

LLOYD & RUTH

WBCCI

Monterey Bay Calif Unit

WHITE SANDS
39th Unit Caravan

Jan 22 - Feb 13, '89

Caravan Leaders: Jay & Marian Leith
Caravan Log by Lloyd W. Brown

MONTEREY BAY CALIF UNIT CARAVAN #39
White Sands, New Mexico Jan 19 - Feb 14, 1989
Leaders: Jay & Marion Leith

SUNDAY, Jan 22, Lodi

Seven trailers left the January Rally Site in Lodi and traveled south 215 miles to the KOA Park at Lost Hills Junction. (Benjamin, Browns, Gormans, Hadden, Hoffmans, Leiths, and Schneiders.) We were welcomed on arrival by the Connells who had driven over from Monterey to join the group. Those driving down from Lodi ran into severe fog conditions for a few miles in the river area of Stockton.



Bob & Alma, with help from Joe & Shirley, set up a center of operations by parking their trailers "end to end" and twin TV sets were brought out for the coming SUPER BOWL. They had set up a large football field and a cash pool was established for the game. First Half winnings went to Ruth. After the most exciting game in years, Jay won the 2nd Half winnings. Most of us turned in early. (Oh yes! The 49'ers won in the final 30 seconds.)

MONDAY, Jan 23, Lost Hills KOA

8:00AM departure - eight trailers. Very light rainfall & 41 degree temperature. It was a pleasant crossing of Tehachapi Pass.....cloudy sky but no wind! All trailers stopped at the usual market we have visited so often in Mojave to pick up grocery supplies. And we stopped again to gas up the vehicles in Victorville.

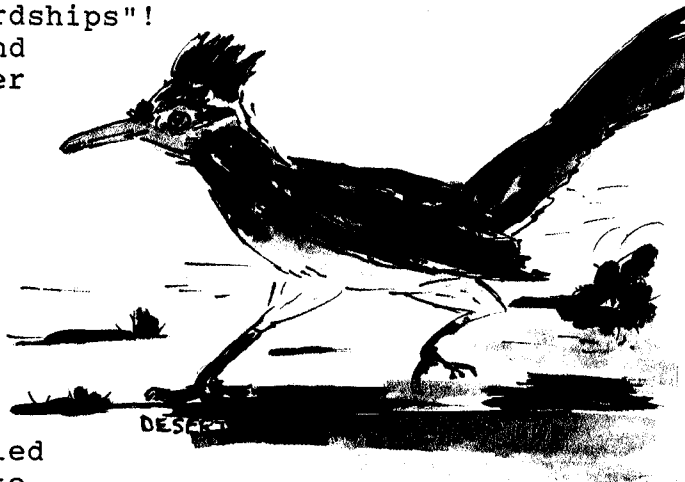
Arrival time at the KOA Victorville was 12:30 Noon. One Hundred Eighty miles driven today. Weather is very cool, cloudy down to 42 degrees. Bob Connell organized the use of the upstairs room in the KOA building for Happy Hour. A well organized Driver's Meeting by Jay Leith should prevent the loss of any of the group on tomorrows trip. Time will tell!



TUESDAY, Jan 24, Victorville KOA

Departure 8:30AM. A nice clear but cold morning. was ice to remove from windshields. Some confusion in Free-way network, and only six trailers arrived at final camp-site. The other two trailers arrived a little later on. The Leippers were to have joined us at this stop altho' no positive commitment had been made.

Actually, we were scheduled for the Tamirisk Campsite, a no hook-up dry camp. We were all fully prepared for this stop with extra blankets to replace our electric ones. We had checked for full water tanks and empty holding tanks. And we were fully ready for these "hardships"! FOR TWO NIGHTS! But on arrival we found that 24' was the maximum length trailer that could be handled here. So, Jay decided we should move on to the Palm Canyon State Park and all were delighted to find full hookups available.



Notes were left for the Leippers at the Tamirisk Campsite and we all settled down in beautiful weater at Palm Canyon. Because of the shorter winter days, the desert coolness settled in early and Happy Hour was moved up to 4:30. In fact, it turned out to be one of our shortest HH's as it became colder and colder. There was talk of starting even earlier tomorrow night. Folks soon drifted off to the security and warmth of their trailers.

