

BLUE PACIFIC Caravan No. 10 - Leaders Browns

Sept 22-28, 1977. Six nights, 502 miles.

Members: Castles, Comries, Ashton/Rose, Browns, Hoffmans  
Webers, Dahmes, Leggats, Strains.

This short Caravan was organized for those interested in attending the 12th Regional Rally in Paso Robles. It was an easy-going sort of caravan and provided us the chance to arrive in a group and thus be parked close together at the Rally. And it was a good Rally enjoyed by all.

Sept 22, 1977 rendezvous point was the Carmel Valley Shopping Center. Departure time scheduled for 10:30AM. We Browns left an hour early to double-check on our first night's stop. Most fortunate, for on arrival at the Fernwood RV Park down Hwy 1, we found an almost impossible entrance way, and the camp filled with long-hair'd, Pot smoking characters, playing music at top volume with their outside Boom-Boxes.

Leaving Ruth at the entrance-way, I proceeded South in search of suitable over-night parking. It must be reported that Big Sur State Park had been closed because of the influx of Hippies in the entire Hwy 1 area. As each rig arrived, Ruth sent them on. Fortunately, there was the last & final trailer to pick her up.

All were pleased with our pick of the Limekiln Beach Resort for our night's stay. Relaxed with all rigs parked. Took the one mile hike up to the kilns. Way back, before there were roads down the rugged California Coast, they had thought of making their fortune by going in by boat at this beach, and cutting and shipping out the redwoods growing here. By accident, they discovered the Lime deposits, and turned to this in place of cutting the trees.

We ended this rather complicated day with Happy Hour & joint dinner, overlooking Hwy 1, and the Pacific Ocean. Restful & beautiful. Next morning was Sunny and we broke out the antique cast iron waffle irons for a GREAT outdoor breakfast. Then headed South on beautiful Hwy 1 overlooking the Pacific almost all the way.

On the printed schedule was a stop for Beach-Combing at Sand Dollar Beach. Like Big Sur, the State had also closed this public area. Moved on to Jade Beach, stopping for a brief beach walk, then to the lighthouse where we stopped for lunch, right on the beach. Then on to San Simeon State Park for our two night stay. Walked the beach before a fine hamburger feed.

OVER -

Con't. from other side

Sept 24 - Our group left by bus for the tour of Hearst Castle. As interesting as ever. What a place! Upon return, hooked up and departed for our two night stop at Morro Beach State Park. Cooked our own steaks on community fire & ate together. After dinner, Marsh Weber gave us a run-down on their many years spent in Saudi Arabia. Helen helped out with details of housekeeping & concocting of certain required liquid supplies. Most interesting.

Sept 25 - Sunny morning - another waffle breakfast. Car pooled for sight-seeing drive down to Montana Do Oro State Beach where we ate lunch. In afternoon, hiked, rode the Bikes, and played cards.

Sept 26. On to Lopez Lake. Caravan stopped en route to visit Mt. Diablo Nucleolar Reactor Display & Program. Impressive! At Lopez Lake we parked in a circle, overlooking the Lake. With all flags flying, we made a pleasant sight. (we are startled, in looking back at our notes, to find the parking fee was \$2.00 per night.) And a wonderful site. We ended our second day here by serving Margaritas & a full Mexican Dinner. Some stuff! WOW.

Sept 28 we moved into the Paso Robles Region 12 Fall Rally Site. Thus ending a short but real fun Caravan.

Recorded in 1995 by Lloyd from Ruth's 1977 Diary & Memory.

Mt. Lassen Caravan No. 11 - Leaders Meyers. May 7 - 21, '78  
14 nights. 1013 miles, 12 trailers.  
Members: Webers, Barbers, Meyers, Hoffmans, Dahmes, Browns,  
Comries, Coes, Woodward, Giles, Castles, Garrisons, Leipppers

May 7, 1978 Left from the MBCU Pleasanton Rally. Made a two night stop at the Sportsman Riverview Lodge right on the Sacramento River near Corning. A truly great spot. Pot luck dinner the first night in the Club House.

Next day made tour of fish hatchery below the dam. At the fish ladder, men in waders netted salmon & hand stripped the eggs for the hatchery. Spent rest of day hiking, biking, cards, & lots of chatting. Happy Hour & Driver's Meeting rounded out a nice day.

May 9: Left for Whiskey Town (west of Redding) and camped at Brandy Creek. Altho' whiskey & brandy are named, this was a dry camp. That is, no hook-ups. Located in a beautiful spot and weather ideal. Walked & rode bikes down to the river. Happy Hour destroyed any further talk of a "dry camp".

Next day cooked bean soup outdoors for lunch. GREAT! Excitement that afternoon when extremely loud music broke out in the flat below us. Outside speakers had been set up and the din was beyond belief. Cops arrived and made arrests. Told later that it was a stolen car, cocaine & other drugs had been seized, and the fellows faced at least a year in jail. WOW!

Car pooled next day and visited Weaverville. (We took the Garrisons, Jane Woodward, & Jan Giles.) An interesting day with visits to the museum, Stainways Art Gallery, Band Stand, & famous Joss House of early days. (Built 1848) Following lunch at the Pewter Pot, drove to City of Shasta & the museum. This was located in the old Courthouse with jail & hanging tower in the rear, all ready for quick justice. Potluck Barbecue for dinner that evening.

May 12 left for the Forestry Campground at Hat Creek. As early in season, no problem in finding good campsites close together. On the way, stopped in Redding for groceries, and a welcome stop at the Dump Station. (Happiness is a full water & empty holding tank) Kitty furnished dinner that night at Uncle Runt's restaurant. Excellent. Next morning served pancakes, weather fine. Drove to Burney Falls, hiked the trail, and ate our picnic lunch. That evening cooked fried pies around the campfire and were led in song by Thelma Coe.

