



# GRAND RVERS NEWS

January 2012

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## *Message from the President*

*Dick Williams president@grandrv.org*

Happy New Year – Let's Go RVing!

As we welcome 2012, we have many opportunities to see new areas or re-visit areas with friends. I have often heard "We have been there & done that or we've seen it all". Sandra and I have visited the same areas many times only to find new experiences with each visit. We've been to the Grand Canyon (both north and south rims), Arches, Bryce & Canyonlands, & Rocky Mountain National Parks numerous times. My point is that RVing is not just locations but that it is also the camaraderie with fellow RVers.

I hope that in 2012 the RV Club will provide to each club member an opportunity to experience true RVing – Travel – Exploration and most of all, camaraderie.

## **Message from the Vice President**

*Dave Dallaire vicepresident@grandrv.org*

Pat and I wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. We look forward to meeting new friends as well as greeting old friends at the rallies.

## *Message from the Membership Committee*

*Laurie Stewart membership@grandrv.org*

The Membership Committee hopes that you had a wonderful holiday season and that you are ready for more adventures in RVing this spring!

If you haven't done so already, remember that it's time to renew your club membership for 2012. Please bring a check made out to Grand RVers in the amount of \$10 per person/\$20 per couple to our next meeting, January 17th.

Or, if you would prefer, mail your check to:

Laurie Stewart, Membership  
17473 N. Escalante Lane  
Surprise, AZ 85374

In order to make our accounting easier and to eliminate the need to write a receipt to each member as they check in at the door, we are requesting that you pay your dues by check. However, if you do not have a checking account, we will accept cash.

We're looking forward to greeting you at the "sign in table" on the 17th and....don't forget to bring your CAM card with you!

*Message from the Sunshine Committee*

*Bonnie Biggins sunshine@grandrv.org*

**Please inform me about anyone in the club who is in need of some Sunshine. That would include hospitalization, serious illness, or bereavement. Be sure to make the subject line say "Sunshine Lady" so it isn't spammed!**

*Message from the Webmaster*

*John Stewart webmaster@grandrv.org*

There is a lot of information on the web site to help keep you informed about what's happening in our club. For example:

- ^ There may be important last minute messages from the Board.
- ^ Click on the red "Rallies" button to check out all the upcoming trips
- ^ Click on the red "Gallery" button to see pictures from recent trips.

To log on to the web site first click the red "Log On" button. Then enter your user name and password. Your user name is your first and last name together all in lower case without a space (firstnamelastname). Your password is your four digit CAM number. If your number is less than four digits add leading zero(s). For example for a CAM number of 123 it is 0123.

Please feel free to contact me with comments, suggestions or web site assistance.

*Message from the Publisher*

*Dave Dallaire newsletter@grandrv.org*

There will be some changes in the way the Members Directory is handled this year. Our intent is to publish primarily by email to save the cost of printing the rather large color document. We will email new versions whenever enough changes have occurred to justify the effort. There are no changes currently planned for the Newsletter. However your suggestions are encouraged.

*Message from Trip Directors*

*Bill Bilecki and Dick Freitas tripdirector@grandrv.org*

# 2012 TRIPS

**Las Vegas or Bust**  
**2012-02-27 thru 2012-03-02**  
**WAGONMASTERS: Dick & Sandy Williams**

Join this close to home rally. Enjoy strolling the Las Vegas Strip; try your luck in the casinos; take in the shows; or explore the depths of Hoover Dam. If you're tired of the activity on the Strip, visit Red Rock Canyon for a 13 mile scenic drive; there are great photographic vistas and hiking trails. Visit the Valley of Fire State Park; Valley of Fire is famous for its fun, distinct stone shapes. Visitors will see rocks in the shape of a piano, an elephant and even a beehive.

**Apache Junction Renaissance**  
**2012-03-TBD thru 2012-03-TBD (estimated)**  
**WAGONMASTERS: John & Ann Francis**

Journey back to medieval times with this close to home rally. Also, check out Apache Trail, Tortilla Flats, the Dolly Boat & Canyon Lake.

**Flagstaff, Kingman, Seligman Route 66**  
**2012- TBD thru 2012- TBD (estimated)**  
**WAGONMASTERS: Needed**

Route 66 still offers kicks; check out a piece of the American landscape for yourself. Drive the historic Route 66 between Seligman & Kingman. Stop at Hackberry General Store & Museum; investigate Grand Canyon Caverns; visit the south rim of the Grand Canyon. Check out Mr. D'z Diner; Mr D'z has been voted as having the best Hamburger on Route 66, and has been featured on Good Morning America, Arizona Highways TV Show, The Oprah Show, and was recently featured as the number 2 drive-in in Arizona.

**Moab Utah, Arches / Canyonland Utah Park Tour**  
**2012-06-04 thru 2012-06-11**  
**WAGONMASTERS: Needed**

This rally is in the planning stage; at this time there is no definite date. Explore the National Parks Of Utah; Canyonlands & Arches. Visit Monument Valley - location of many western films.

**Taos/Santa Fe New Mexico Art & Scenery**  
**2012- TBD thru 2012- TBD (estimated)**  
**WAGONMASTERS: Needed**

Explore scenic Taos & Santa Fe, New Mexico. Investigate White Sands & the Alamogordo Missile Range. Carlsbad Caverns (optional)

**Oregon The Magnificent Oregon Coast**  
**2012- TBD thru 2012- TBD (estimated)**  
**WAGONMASTERS: Sue & Rick Penney**

Visit the beautiful Oregon coast with its spectacular beaches & vistas. Ride a jet boat up the Rogue River & enjoy lunch up river. The Oregon coastline is uncrowded & offers opportunities for short hikes to overlooks. This rally could continue on to Portland or to Crater Lake National Park. You can continue on to Seaside, Oregon to see the end of the Lewis & Clark Trail & the saltworks.