WEDNESDAY, Jan 25. Anza Borrego

A truly beautiful day. The sunrise thru' the native Palm trees was an outstanding sight. As per plans scheduled last evening, the walkers of our group left at 9:30 for the .6 mile walk to the Visitor Center. The older & the cripples left in cars at 9:45. The beautiful ranger reported a delay in the regular 10:00AM program due to projector repairs. Being a pleasant sort of woman she invited us into their workshop where she gave a very interesting and informative nature talk on Anza-Borrego. One of the interesting facts is that the Fan Palm Trees located here are the one & only native Palm to California.



By then the theatre was open for the slide show. Following this we were taken on an outside nature walk led by a local volunteer Ranger. Here we learned that the Cresote Bush is the oldest living thing on earth. At least twice the age of the noted Bistlecone Pine.

Upon return to camp, Ruth organized a pie iron lunch. A fire was quickly started and cheese & salami sandwiches were toasted to perfection. Well, at least some were! Naps, sight-seeing, and short hikes used up the afternoon. The sky clouded over and it again turned cold. 4;30 HH.

THURSDAY, Jan 26, Anza Borrego

Broke camp and headed East at 8:15. Still no sign of the Leippers who were to overtake the Caravan. A nice easy drive down to Yuma with two rest stops. Cloudy with a few light sprinkles and a fairly strong wind blowing. Arrived at Country Roads RV Park before noon PS Time. Set our watches ahead the one hour for new time zone. 185 mile trip from Anza Borrego. All were alerted re: 4:30 departure to the home of Sid & Esther Grossman.

Two things have happened: 1. The Leippers are here. Neither our note or the message we had left with the Ranger at Tamirisk had reached them. Happy to have them with us. 2. When we arrived at Grossman's we received the word that both Eva & Dolores had phoned Helen Weber that Hazel Harrison had passed away. The Memorial Service was being held today. Our thoughts are with Ed in his loss.

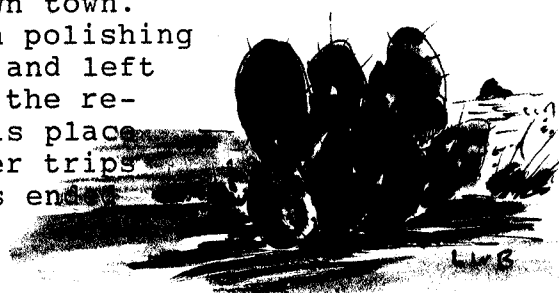
The Grossman's dinner party was outstanding, complete with unlimited Margarita's & beautiful Hors d'Oeuvres. The tremendous steaks were cooked to perfection by Sid and those were GREAT lemon pies cooked by Helen Weber. (How very nice to have a two day visit with Helen.) It was a wonderful evening.

FRIDAY, Jan 27. Yuma

First full day of our 2-day, 3-night stop here in Yuma. Light rainfall this morning but cleared into a fine sunny day very quickly. Sid insisted that it was always sunny in Yuma. This is "laundry day" for the Monterey Bay group and its a wonder a tile game was not set up right there in the laundry room. Shopping was done down town. Gas tanks refilled, etc. Joe was even seen polishing his car & trailer. At 5:15 we pooled cars and left for the Mexican restaurant. Sid had made the reservations and it was nice to re-visit this place where we had such fond memories from former trips with the Webers. Service was good and thus ended another fine Caravan Day.

SATURDAY, January 28. Yuma.

Sun rose at exactly 7:50 to shine into trailer. Clear weather. An easy day with last minute shopping, letter writing, and some tile games. Helen Weber drove for a final visit before we leave. Sid & Orve played golf at Sid's Club. 4:30 HH at Nina's trailer. Still clear sunshine altho' cool.



SUNDAY, Jan 29, Yuma

8:00AM Departure. Clear cool weather. It is arranged that we will meet the Grossman's a few miles up the road. It will be great to have them with us for the rest of the Caravan. Now we are ten trailers strong. About 12:30 Noon we arrived at Organ Pipes Nat'l Monument. Were well received by the Park Staff and ushered to our reserved group area by a very pleasant lady ranger. What a nice surprise to find Barb & Dave Paxton were here to join the group. So now we are eleven trailers!



Weather is perfect - even a Bridge game was added to the usual Tile session. Bird watching was outstanding and the "Birders" were pleased to list several birds, alto' common to this area, that were exciting to those from mid-California.

The great excitement was that this was Marian's Birthday. Jay furnished the 4:30 Happy Hour to celebrate the event. The high quality "booze" was far beyond we commoner's reach and tended to spoil us. It was a great fun party and appreciated by all. What a great spot this is!