Meyers served a nice breakfast the next morning, and we all left for the hike to the Scatter Cones. Afternoon used up by bike rides, cards, & light talk. Barbecue Chicken dinner that night. Then weather turned COLD & it rained.

OVER -

Con't. from other side

May 15: It has rained most of the night & snow level is very close. COLD! Per schedule, the Caravan moved the 100 miles to Lake Almanor. Drove through rain, hail, & snow. Beautiful but worrisome. Found the campsite not officially open but we were welcomed in. Kept our trailer furnace going all night but barely kept up with the cold.

Next day made interesting tour of local lumber mill. In afternoon, car pooled and drove over to the Stan Johnson trailer site they owned here on the Lake. The Brown's former business partners, Jerry & Pearl Leavy lived close by and they also were invited. With the Johnsons, it made up a pretty good size group for our Happy Hour & steak barbecue. A nice gathering.

May 17: Weather perfect as we left for two nights on the Feather River. Beautiful full Hook-up RV Park right on the River. And, \$4.00 a night! (1995 note....how times have changed.) Caught my largest trout right from the campsite. During the first afternoon the Leipper's daughter Anita arrived and Dale & Virginia joined the Caravan the next day. Nice to have them aboard.

On this second day we toured the town of Quincy. Good Museums, etc. On May 19 drove down the beautiful Feather River Canyon to our last stop in Manteca. Cool until reaching the Valley, then sure did warm up. HOT! Nice RV Park. Was surprised & delighted to find the Art Kellonds there to greet us, and to join in our farewell banquet.

And, so ended another good MBCU Caravan.

Recorded in 1995 by Lloyd from Ruth's 1978 Diary & Memory.

GOLD COUNTRY Caravan No. 12 - Leaders Browns. May 5 - 14, 79  
8 nights - 809 miles - Members: Ashton/Rose, Browns,  
Comries, Dahmes, Gormans, Kellonds, Meyers, Strains,  
Webers. Nickles, & Castles.

May 6, 1079: Following a pancake breakfast with the MBCU members at the Monthly Rally at Pleasanton, our happy group departed for the Sierra Foothills. Arrive before noon at the Gold Park Campground on Hwy 49 close to Plymouth. A simple place with limited hookups, but in a beautiful area right on the Consumnes River. Our group area was across the river using a very narrow pontoon bridge. Some were nervous!

We were all settled in the Oak Trees by the time the pre-prepared Split Pea Soup had been warmed up on the Coleman Stove, and was served with French Bread for lunch. The afternoon allowed time for exploring, cards, & just sitting. Group enjoyed (we think) Chili, Salad, and the remainder of the bread for dinner. And then the campfire.

May 7: Car Pooled for morning tour of Fiddletown, Volcano, & Grinding Rock. (The spot used by the California Indians for hundreds of years to grind the acorns.) Afternoon spent loafing, card games, etc. Fine evening campfire.

May 8: Pancake breakfast was fun with Sunshine & the River flowing past our door. Filled the cars and made tour of "the Wheel", Sutter Creek, then to lunch at the Historic "Old National Hotel" in Jackson. A very nice lunch followed by a tour of this very old hotel.

Camp Stew Dinner A La Coleman Stove seemed just right that evening. Then the usual campfire to sit around.

Following morning Flap Jacks, there was lots of excitement over the Gold Panning Contest. We all scrambled the banks, pans in hand. Surprising how many nuggets were found. Shirley was the overall winner with a one pound, four ounce nugget. And to think this was the very first Caravan the Gormans had made with us, as they just recently joined our Unit. Fortunately there was not an Assayer at hand as these Gold Painted Rocks had just been planted early that morning.

May 10: Fired up the tow vehicles and headed North to the Fairgrounds at Grass Valley. Hwy. 49 with its narrow winding road was a shock to some, but all bravely forged ahead. Our group stopped for lunch and sight-seeing at Coloma. Always interesting to visit the old Sutter's Mill, James Marshall's Log Cabin, and see the spot where gold had been discovered so long ago.



OVER -

Con't. from other side.

The flat grassy fields with the many pine trees has always been an ideal campsite. The caravan spent the next two days here with day trips to nearby spots of interest. Weather warm and ideal. Lots of card games, and just sitting around the campfire discussing & solving the world problems. Joint meals added to the fun. Banquet Champagne given by Ashton/Rose on our last night. More tall tales around the campfire.

May 13: Broke camp & headed home. Thus ended another fine MBCU Caravan.

Recorded in 1995 by Lloyd from Ruth's 1979 Diary & Memory.

OREGON COAST CARAVAN No. 13 - Leaders Meyers

September 9 - 22, 1979

Members: Howard & Anita Garner, Ken & Ruby Johnson

September 9. We met at the Plaza Mobile Park in Santa Rosa.

September 10. Upon leaving the Santa Rosa RV Park, Ken Johnson turned too sharp and got his trailer hung up in a ditch and culvert. Had to get a tow truck to pull his trailer out. We traveled to Arcata to the Eureka KOA, about 2 miles south of Arcata.

September 11. Toured Eureka, and had lunch at Lazios Restaurant in Eureka.

September 12. We drove to North Bend, OR, where we stayed at the Seadrift Trailer Park. That evening we had our first potluck.

September 13. Toured Shore Acres Botanical Gardens.