<p><b>Washington Northwest Parks - Washington State</b>  <b>2012- TBD thru 2012- TBD (estimated)</b>  <b>WAGONMASTERS: Sue &amp; Rick Penney</b></p>
<p>This landscape testifies to nature's size, beauty, and diversity – huge mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, and the world’s largest trees! Explore the jewels of Washington State: Olympic, North Cascades &amp; Mount Rainier National Parks. Don't miss the drive to Mount St. Helens which last erupted in May 1980. Visit the Johnston Observatory &amp; see to volcano up close.</p>
<p><b>Montana &amp; Wyoming Big Parks of the Rockies</b>  <b>2012- TBD thru 2012- TBD (estimated)</b>  <b>WAGONMASTERS: Needed</b></p>
<p>Explore Glacier, Yellowstone &amp; Grand Teton National Parks. Park City &amp; Las Vegas are possible stops on the way back to SCG.</p>
<p><b>Durango, Silverton, Ouray, Pagosa Springs South Colorado</b>  <b>2012- TBD thru 2012- TBD (estimated)</b>  <b>WAGONMASTERS: Wayne &amp; Louise Adams</b></p>
<p>This is a great rally! Ride the Durango-Silverton Railway following the rushing Animas River; have lunch &amp; explore the mining town of Silverton. Ouray is another old mining town full of shops and great restaurants. Visit the hot springs in Pagosa Springs &amp; explore this old town. The Great Sand Dunes National Park is a unique place. Explore the tallest sand dunes in North America.</p>
<p><b>Estes Park, Aspen, Leadville Colorado Rockies</b>  <b>2012- TBD thru 2012- TBD (estimated)</b>  <b>WAGONMASTERS: Wayne &amp; Louise Adams</b></p>
<p>Rocky Mountain National Park has spectacular scenery, elk herds &amp; hiking. Don't miss the quaint shope in Estes Park. Experience the beauty of the Aspen area along with the awesome views of the Maroon Bells. At the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park see the Gunnison River disappear into the rocks &amp; emerge again.</p>
<p><b>Mount Rushmore -- Custer, South Dakota Presidents on the Wall</b>  <b>2012- TBD thru 2012- TBD (estimated)</b>  <b>WAGONMASTERS: Needed</b></p>
<p>The faces of history stand before you at Mount Rushmore! Visit the museum to understand the feat of the designer &amp; workers. Observe bison &amp; other wildlife in Custer State Park; don't miss the Mammoth Site where "digs" are still underway.</p>
<p><b>Wild West Weekend – NRA Whittington Center, New Mexico</b>  <b>2012-09-01 thru 2012-09-07 (estimated)</b>  <b>WAGONMASTERS: Donald &amp; Nancy Omans</b></p>
<p>The NRA Whittington Center is 33,000 acres dedicated to hunting and shooting, They have Pistol, Black Powder, Rifle up to 50 caliber, Hunter sighting in, and Shot Gun Ranges, They even have a 1000 yard range. Labor day weekend 2012, exact dates to be set. Range is 10 miles south of Raton, NM. Plan is for four days of travel and four days on site. Cost includes RV site or cabin, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner for two days and breakfast on the third day. Distance to NRA is 691 miles. Sounds like a great time for the shooters, more info to follow</p>
<p><b>Albuquerque Balloon Festival</b>  <b>2012-10-01 thru 2012-10-15 (estimated)</b>  <b>WAGONMASTERS: John &amp; Ann Francis</b></p>

This rally is in the planning stage; The dates are tentative. The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is held every year at the beginning of October lasting 9 days and is the largest of its kind in the world. On any day during the festival up to 100,000 people gather in the fields to watch this time honored tradition. If you have attended in the past, you probably would like to go again. If you have not attended, it is one of the must see events on our rally list.

**Casa Grande, AZ Copperstate Fly-in**  
**2012-10-20 thru 2012-10-22 (estimated)**  
**WAGONMASTERS: Needed**

This event is in the planning stage; the fly-in is usually held the 3rd weekend in October. This is a must see for airplane enthusiasts. The annual event includes airplane tours; rides on the B-17, a B-25 and helicopters; workshops; and exhibits. Copperstate officials say it's the largest fly-in of its type in the West and the only all-volunteer fly-in around the globe.

**Chula Vista, RV Resort (San Diego)**  
**2012-10-17 thru 2012-10-24 (estimated)**  
**WAGONMASTERS: Bill & Sue Bielecki**

Visit the San Diego area and stay at the really beautiful Chula Vista RV Resort, about 20 min. South of San Diego. Take the trolley into town or south of the border, visit, old town, explore the Uss Midway go to the Gas Light District, bike ride, tons to do. Have fun at the October Fest at the RV park on Sunday the 21st. Only 400 miles from Surprise on Routes 8 and 5. We are looking for at least 21 signups for some really good rates.

**NEXT MEETING, 4:00 PM, JANUARY 17, 2012 AT CIMARRON**

## ***FOR SALE***

*Note: Only Grand RVers members may submit RV related items for sale and such items must be submitted by one week prior to the end of any month to be considered for inclusion in the issue scheduled for the first of the month.*

2007 Fleetwood Expedition. 38 feet, 35,000 miles. The usual accessories: Cat engine, Allyson tran, Onan gen set, side by side refer, recliner in living room area with computer desk, toilet and lavatory in separate room, second lavatory in rear bedroom, oven. Hitch included.

Offered by Dan and Norma Thompson---623 388 4718. Asking \$95,000