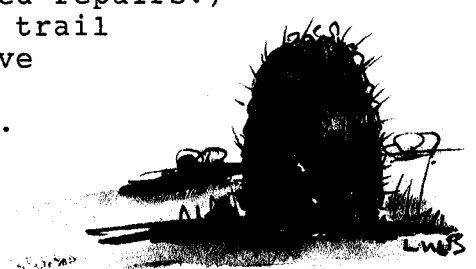
MONDAY, Jan 30. Organ Pipes

Orve helped the Browns serve a waffle breakfast. The weather was absolutely perfect. Likewise the breakfast (we think). About 9:30 three car loads drove down to Lukeville where we parked the cars and walked over into Mexico. We found it was quite some distance into the town of Sonoita and that there was almost no shopping center here at the border. Few purchases were made before walking back into Arizona. For a change, Lloyd made it thru' Customs without difficulty. The Visitor's Center was explored and we returned to an easy afternoon in camp. Tile, birdwatching, napping, and a lot of idle chatter. Nina took the Leiths and drove the loop route taking their lunch with them. Happy Hour at 4:00 - - Dinner at 5:00, because we would be eating out and the days turned cool early. And this Taco Dinner was prepared and served by the Leippers, and very, very good. Rounded out by the remaining wine and Ruth's persimon cake it all turned out to be GREAT!



TUESDAY, Jan 31st - Organ Pipes

Ruth was up early to get the split pea soup started. By noon it was finished along with two large pans of corn bread. Eighteen sat down to lunch with perfect weather. (Sid & Esther had left us one day early to keep an appointment with the Tucson Airstream Dealer for needed repairs.) During the morning Nina took the one hour loop trail hike and added a Cardinal to her bird list. Orve and Amye drove back to the little crossroad town of WHY to visit a cousin now living there. A mail run was made and Jay & Bob C. refilled Propane bottles. Jack took the loop trail hike and returned to start a jigsaw puzzle Marion brought out.



At 1:45 a group left camp to gather at the Amphitheater for the 2:00PM bird talk and hike led by one of the local rangers. Fourteen of our group took part. In contrast to the morning overcast it was a beautiful sunny afternoon. We were honored at 4:30 Happy Hour to have Billie & Paul Demarest, International Past President, drop by to spend the hour with us.

WEDNESDAY, Feb 1 - Organ Pipes

Up early for our 8:00AM departure. Arrived Tucson 11:10AM. 140 mile drive under perfect weather conditions. Rincon Country West RV Resort is a very nice park of over 600 spaces. The afternoon spent in shopping, propane refills, resting, etc. Altho' some clouds, it is an almost perfect day. Can fully understand why this is such a popular place in the winter for those folks from up north. H.H at the Paxtons 4:30. Virginia's Birthday and she was presented a card from the group. One of those real big cards with computerized figures and historic details of others who matched Virginia in certain details. Something new and quite unique. Dale made one of his humorous speeches and presented Virginia a very lively present.



THURSDAY, Feb 2 - Tuscon

At 9:00AM a group left to visit the Arizona/Sonora Desert Museum. This highly respected living museum is widely know and considered one of the finest in the country. We certainly enjoyed the visit and returned home in time for lunch. Others spent the morning in Tucson Old Town and at other points of interest.

In the afternoon Orve replaced the worn out WBCCI numbers on his trailer. Joe inflated the tires on their trailer. Shirley worked up the ingredients for the group dinner she was serving tonight. She arranged for the use of one of the rooms here in the Park.....from 5 to 7PM. And she asked Amye & Ruth to help cook the lasagna in the afternoon so that it would only need final heating that night.

In spite of all her preparations, and planning, she had some trouble getting the strangers out of the building on time, then we had the next group of strangers crowding into the building (for their Bridge session) at twenty minutes to seven. It was a popular spot but fortunately we had Orve to help fight them off.

Anyway, the entire evening affair was outstanding. Sid furnished a TREMENDOUS bag of popcorn. Everyone contributed to the salad bar, Orve & Amye produced two nice bottles of Paul Masson wine, and there was ice cream with liqueur topping. And enough of Shirley's lasagna for seconds and thirds all around. A very pleasant evening.

FRIDAY, Feb 3rd. Tuscon

We arose early to start laundry at 7:00 only to find the laundry room did not open until 8:00. Drat the luck! A clear and beautiful morning. There's a lot to be said for this Tuscon climate. By the way, we are no longer startled by the cut-out figure of the lady bending over working on her garden. Apparently someone in the Park is making these as several of the gardens displayed this same figure.