September 14. We drove to Depoe Bay where we stayed at the Holiday Trav-1 Park. On the way to Depoe Bay, we stopped at the Sea Lion Caves.

September 15. We drove to Tillamook (without our trailers) and toured the Cheese Factory.

September 16. Toured Depoe Bay, Undersea Gardens, Old Marine Ships (Morning Star II).

September 17. We drove to Gold Beach and stayed at Indian Creek Recreation Park, south bank of the Rogue River.

September 18. Took a ride on the Jet Mail boat up the Rogue River. Had lunch at the Singing Springs Ranch, 40 miles up river and returned by 4 p.m.

September 19. We toured Gold Beach and an Oyster Bed Farm. Just relaxed the remainder of the day and had our second potluck that evening.

September 20. We drove to Benbow RV Resort, Garberville.

September 21. Toured the Avenue of the Giants.

September 22. Departed for our homes.

Very Nice Caravan, fun people!

LAS VEGAS CARAVAN No. 14 - Leaders Meyers  
February 3 to February 11, 1980  
Member: Bob and Thelma Coe

February 3. We left from the Los Banos Rally and traveled to Calico KOA, near Barstow. Toured Calico Ghost Town.

February 4 - 8. Upon leaving Calico KOA the morning of the 4th, we happened to meet the Browns and the Comries who were going to the Hobo Rally in Blythe.

Stayed at Circus-Circus RV Park, Las Vegas, toured downtown Las Vegas, gambled, and ate out every night.

February 8 - 9. Stayed at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley. Toured Scotty's Castle. Had dinner at Stovepipe Wells, danced to a one-man band. Stovepipe Wells has a population of 10, but there were at least 40 people at the dance and restaurant.

February 10. Drove to Bakersfield, stayed at the Smoke Tree RV Park.

February 11. Drove home to Watsonville.

Reported by Harry & Glenna Meyers July 1995



**BAJA CARAVAN No. 15 - Leaders Browns 3/1 to 4/2, 1981**  
32 Nights - 2789 miles. Members: Comries, Castles, Beasleys  
Coes, Dahmes, Garrisons, Gormans, Kellonds, Leippers,  
Lindstrom, Ashton/Rose, Pettis's, Benjamin, Cox's, Olivers,  
Browns, Leggats.

March 1, 1981 the happy group left the King City MBCU Rally. Light snowfall on Tehachapi Pass. Saddleback State Park near Lancaster made a delightful spot. Beautiful Desert view. Second night spent at Weist Lake County Park. Subdued Happy Hour as all liquor forbidden.

Mar 3: Crossed Border at Calexico and followed the narrow highway down to San Filipe. The "first night in Mexico" Margarita Party almost "done us in" but we enjoyed the mexican dinner that followed. Explored town & area. Celebrated Eva's Birthday. Ate out, etc.

Surprized how cold in making the 4000' pass over to Ensenada. Fine stay here with sightseeing & deep sea fishing. Good restaurants. Next stop was at Don Diego's RV Park at Colonia Guerrero....a fine place with good restaurant. It was at this town that we found a school where we delivered the Pinata (filled with candy) that was given us back in King City by Ellen Lewis. Pleased. \* See Footnote

Next San Quintine, then Guerrero Negro. Here we ran into an Airstream Company Caravan and we knew the leaders. Learned about the largest salt plant in the world located here. Visited famous Scammon's Lagoon and met the Irving College Students doing their Whale Watching thing.

Then on to San Ignacio and a lot of GREAT sight seeing tours led by our Bob Dahme. Then down that long steep road to Santa Rosalia and our first sighting of the Cortez Sea. Our next move was to Mulege for a two night stop. And that wonderful roast pig barbecue that Hotel Serenidad is famous for. We then moved to our pivate little paradise for a seven night stop.

Playa del Burro was an almost perfect beach. No improvements of any kind. No water, no electricity, no nothing. But we could pick our own spot and parked right on the sand withing a few feet of the water. We bathed in the ocean, we swam, we inflated our two boats. We hiked the hills, we hired Mexican boats to take us out fishing. We car pooled & drove down to Loreto & below to explore. All in perfect weather. We hated to leave to start homeward.

On return trip we camped at Caleta Santa Maria. Celebrated the Dahme's 40th Anniversary here. Then Guerro Negro, and on to Rancho Santa Ines. Back to Don Diego, followed by the Estero Beach stop. AND, back across the Border at Tcate and the Potrero Park stop. Then to San Clemente, and to Bullenton Flying Flags, AND into the Swiss Rifle Club for the MBCU Rally. A great, GREAT trip.

OVER-

\* As per schedule, Kellonds, Leippers, Cox's, & Gormans left the Caravan at this point and proceeded South to end up at Cabo San Lucas and then drive home as a separate group.

