shirley Partch
 24 – Jerry Pruett
 25 – Soren Walther
 26 – Marie Helm
 27 – Keitha Kiselwick
 28 – Marilyn Railey
 30 – Caren Collins

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

10 – Ed & Lynn Griffen
 14 – Rob & Taffie Levin
 18 – Dave & Sally Stribling
 19 – George & Bonnie Keefe
 19 – Roy & Kathy Gilbert
 23 – Gary & Jennifer Roessler
 27 – Tim & Cheri Shaffstall
 28 – Phil & Nancy Schneider
 30 – Bob & Beth White

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

8 – Bob & Marie Helm
 9 – Norm & Shirley Partch
 12 – Spike & Kasey Jones
 12 – Orville & Marge Schinke
 13 – Jerry & Barbara Pruett
 15 – Jim & Judy Fagan
 15 – Wally & Joann Mauck
 15 – Art & Sandy Singley
 19 – Don & Doris Gage
 24 – Bob & Jean Stuvell
 27 – Mike & Keitha Kiselwick

Committee Contacts

Beautification:

Liaison: Orv Schinke
 Chair: Bob Railey

Building & Safety

Liaison: Wally Mauck
 Chair: Bob Nyman

Finance

Liaison: Richard Wygant
 Chair: Beth Norton

Governing Documents

Liaison: Marion Braum
 Chair: Debra Simmons-Amari

Grievance/Dispute

Liaison: Marion Braum
 Chair: Tony Amari

Library/Video

Liaison: Chuck Queen
 Chair: Betty Lugar

Lot Transfer

Liaison: Barbara Walther
 Keeper of the Keys: Sherry Lumb
 Keeper of the Keys: Sally Stribling
 Keeper of the Keys: Chris Giffin

Nominating

Liaison: Wally Mauck
 Chair: Martha Nyman

Palaver

Liaison: Barbara Walther
 Chair & Editor: Pam McMickin

Ranch Hands

Liaison: Barbara Walther
 Chair: Charlette Bratcher

Shop

Liaison: Greg Obst
 Chair: Jolieanne Brunton

Water

Liaison: Richard Whgant
 Chair: Glyn Carson

Welcome

Liaison: Paula Russell
 Chair: Marge Schinke

WiFi

Liaison: Dave Norton
 Chair: Pam McMickin



Palaver
The SKP Ranch
PO BOX 109
Lakewood, NM 88254