Free coffee & donuts were served by the Park this morning. There must have been 500 people in line at least thirty minutes before serving time. It was reported later that 45 dozen donuts were served, one to a person. Some of our members attended, others drove to Sabino Canyon Rec. Area & rode the sky lift up to the top. Others did separate sight-seeing or went shopping. Dale drove over to Green Valley to see an old friend. Virginia took the Canyon trip and she, Nina, Dottie, & Shirley dropped off on the way home to shop and have lunch together. These four returned to camp hours later loaded down with packages and with much slimmer purses.

H.H. at 4:30 at the Schneiders. Sorry to have Dale announce that they would be heading home tomorrow. Will miss them. Jack then had Ruth & I in for dinner. A wonderful shark steak dinner cooked in his very new Micro Wave Oven. Beautifully done, Jack, we're proud of you.

SATURDAY, Feb 4, Tuscon

Departure 8:00AM. First stop at Tumacarori Nat'l Monument. Enjoyed the old Mission & Museum. This was Apache Country & the original settlers were always in danger. The original Mission was established by Father Kino in 1691. The last resident Priest left the Mission in late 1840. The site became a National Monument in 1908.



We then drove on and settled in the KOA Park in Wilcox. The strong winds prevented any outside activities in the afternoon and we gathered in a room provided by the Park at 5:00 for Happy Hour. Ruth & I were invited over to the Gormans for a left-over Lasagna dinner. What a pleasant evening - - talking over good old times together.

Now, I'm not one to complain! But our treatment this noon seems worth some consideration. We were riding caboose spot in today's travel. A rest stop was made twenty minutes before reaching Wilcox. In the confusion of this being a rest stop or a lunch stop we understood it was the later. The Gormans were just in front of us and agreed it was a lunch stop. It must be pointed out that the spaces in this rest stop were filled with tremendous trucks which cut out visibility. Well, Sir, we sat there quietly eating our lunch, confident that the rest of the caravan was doing the same. What a shock when we wandered out to check on things to find the entire group was gone! GONE! Must be one of the real funny things of the Caravan. But it was a good lunch.

SUNDAY, Feb 5 - Wilcox KOA

Departure at 8:00. About 195 miles to go. Strong winds altho' they did not bother as they were following us. A great joy to find Chris & Glen at the KOA Park here in Las Cruces when we arrived. Enjoyed a nice visit and they will be back in time for Happy Hour & barbeque dinner.

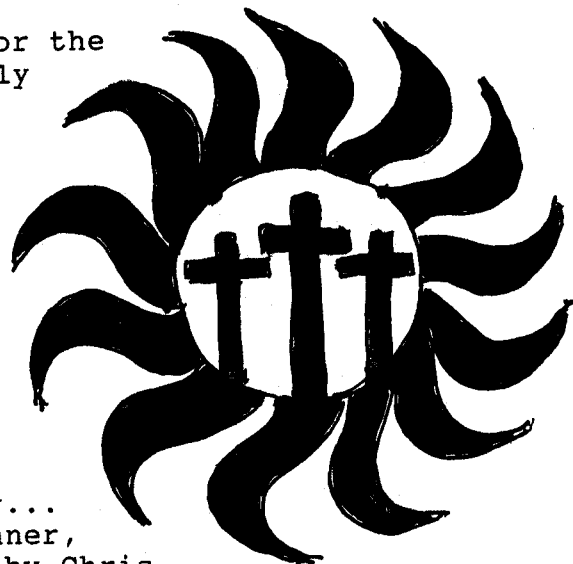
A strong wind blowing and scattered clouds. The upstairs TV room was available. Sid organized the barbeque with help from Bob Connell. The ladies furnished salad, vegetables, & desert. Folding tables & chairs were carried upstairs. Fires were started in the lee of the building. In spite of possible confusion the dinner was ready almost exactly on schedule. A pleasant evening and comfortable in the building out of the wind. Folks turned in early.

MONDAY, Feb 6, Las Cruces

Glen & Chris arrived at 7:30AM to lead our group down to El Paso. With them was the President of the Southern New Mexico WBCCI Unit, Cecilia Astry & her husband Clyde. Arrangements had been made to park our cars and to make a two hour tour of Juarez by Taxi Cabs. A clever idea and we enjoyed this brief glimps of this Mexican City. (Lloyd was thankful to get back thru' Customs without trouble!)