THIS WRITTEN FROM BAJA FOR MONTHLY CLUB BULLETIN'S NEWS

MEXICAN HIGHLIGHTS -- SO FAR WEVE HAD 3 FLAT TIRES, HAVE HAD TWO TRAILER WHEELS FALL OFF, ONE OUTSIDE TRAILER DOOR AND SEVERAL INSIDE DOORS BREAK OR COME OFF. MOST WALL MOUNTINGS CAME OFF -- THE ROADS ARE ROUGH!! ONE ENGINE HAD TO BE OVERHAULED, DOWN TO THE CAMSHAFT. WEVE RUN ONE STRETCH OF 272 MILES WITH ALL SERVICE STATIONS "OUT OF GAS". THE RIGS WITH LIMITED CAPACITY, LIMPED IN "WAY AFTER DARK", RUNNING ON COLEMAN STOVE GAS, OUTBOARD OIL/GAS MIX, AND BEST OF ALL, SOME AVIATION FUEL FOUND ON A PRIMITIVE LANDING STRIP. WEVE CAMPED IN SITES WHERE THE WATER (OF QUESTIONABLE QUALITY) ONLY FLOWS AN HOUR OR TWO A DAY. WEVE CARRIED WATER LONG DISTANCES IN JUGS, BUCKETS, AND JARS. WEVE SEARCHED THE BACKSTREETS FOR PROPANE, AND BOUGHT EGGS BY THE KILO, NOT THE DOZEN. WEVE PARKED IN A VARIETY OF PLACES, INCLUDING A PLAYGROUND WHERE WE WERE "RUN OUT" 20 MINUTES BEFORE "HAPPY HOUR", AS A BALLGAME WAS ABOUT TO START. WEVE SEARCHED "FOR HOURS" TO FIND THE POST OFFICE (CORRS ONLY TO HAVE THEM RUN OUT OF STAMPS JUST AS WE ARRIVED. ON ONE OF OUR MANY TOURS, WE WERE "RIPPED OFF" BY AN ESCAPED PRISONER, WHO COLLECTED OUR MONEY TO TOUR A 100YEAR OLD JAIL, WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE DESERTED AND PERMANENTLY LOCKED UP -- WEVE BOUGHT ABALONE & SHRIMP FROM ASSORTED VENDERS, AND WEVE DUG CLAMS IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN. EATING IN NATIVE RESTAURANTS HAS BEEN ENJOYABLE. THE WOMEN HAVE DONE HAND LAUNDRY, EXCEPT FOR ONE STOP WHICH PROVIDED THE USE OF A 1934 MAYTAG WASHER, RUN OF COURSE BY A GENERATOR WHICH DID NOT ALWAYS WORK. AT THE MOMENT, WE HAVE JUST REACHED THE BEAUTIFUL BEACH AREA OF THE SEA OF CORTES, AND THE CARAVAN IS STILL FIRED WITH ENTHUSIASM AND EAGER TO PRESS FORWARD IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

*Lloyd*  
3-16-81

Con't. from other side:

You might be interested in the copy of this report sent home from mid-way Baja Caravan. This for MBCU Flyer.

PS: There is a 7 page (4 sheet) detailed log of this trip available to anyone interested. Just contact the Browns.

QUEEN MARY Caravan No. 16 - Leaders Dahmes. Spent \$558.00  
Sept 13 to 28, 1981 Members: Dahmes, Browns, Gormans,  
Hoffmans, Ashton/Rose, Benjamin, Leggats, Kellands, Olivers

The Queen Mary Caravan was planned to leave from the MBCU Pinnacles Rally and to end up at the Region 12 Fall Rally in Paso Robles. And we met others of our Unit at that Rally, managing to park together. Raised over \$100 in sale of the Wine Bottle Covers & Uniform Patches we have been making for the past few months. A fun affair.

Sept 13, 1981, the nine trailers pulled out of the Pinnacles Rally Site. Made our first encampment at the North Shore San Antonio Lake Campground. As Sunday, we found the grounds crowded but we were able to park nicely by mid-afternoon. Spent three days here.

Enjoyed joint dinners & pancake/waffle breakfasts under the trees. Car pooled for visits to Mission San Antonio one day, and drove the narrow and winding road over the mountain to the Ocean the next. Took picnic lunches. Did some fishing.

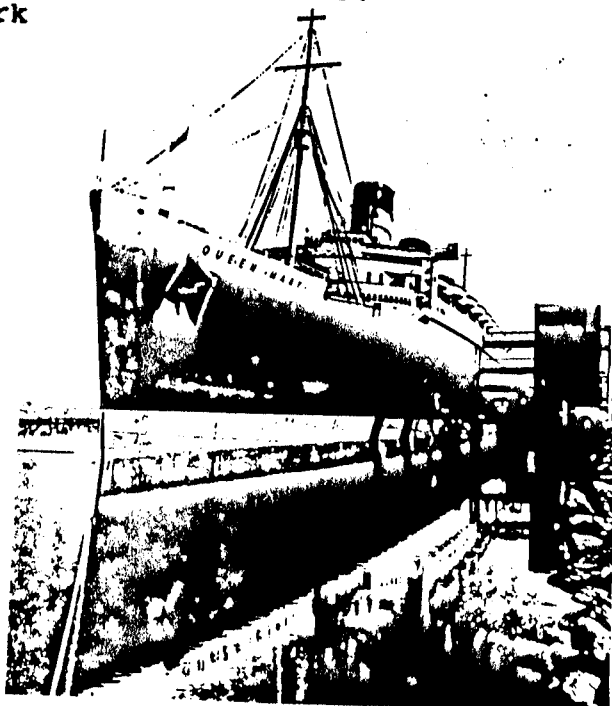
Sept 16: moved to Lake Isabella. Great campsite in the trees. Pot luck dinner....weather beautiful. Next day car-pooled for drive to the High Country (9,400'), with our brown bag lunches. Great scenery evrywhere. Women returned in some cars, men kept other cars & fished before returning to camp. Campfire for Happy Hour & evening.

Sept 18: Some went golfing, some fishing, some played Bridge. Even some laundry done. Invited Park Manager to H/H that evening & all went to dinner at a very fine restaurant close by. Live music & we danced after dinner. Next day attended Sidewalk Sale in Village & bought like mad.....lots of stuff we didn't need. Hamburger feed that night with Amye's wonderful Blueberry Cobbler. GREAT!

Sept 20: Moved to Frasier Park five miles off Hwy 5 on the Ridge Route. Cold at 5,000'. Next day moved to the Queen Mary, with a group stop at Camper World to buy more things we didn't need.

We were nicely parked in a special section of the Black Top parking lot, right at the water edge, looking up at the Queen Mary herself.

OVER -



Con't. from other side.

Enjoyed going aboard the Queen Mary (50¢ admission) and spent over two hours touring the entire ship. Wonderful to see but sad in many ways. Sad how very rundown things were. Once a GREAT Lady of the Sea, but now in such shabby condition. Some ate a light lunch while aboard but we canceled our plans to have a majestic dinner in their "spacious" dining room.

Spent afternoon taking a harbor tour which was great. Interesting to see the mighty Battleships from the last War being restored & modernized.

Next day took the boat for Catalina. A most worthwhile experience. Enjoyed strolling thru' the Grand Old Ballroom where so much of our favorite dance music originated in the days of our youth. Radio, you know, and before TV. Walked the town.....had lunch in a nice place.. and arrived back in camp at 6:15. Happy hour was followed by a Kitty Treat Pizza dinner with Pot Luck salad.

Sept 24: Visited Port-a-Call, quaint village. Other sight-seeing odds & ends next morning, cards & visiting in the afternoon, and off to the Long Beach Officers Club for a fine meal and dancing to live music. NICE! A pleasant day.

Left next morning for Morro Bay. Were lucky to get full hook-ups in the State Park. Spent three nights and kept busy with sight-seeing, joint breakfasts & dinners, eating out at one of their fine fish restaurants, and in general increasing our belt lines.

Sept 28: Left at 8:30AM for Paso Robles & the Region 12 Rally. As we caravanned in together we were able to park nicely grouped.

A REAL FUN CARAVAN thus ended.

BOSEMAN Caravan No. 17 - Leaders Dahmes, June 1-23, 1982  
Twenty two nights - 2720 miles - Browns spent \$537 plus gas.  
Members: Chinns, Comries, Browns, Dahmes, Hoffmans,  
Clevengers, Benjamin, Cox's, Lewis's

June 1, 1982: Rendezvous point was the Happy Times RV Park on Hwy 5 North of Sacramento at Dunnigan. \$8.00 a night with full hook-ups. Shady trees...lawns...nice.

Our second night was at the Anderson Fairgrounds between Red Bluff & Redding on Hwy 5. The Caravan had made a stop near Corning to stock up on Olives & Almonds. Of course some showed no restraint & made other purchases from the "tourist racks"!

When nicely settled at Happy Hour, a Deli Truck drove up and we all bought cheese, salami, and "stuff". Soon after, the telephone ordered Kentucky Fried Chicken arrived....a Kitty Treat. Very good.

Everyone was pleased with our Rouge River Oregon State Park Stop. How very beautiful and right on the River. Large spaces....lawns... \$9.00 a night with full hook-ups.

June 4: Arrived at the Oregon Unit Turner Lamb Festival. Camped on lawn with lots of trees and close to the meeting building. Three days of served meals, including a great Lamb Barbecue. Enjoyed flower shows, wool crafts, lamb shearing contests, dog trials, & little town parade on streets of Turner. Great Rally.

June 7: Headed over to the Land Yacht Harbor in Lacy. Of course, stopped at the Pendleton Wool Factory and made many purchases. The way things are going we will soon all be out of money. May have to "take in washing"!

As most of us know, this Yacht Harbor belongs to the Washington Unit. Is A-1, friendly, and only \$3.50 a night. A very fine KOA Park was our Burlington stop, and we all went out to a unique restaurant made up of retired Pullman Cars from the RR. Spent extra day to explore this area.

June 10: Made beautiful drive over the very new Cascade Highway. Many waterfalls.....high snow-capped Mts. Stayed in Forestry Service Colonial Campsite with lots of space & free firewood. Naturally, a BIG campfire that night. We Birders were excited in seeing the Pileated Woodpecker for the first time, thus adding to our Life List.



-OVER-

Con't. from other side.

At this stop we were most fortunate to take part in a very special tour by boat. Included a walking tour of facilities, the boat ride, and a fine chicken dinner with apple pie & ice cream. And all FREE as advertising stunt by the Power Company. We are thankful to Bob Dahme for his foresight in ordering these tickets months ago, as there were long lines of disappointed customers.

Beautiful drive next day still on the Cascade Hwy., stopping at the very old restored town of Winthrop. Enjoyed a "walk around". The River Bend campsite was priceless! A Forestry Service facility right on the river. All went to dinner at the Sundowner, a fine restaurant high on the mountain overlooking the golf course.

June 14: Left for Curlew Lake State Park, a lovely spot right on the Lake, with lots of parking room on lawn-like grass. Explored, took it easy, & gathered for H/H. Spent two nights here with lots of fishing, cards, etc.

June 16: Left early for move to Bonners Ferry. KOA campsite which seemed cramped following our nights in the Forestry Campgrounds. As almost end of Caravan did laundry and tidied things up. Gathered for the usual Social Hour and chance to gossip.

June 17: As per schedule, this was to be our last formal Caravan Night. Displayed balloons (from Safeway), gave speeches, gave out Caravan Plaques, presented Bob a present (cheap), with card painted by Lloyd (poor). Then a few tears, and a fine Mexican Dinner prepared by our women.

And another GREAT MBCU Caravan comes to an end.

PS: Next morning the Chinns & Comries headed for Flat Head Lake. The Browns headed for home. Not sure about the Lewis's. The rest headed on to Boseman and the International Rally. We have no details of these following days but feel very sure the group continued to have nice experiences and interesting events. What a group!