Glen then led us on ^{an} interesting tour of the city of El Paso. At one spot we overlooked the very Hi-School where Rosa and Bob Oliver first met those many years ago. We were all pleased with lunch at a very large El Paso Restaurant, and then we were driven back to Las Cruces via a rural route. This took us past many spots where both he and Chris had grown up. The ranch site of Glen's Father was pointed out. A tremendous Pecan Ranch was visited. Many other hi-lights of the area were reported as we traveled north

We do want to express our thanks for the wonderful reception given at their lovely home starting at 5:00PM. Chris & Glen sure went all out to receive our group. And how nice of the WBCCI Southern Mexico Unit to ^{be} part of this reception. Over twenty of them were present, bringing food supplies and helping Chris in the kitchen and in setting up tables. They were interesting folks to get to meet and talk with.



We sure appreciate the hospitality... the unlimited drinks, the wonderful dinner, and that very clever program developed by Chris. A well done job all around! THANKS. Of course it must be reported that it snowed and the temperature dropped to 24 degrees. Roads were slippery and our water lines froze. In fact, we soft Californians left both electric and propane heaters going all night in our trailer.

TUESDAY, Feb 7, Las Cruces

Woke up to cloudy skys and continued freezing weather. The water hose frozen....dump valve frozen....hands frozen. WOW! Decided against making the White Sands visit as the Pass was reported icy. Glen & Chris drove in to explain that this certainly was most unusual weather. (Also to report a phone call from our Son saying that the Los Gatos cold spell had burst many of the water lines to our home.) It was decided to canel this evenings group dinner at the restaurant, instead to gather at the Cox home for a lunch of the left over's from last evenings feast. So again we thank Glen & Chris for still more of their fine hospitality.

Jay announced that this would be the final formal gathering of the Caravan and handed out the Caravan Plaques. Joe expressed the thanks of the group and presented Marian & Jay a Sand Painting that had been purchased at a local shop. Thus Caravan 39 comes to a formal close. It has been another good MBCU outing and our thanks go to the Leiths for all the work done. Altho' we are leaving tomorrow to head straight home, many of the others will continue on Westward as a group.

It was sad saying goodbye to Christine and Glen and we promised to keep in touch by letter, and hopefully by making future visits. And there is even the chance that they will join us on the Bozeman Caravan next June. How GREAT that would be!

We all hurried back to camp. Still cold but the sun was partially out. Could not give up our Happy Hour so all stood around in the snow covered lawn area for a short but lively gathering.

WEDNESDAY, Feb 8, Las Cruces

We were up early and ready to travel but waited until 7:30 to be sure there would be no ice on the roads. All water & sewer connections had been taken in yesterday so the cold made no difference. Drove 331 miles to the KOA Picacho Park located between Tucson & Phoenix. Warm & delightful weather allowing us to leave the trailer door open. With full unfrozen hookups we wallowed in hot showers and desert comforts. Some miles back we noted the KOA billboard and its ad for their STEAKHOUSE restaurant. I promised to take Ruth to dinner but was released when we found the STEAKHOUSE was closed on Wednesdays.

THURSDAY, Feb 9

The radio out of L/A is reporting rain & snow. The Grapevine is closed. We wonder about the Tehachapi Pass but will face that tomorrow. Departed Picacho at 7:30. Beautiful drive to Blyth then North on Hwy 95 to Needles. Before entering Calif we decided to eat all the citrus fruit. So, at lunch Ruth made a tremendous bowl of fruit salad which we ate with toast. When we did pass the Border, the officer said the few citrus we had left were OK! Never know what to do! Miles driven today 320. With one hour gained today, Ruth did the laundry.



THE SNOWS CAME -



KOA

FRIDAY, Feb 10, Needles

Still watching the weather reports. L/A Grapevine still snowed-in but Highway Patrol now caravaning vehicles thru'. Glad we are further North. Left at 6:30. Weather clear but some clouds. Drove 351 miles and settled down in Kettleman R.V. Park on Hwy 5 about 31 miles north of Lost Hills. Altho' level pull-through spaces the hose bibs were faulty and sewer connections constructed wrong.

Water hose leaked and sewer hose had to be dumped up hill. Maybe I'm just tired from the day's drive but I would not recommend this park to anyone. In contrast, however, there was no wind on the Mojave Desert and the Tehachapi Pass was dry and perfect for driving. A beautiful sight with all surrounding fields laced with snow.