Recorded in 1995 by Lloyd from Ruth's Diary & Caravan Log.

CANYON LANDS Caravan No. 18 - Leaders - Gormans/Olivers  
Sept 11 to Oct 29, '82.- 39 nights, 3,488 miles, \$1,122 + gas  
Members: Dahmes, Benjamin, Browns, Cox's, Olivers, Griffins,  
Hoffmans, Gormans.

Sept 11, 1982: Following the MBCU Rally at Greyhound Rock North of Santa Cruz, Caravan 18 headed off for the Fairgrounds at Sonora. Found Fairgrounds full of trailers, people, and a Flea Market in progress. Parked off in the corner and bought things like mad. As things closed down one Corn Selling Booth presented us with their entire unsold stock of beautifully cooked ears of corn. Guess what our group had for dinner that night. Sat out until 9:00 PM that evening in the balmy weather.

Sept 12: In beautiful weather the Caravan entered Yosemite Nat'l Park at the Crane Flat Station. Drove up & over Tioga Pass, & to June Lake on the Eastern slopes. Toured Lee Vining & area. did some shopping. Next day drove in the cars to Monarch Lakes & visited the Devil's Post Pile. Took lunch....hiked above....visited earthquake fault and absian mts. Lots of fun exploring.

Took two days to reach Zion National Park. Following the cold nights of June Lake, the weather was almost perfect. Made interesting stops along the way, and happy get-togethers in the evening.

A real nice private RV Park (\$2.00 nite) here in Zion Park. Beautiful country and we hiked many of the trails. Enjoyed two film presented at the Visitor's Center...one on the canyon formation & other on birds.

All went out to dinner together. A quiet day followed,,,did laundry,,,walked to the Emerald Pools.

Had chicken dinner brought in that evening. Good!

Moved camp to Hatch & a private RV Park. Poor. Car pooled & drove to Cedar

Brakes. Enjoyed lunch at the Visitor Center. Then

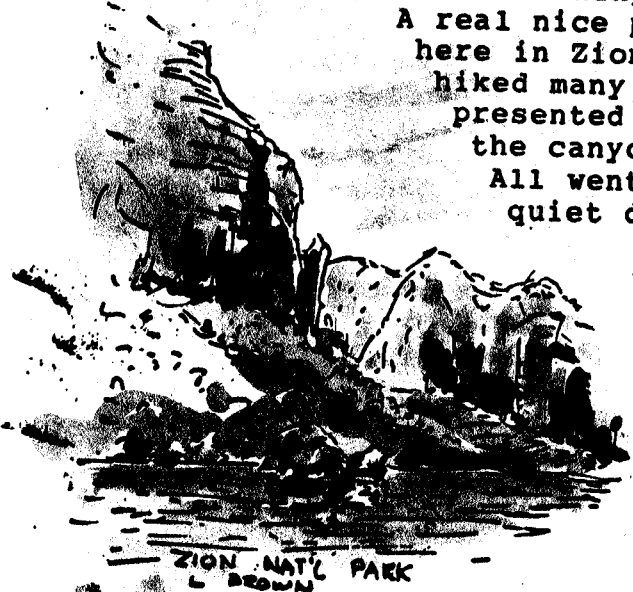
made driving tour of Park.

Even stopped to view River & Lloyd whipped out the fish pole and landed a beautiful trout.

Then back to camp, Tile Games

Happy Hour, camp fire, and lots of idle chatter. Next day we made a driving tour of Bryce National Park, with limited hikes down the trails. Another bonfire that evening.

Sept 21: Moved camp to Capital Reef.



OVER -

Con't. from other side

A very nice campground with breath-taking scenery. Jack, Glen & Lloyd went fishing next day & provided enough for partial dinner (these were trout, you know, not salmon) Pot lucked rest for Group Dinner. Joe's Country Music was pleasant as we sat around the campfire that evening.

Sept 24: Broke camp & headed for the Devil's Canyon Nat'l Forest Campground. Made sight seeing stops en route including the Arches Nat'l Park. This campsite at \$1.50 per night was in a beautiful woodsy setting. And free firewood! Spent two nights. Visited the Indian Ruins in the Blanding area.....lots of other sightseeing. Cox's cooked up a Chili Dinner & the rest set up a salad bar. Then campfire.

Sat 26: moved to nice pull-through RV Park in Ouray, Colo. Very high elevation....cold nights. Foliage beginning to change into Fall colors. All went to dinner in a fine Restaurant in old home built in 1878. Had served as a brothel in past years. Did lots of touring including jeep rides to the real high country. VERY COLD! Beginning to snow and some worry about roads. Moved to Durango where we found a wonderful Mexican Restaurant. Took the old steam train to Silverton, ate lunch at that RR Station, then returned to Durango. Interesting trip.

Oct 2: Moved to Mesa Verde.....toured entire area. Two days later moved to Goulding Trading Post right in the Navajo Indian country. Made stop at famous Four Corners. This campsite provided a beautiful view of the Monument Valley, which we later explored by car. Moved camp to Canyon de Chelly. Enjoyed Visitor Center. Enjoyed the visit to the North Rim of Grand Canyon. Very cold winds & has been snow.

Oct 8: Moved to Hopi Indian country and set up camp in their campground right at their Culture Center. One of their Chiefs gave us a lengthy talk on the Hopi history & culture. And we enjoyed their many displays. Ate dinner in their Cafeteria. On next move, stopped to visit the Watch Tower, and on to a campsite on the South Rim. By now we are in our "Long Johns" and still very cold. Enjoyed the view at sunset but Happy Hour was very short. COLD. Took Nature Study walk next day led by Park Ranger. Quite worthwhile.

Many other interesting & fun things, but to cut this short, report we went on to Sedona, Quartsite, Joshua Tree, and by Oct 20, made our last Caravan stop at the RV Park at Lebeck up on the Ridge Route. Made stop at Camper World for more equipment, and into Bolado Park for the MBCU October Birthday Rally.

A TRULY GREAT CARAVAN with a lifetime of experiences.

Recorded in 1995 by Lloyd from Ruth's Diary & Caravan Log.



HAT CREEK Caravan No. 19 - Leaders Burnes.  
Sept 23 to Oct 7, 1983 - 864 miles - \$466  
Members: Burnes, Ashton/Rose, Cox, Hoffmans, Comries,  
Browns, Dahmes, Olivers, Davies, Gormans, Donalds.

This Caravan was organized to include the Region 12 Fall Rally in the Fairgrounds at Quincy.

Sept 23, 1983 we left home and met Margaret & Gladys on the Mission Grade. Drove together to Campsite in Auburn. Nice pleasant weather. We shared the remainder of our 50th Anniversary Cake that evening. Next day went sight-seeing, Played Bridge, attended the Gem Show, etc. Our visitors, the Davies, furnished us an impressive Happy Hour treat. That evening we all went to the old theater for a dinner & Melodrama put on by the local "Old Town Troupers". Were served a good meal at our seats followed by their rendition of "The Wreck of the Rocklin Rocket!" Great fun.

The next day our Officers Cox & Hoffman moved to Quincy to attend the advance Business Meeting. That night Ruth served Beef Stroganoff, rolls, & wine (from left over beef from our 50th party.) Margaret cooked up a batch of rice.

The following morning we hooked-up and headed for Quincy and the Region 12 Rally. The Penners & Harrisons were waiting at the gate and drove in with us. Parked nicely in a group. In general, we felt Rally lacked organization, and there were too many dull spots. But we did many of our own things and had a great time.

On Sept 28 we car pooled and drove up to Chester, 29 of us, to visit Pearl & Jerry Leavy, the Brown's former business partners. We were given a tour of their very impressive Prosthetic Supply Business located on the Air Field. Their building had the largest garage door we've ever seen, and housed their private plane. Following demonstration films we followed the Leavys to their beautiful home on Lake Almanor and were served a wonderful lunch out on their tremendous deck overlooking the Lake.

Then Rally ended and we headed for Hat Creek. Following a lot of rain at the Rally, the weather turned better, but cold nights. Down to 28 at night. Enjoyed group dinner at Uncle Runt's. It was this night that we all bought the wool knit hats that in later years became known as the "HAT CREEK HATS". Most of us still have them and whip them out when weather turns cold. Those failing to buy them, bought like mad the following year.

OVER -

Con't. from other side.

Oct 5: Car Pooled and made trip to Burney Falls, Fall River Mills, and then to Lava Creek Lodge for lunch. What a beautiful spot....an excellent lunch...and nice atmosphere. Campfire that evening. Next day took our lunch & toured Mt. Lassen including Manzanita Lake. Big Barbecue on this our last night. Baked (sure, some were burned) potatoes right in our bonfire. Left for home the next morning.  
A VERY NICE, FUN CARAVAN.....a poor Rally.



Ten minute sketch of Burney Falls.

Recorded '95 by Lloyd from Caravan Log & Ruth's 1983 Diary

**JUMPING BEAN MEXICO Caravan No. 20 - Leaders Cox's**  
Feb 2 to Mar 6, 1984 - 3,632 miles - \$1,167 spent (Browns)  
Members: Coes, Benjamin, Browns, Kellonds, Cox's, Gormans,  
Burnes, Donalds, Dahmes, Grossmans, Hoffmans, Olivers,  
Leggats (& Granddaughter Dee Dee), Penners, Harrison

Feb 2, 1984: Browns, Coes & Benjamin met at Flying  
Flags - walked town of Solevang - ate dinner at Anderson  
Split Pea Soup. Next AM moved to Banning KOA. On Feb 4  
arrived Yuma for two night stop. Webbers, Jan Giles, & the  
Sid Grossmans joined us for Dinner at the popular Mexican  
Restaurant we've used in former years. Toured area including  
visit out to Squaw Lake.....dinner at Jan's home. Nice.

Feb 6: Organ Pipes Nat'l Monument was our staging spot  
and all there except that the Penners were rejected at the  
gate.....trailer too long by Park Rules. No choice but for  
them to park at the Gringo RV Park close by. The first  
night Ruth served beef Kanudles to the group and Split Pea  
Soup the next day. Great weather & beautiful surroundings.  
Two days later the entire Caravan moved down to the Gringo  
Park to join the Penners. All did laundry & last minute  
shopping before the Border Crossing.

Feb 10: The DAY IS HERE! Over the Border we go!  
Lukeville crossing and then a one hour delay at the Mexican  
Check Point. \$4.00 fee. Arrived in Keno Bay on our second  
Mexico day. Walked the beach & other exploring. Ate  
together. Next day Car Pooled & made 39 mile (dirt road)  
visit to a remote Indian Village. Back in camp we were  
exposed to Mexican Iron Wood Carvings. Our group bought  
like made.....especially that Ruth Penner.

Feb 14: Caravan arrived at San Carlos Bay campsite at  
noon. CROWDED! We all had to sit in holding area & were  
given hook-ups as people checked out. Many sat overnight,  
and Kellonds, Cox's, & Browns never did get a space. So  
formed our rigs in square out in the field, and this became  
headquarters. Kellonds supplied Happy Hour to celebrate  
their anniversary. Went out to dinner.