SATURDAY, Feb 11

A cool morning with high fog but no frost. Left at 7:00AM and plan to be home for lunch.

RECAP: Gone from home 23 days. Drove 2798 miles. Stayed at six different KOA Parks, all good.

De Virginia,

Joy and I want to thank you
for helping to make this Caravan so
successful. The Trees dinner you served
us (and the strawberry shortcakes)
enriched the trip - and were delicious,
to boot. We really appreciated what
you did.

love
Maui

MONTEREY BAY CALIFORNIA UNIT

WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Caravan 39

WHITE SANDS CARAVAN

January 22 - February 14, 1989

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TR. NUMBER</u>	<u>CB HANDLE</u>
Benjamin, Jack	2630	Quake
Brown, Lloyd and Ruth	17330	Brown Bear
Connell, Bob and Alma	26846	Big Whit
Gorman, Joe and Shirley	10842	Big Joe
Grossman, Sid and Esther	29009	Amtrak
Hadden, Nina	1697	Nina
Hoffman, Orv and Amye	5178	Hoot Owl
Leipper, Dale and Virginia	1183	Bambi II
Leith, Jay and Marian	17499	Rocks
Paxton, Dave and Barbara	10369	Silver Tepee
Schneider, Bob and Dorothy	16119	Green Hornet

CARAVAN #39 STAFF

Caravan Leaders	Jay and Marian Leith
Caravan Parker	Jack Benjamin
Caravan Meal Planners	The women
Caravan Historian	Marian Leith

CARAVAN ITINERARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Place</u>
1/22/89	Sun.	Lost Hills, Ca. KOA
1/23	Mon.	Victorville, Ca. KOA
1/24	Tues.	Anza-Borrego State Park, Ca. Palm Canyon campground
1/26	Thurs.	Yuma, Az. Country Roads RV Resort
1/29	Sun.	Organ Pipe Cactus N.M., Az.
2/1	Wed.	Tucson, Az. Rincon Country West RV Resort
2/4	Sat.	Willcox, Az. KOA
2/5	Sun.	Las Cruces, NM KOA
2/8	Wed.	Benson, Az. KOA
2/9	Thurs.	Wickenburg, Az. Horsepitality RV Park
2/10	Fri.	Laughlin, Nev. Riverside RV Park
2/12	Sun.	Barstow, Ca. KOA
2/13	Mon.	Lost Hills KOA
2/14	Tues.	End of Caravan

Sunday, Jan. 22, 1989 - Seven trailers left the delicious Rally Breakfast at Lodi and started on their great adventure. The Gormans were the first to leave; others followed at irregular intervals. Some ran into dense, heavy fog part of the way, and 3 trailers joined ranks along the way, to arrive together at the Lost Hills KOA. The Connells had driven there from Carmel, so now we were 8. The Super Bowl game was the prime attraction of the afternoon, and the outdoor party was a jubilant one. Jay won the big pot, but Ruth Brown came out a winner also. The cold air drove everyone in early from Happy Hour. A peaceful evening ensued.

Monday, Jan. 23 - At 8:00 A.M. all trailers were lined up and ready to roll. Over the mountains to Victorville we went, with a stop in Mojave for groceries, and one for gas just before entering the KOA at 12:45 P.M. The afternoon was spent playing Tiles, visiting the Roy Rogers Museum, or in other ways, and, to our delight, we were offered the room above the office of the KOA for our Happy Hour. A warm room (but cold chairs) and out of the wind.

Tuesday, Jan. 24 - A slightly delayed 8:30 A.M. departure. The Schneiders left a little ahead of the rest, and then disappeared. The other 7 managed to stay together through San Bernadino and Riverside, and after a tricky route, landed in the Tamarisk campground in Anza-Borrego State Park at 12:45 P.M. Only at that point we found that the spaces were too short for us, so we quickly ate our lunch, left a note for the Schneiders and Leippers, and continued on to the Borrego Palm Canyon campground, where we found lovely spaces, and hook-ups! The Schneiders re-appeared, after a harrying day of being lost and then found, and we were happy to have them back in the fold. We spent a quiet afternoon, and enjoyed a chilly Happy Hour at 4:30 P.M.