Venders constantly strolling thru' camp....our folks  
constantly buying! Many more Iron Wood carvings, lots of  
shrimp & lobsters. Boy were they good. The Davi's property  
is close by and they joined us frequently. As special  
treat, Guido brought over doves for everyone.....all  
cleaned & ready to cook. (He great hunter in that area).

Feb 17: left for Las Mochis. Nice to see Guido at  
attention, waving a US Flag, and saluting, as we drove out  
of camp. We Browns got full hookups for the first time  
since entering Mexico. Weather great.....roads narrow.  
Cooked & ate our doves with Jack as guest. Very good.

Did laundry, shopping, etc. On Sunday the Caravan  
members, except for Penners, Dolores, and we Browns (been  
twice before) took the famous Copper Canyon Train trip up  
the mountain. They stayed overnight at the little hotel up  
top, and returned next day. In camp folks tended the dogs.

Feb 21: Caravan off for Mazatlan. A beautiful drive  
down, but again narrow roads.

OVER -

Con't. from other side.

Our Mazatlan RV Park was on lawn & we parked amongst the many Palm Trees. Very Tropical setting. Used City bus that passed our door for many trips into town. We shopped...we walked the beach. And just sat. Enjoyed great waffle breakfasts from our antique irons. One evening Glen hired a bus for the evening. Took us all to the Hotel Mazatlan for a "Mexican Fiesta Nite" program. Included dinner, a stage show, and all the drinks you could handle. As the night wore on the dance floor was opened up for us. Will never forget Ayme, looking so beautiful, dancing away like mad. We were sure a noisy bunch on the return trip in that 100 year old bus.

We also learned about Mexican Law. George had a slight "fender bender" scrape with his car and a national. The police impounded George's car and took him into court. Two of us drove down to get him, and returned with him the next day when they released his car. Quite a worry.

Feb 24: A fairly quiet day. Some sight-seeing. Eleanor organized a "Shrimp Gorge" for that evening & the Natives were hard pressed to supply enough fresh shrimp. What an evening....in the tropics....gentle breeze in the palm trees.....full moon! WOW!

Feb 25: Started homeward. Nice RV Park at Culiacan. That night Sid took ill and had to go to the hospital. So the Caravan stayed an extra day at this stop and Sid was again able to travel. On the 27th we moved to a very nice park at Los Almos, right on a lake. Excellent fishing reported but we had no time to try. May go back some day. Were able to explore the Village and did attend a Mexican Fiesta which was a lot of fun.

Our last night was spent in Hermosillo. This would be our last night in Mexico, and the end of the Caravan. So of course called for a party. Speeches were made, and our leaders praised. Were even given a slight gift as token of thanks. And there was some drinking, I think.

March 2nd. we entered good old USA. There seemed to be something about Brown's shifty looks, or narrow beady eyes, as the Border officials pulled the Brown trailer from the line for a complete shake-down inspection.

And, finally, there is one very sad note: this was Bob Coe's last trailer trip as he passed away very suddenly upon reaching home. What a good friend and fine gentleman.

INLAND PASSAGE Caravan No. 21 - Leader Benjamin - May 24 to July 17, 1984. - 4,998 miles - \$1,986 spent (Browns)  
Members: Harrisons, Cox's, Olivers, Browns, Benjamin, Kellonds, Hoffmans, Gormans.

May 24, 1984: Gathered at the Cox Ranch for the MBCU May Rally. A Great success...Glen furnished gopher holes. Caravan left Cox Ranch in the fog, spent first night at Petaluma. Then on to Ben Bow for one night and on to Camp Klamath on the beautiful Klamath River for two nights. Enjoyed a fine dinner at the Stealhead Lodge up near the Terwer Riffle which we had fished so often for stealhead. Following a great breakfast of waffles, eggs & sausage right in our own camp, explored the area with hikes on the old Indian Trail out near the beach.

June 2: Moved North to RV park close to the Umpqua Lighthouse. Made group hike of area including lighthouse. Erected canvas wind-brakes for Happy Hour. Heavy winds. Bob Oliver furnished champagne for his birthday. So a party!

June 3: Next was the KOA on Coast Road west of Portland. Raining so gathered in their game room. The hor's d' oeuvres fit nicely on their brand new Pool table. Following day proceeded to Lake Crescent on the Washington Peninsular. Made visits to the Penners who own a Summer place near Kingston. Did sight-seeing. Rested.

June 7: Up at 6:00 to catch the Port Angeles Ferry for Victoria. Loved the town and spent four days here. "Did" the museums, the quaint restaurants, the gardens, etc. Fortunate to be on hand for the raising of the tremendous Totem Pole they have been carving for many months. We all "pitched in" and there were perhaps one hundred people tugging on the rope to set this upright.

June 11: Moved camp to Pacific Shores at Parksville. Right at the water edge. At low tide gathered oysters for our lunch. Olivers served spaghetti dinner that evening. Gathered more oysters next morning and enjoyed Oyster Stew that evening. June 13 headed North for Campbell River & five exciting & fun days. Lots of sight-seeing. Some fished & caught salmon for a fine barbecue. Some golfed. Some played cards. Lots of group meals. One day we all took fifteen minute Ferry Boat ride over to Quanda Island. Took our lunch and explored the lighthouse.

June 17: Made the beautiful drive up to Port Hardy. Camped overlooking the dock, and boarded the Island Princess for the boat ride over to Price Rupert on the mainland.



OVER -