Wednesday, Jan. 25 - Off to the Visitor's Center at 9:30 A.M. The Ranger gave us a most interesting talk in the backroom lab, because the slide show was being held up. We enjoyed the talk, then the slides, then a walk with a park Volunteer, and finally back to the campground for a super pie iron lunch, thanks to the Browns. The strenuous (?) morning must have worn us out, however, as it was a very relaxed group that came together for a 4 o'clock Happy Hour. It was cold!

Thursday, Jan. 26 - The string of aluminum trailers pulled out of the campground at 8:15 A.M., and after two quick rest stops, arrived at the Country Roads RV Village, in Yuma, at 11:45 A.M. It took a while to register and get set up, and we were all relaxing when Sid Grossman came by to tell us his plans. We all car pooled at 4:45 P.M. to get to Sid's home at 5. He and Esther gave us a lovely cocktail hour, with gorgeous hors d'oeuvres, followed by a delicious steak dinner. Helen Weber's famous lemon meringue pies were our dessert, to top off a super evening.

Friday, Jan. 27 - Everyone slept later than usual, this morning (the hour change in time helped) Laundry, shopping, etc. filled the day. This was the first really warm afternoon of the trip, and we enjoyed it. The group gathered at 5:15 P.M. to drive to a Mexican restaurant. Margaritas and great Mexican food kept everybody happy.

Saturday, Jan. 28 - This was a lazy day to do your own thing. We did enjoy Happy Hour together at 4:30 P.M. next to Nina's trailer, but it was too cool to linger long.

Sunday, Jan. 29 - The trailers rolled at 8:00 A.M. and fifteen minutes later we picked up Sid and Esther Grossman, in their trailer, waiting on the highway, so now we are 10. A rest stop and gas stop, and soon we were at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. We arrived there at 12:30 P.M., and to our delight, found the

Paxtons waiting for us in the campground. Jack had to squeeze eleven trailers into a very limited space, but he did his usual magnificent job, and we all settled down to lunch and a quiet afternoon. There was one table of bridge, but not much activity elsewhere, except for poor Barb Paxton, who fell over Scuppers on a walk that afternoon, and ended up with a big nose and punctured hands. At 4:30 P.M., Marian Leith provided the drinks for Happy Hour to celebrate her birthday, which was that day. Dinner in individual trailers ended the day.

Monday, Jan. 30, - The Browns provided us with a super waffle breakfast at 8:15 this morning. The day was spent in various ways, as some took a long, scenic ride, some went to Lukeville and walked across to Mexico, some hiked, etc. etc. All were together for Happy Hour at 4:30 P.M., after which Virginia Leipper served us a delicious Tacos dinner, topped off with persimmon pudding provided by Ruth Brown. The weather cooperated and it was a delightful social event.

Tuesday, Jan. 31 - A cool, grey morning kept most people inside, but Ruth and Lloyd Brown were outside cooking split pea soup, and mixing corn bread, for a group luncheon. They even arranged for the sun to come out at noon, so all in all, we think they are great luncheon hosts. Most of us went on a Ranger led bird walk at 2:00 P.M. At least we learned how to pronounce Phainopepla, and we did see quite a few birds. Much relaxing was done then until Paul and Billie Demarest joined us for Happy Hour. Paul is a former International President of WBCCI, and they had met the Germans on their Yucatan trip. It was a most enjoyable cocktail hour for all of us.

Wednesday, Feb. 1 - All rigs were ready and waiting for the 8:00 A.M. departure. We enjoyed a short, but lovely, trip to Tucson and were welcomed by the Rincon West Trailer Park. They did separate the three dog trailers from the rest of us, but we managed to maintain communications. In fact, we joined them for Happy Hour, as the Paxtons played host. Virginia Leipper provided strawberry shortcakes for dessert, in honor of her birthday, which ended another enjoyable day.

Thursday, Feb. 2 - A lovely summery day! Some enjoyed museums, some shopped, etc. But, at 5:00 P.M. all gathered in the campground recreation room for Happy Hour, followed by a Lasagna dinner, provided by Shirley Gorman. The delayed ice cream social, to celebrate Virginia's birthday, served as dessert course, and, as bridge players converged on us early, we hurried out before 7 P.M. to spend peaceful and replete evenings in individual trailers.

Friday, Feb. 3 - Two carloads of Caravanners pulled out, bright and early, to enjoy a tram ride up through Sabino Canyon. It was an experience they thoroughly enjoyed. The men came back at lunch time, but the four women had discovered the Old Pueblo Trader store, and didn't return until 4:00 P.M. With packages! In the meantime, laundry, cleaning and shopping kept the rest busy, on this warm and sunny day. Happy Hour hosts were Bob and Dottie Schneider. Unfortunately, Dale and Virginia Leipper said their good-byes at that point, as they were to leave for California in the morning. We'll miss them!

Saturday, Feb. 4 - Off again at 8:00 A.M., without the Paxtons who travelled to Wilcox separately. We stopped at Tumacacori, at the National Monument, and spent an hour seeing the ruins of the Mission, the Museum and the interesting film. On, through Patagonia, for a lovely trip to Wilcox. We couldn't find anybody in the office of the KOA, so we set up and had lunch, then registered later. The wind was blowing hard, so we were grateful for the use of a room next to the office for our Happy Hour, which Esther Grossman hosted.

Sunday, Feb. 5 - Another 8:00 A.M. departure. First a tailwind helped us, then a

cross wind sent tumble weed across our paths. We arrived at the KOA in Las Cruces at noon, and Christine and Glenn Cox got there right afterwards. It surely was good to see them! A lazy and very windy afternoon was followed by Happy Hour and dinner together in a room loaned to us by the campground. The men barbecued - the women provided salads and desserts. We enjoyed having the Cox's with us.

Monday, Feb. 6 - Four cars left at 7:30 A. M. for El Paso, Texas. It was a cold day - their first taste of winter, according to the natives. In El Paso, we climbed into taxis and crossed into Juarrez, Mexico, for a tour of the city. Our drivers took us to a good many shops, and some serious bargaining went on. Heavily laden, we returned to El Paso, and, in our own cars again, headed for Luby's Cafeteria, enjoying a scenic loop along the way. And what a surprise was waiting for us back in Las Cruces! Snow! The flurries continued even as we drove to the Cox home that evening, where the Southern New Mexico Unit (WBCCI) entertained us royally. The cocktail hour was enjoyed in the garage; then a buffet dinner was served, with lots of tempting dishes. The Cox furniture had been stacked, and gaily decorated tables welcomed us. Christine entertained us after dinner. It was a lovely party. And all cars made it back to the campground safely.

Tuesday, Feb. 7 - We wakened to a cold, snow-covered world this morning. Plans were changed, discussed, and changed again. All plans for a trip to White Sands and a restaurant dinner that evening were scrapped, but Christine came to suggest a 1 o'clock "left-over" luncheon. It was another happy event at the Cox's. A lovely gift was given to the Leiths, our leaders, who were delighted and grateful. Almost everyone managed a trip to Mesallia sometime during the day, and more purchases were made. A very short, cold Happy Hour outside ended the activities for this amazing day that saw the snow melt and the afternoon sun appear.

Wednesday, Feb. 8 - All clear for our 8:30 A.M. departure, with Nina and the Connells leaving ahead of us. After a few cold and windy stops, including a lunch break, we arrived at the KOA in Benson by 1:30 P.M., to be greeted by the early travellers. Warm weather at last, and was it ever welcome! Happy Hour was held at 5:00 P.M. in the room next to the office. We're back on schedule again.

Thursday, Feb. 9 - When we left this morning, we were down to four trailers, as we left Nina, the Paxton's and the Hoffmans behind, and the Connells and Schneiders were stopping in Phoenix. Traffic was terrific in Phoenix, and the stoplights were determined to separate us, so there was much dawdling and waiting for catch-ups. We arrived at the campground in Wickenburg at 1:30 P.M. After lunch, Sid took the 3 women grocery shopping - then we prepared food for the delicious dinner we enjoyed together in the Grossman trailer, after Happy Hour outside. What a lovely evening!

Friday, Feb. 10 - Four trailers took off at 8:00 A.M. It was a gorgeous trip to Laughlin, Nevada, where we checked into the gigantic campground next to the Riverside Hotel/Casino. We were separated, but we did have Happy Hour together, and all but the Leiths dined out, on Prime Rib.

Saturday, Feb. 11 - This was Jack's lucky day, as he won \$30.00 in the Casino. It was a lucky day for all of us, as the Schneiders rejoined the group. There was much going back and forth between the trailers and the Casinos, but, as usual, Happy Hour brought us together again. This was our last night together, as the Grossmans went on to Las Vegas, the Leiths headed for home the next morning, and the remaining 3 trailers followed, at a slower pace. Monterey Bay Unit does have the nicest Caravans!

Marian Leith - Caravan Historian
With apologies for the many mistakes herein.