

Northern CA State Staff

Sycamore Ranch, Tortilla Toss Camping Weekend

September 24, 2016

On September 24, 2016 the meeting was called to order at 9:30AM by Dave Caudle, N. CA State Director. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dave.

Welcome: Harry & Mary from Nevada!

A big THANK YOU Chapter T for getting Sycamore Ranch at a reasonable price for us and setting up shade for the meeting and potluck etc. and Lonna Applehof for picking up the donuts.

Minutes from our last meeting of April 2nd, 2016 accepted; Jana Van Housen motion and Mary Spencer 2nd. All agree

Introduced State Staff Officers

Assist. State Directors- John and Char Hunrath- absent

Secretary- Christi Cue

Treasurer-Lynn Hollenback and Jana Van Housen

Raffle Coordinator- Steve Cue- absent

Newsletter Editor- Jenny Genesoto- absent

Support Team- Joe & Mary Spencer &

Teri Trautman

Webmaster- Skip Trautman

Welcome -Mr. & Mrs. GWTA Virginia St Clair & Cesar Higuera
State Family of the Year- Skip & Teri Trautman- Chap. T

State officer reports:

Treasurer: Lynn Hollenbeck- \$7719.89 checking bal.

951.00 to Dep for Spring Fling & Fall Fiesta

Total Sept. 24, 2016 = \$8870.89

State Webmaster- No report- Dave has corrections for him

FAMILY OF THE YEAR

Be ready to present your family this January State Staff, please represent your club.

Winner receives free registration for Spring Fling.

Region Director Report in replace of their absence

eNews, August 2016

GOLD RUSH 2016

Gold Rush was a success having it in Huntington, Indiana – Bruce & Linda's hometown. Although there were only a few people that camped on their property and most stayed in nearby hotels, all the workshops and events that were held at the University of Indiana and various other locations were well attended and everyone had a great time. There were 243 members in attendance which surpassed last year's Gold Rush in Albuquerque.

GOLD RUSH 2017

Next year's Gold Rush should prove to be even bigger and better as we will be celebrating GWTA's 30th anniversary! It will be held in Fort Collins, Colorado – much closer for all of us! The dates will be July 10 – 13, 2017. There are no host hotels, however, the following hotel and KOA Camping information is listed below. Most of the hotels will be offering a GWTA rate. As more information comes in, we'll make sure to get it to you. Keep checking the national website at www.gwta.org for more GR info!

- Residence Inn, Fort Collins, CO, (970) 223-5700
- Courtyard by Marriott, Fort Collins, CO, (970) 282-1700
- Comfort Suites, Fort Collins, CO, (970) 237-5106
- Fort Collins / Lakeside KOA, Fort Collins, CO, (970) 484-9880

CHANGES – THEY BE A-COMIN'!

You have probably heard by now that major changes have occurred with National. Currently, we have an accountant who comes in the office a few days per month to do the books and an Intern who works with memberships only several hours per week. A new program is up and coming which will give YOU, the member access to your personal account with GWTA. More information is forthcoming. In the meantime, should you need to contact the National Office, please email gwta-membership@gmail.com.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

It is NOT a rumor. Bruce Keenon has resigned his position as Executive Director. His last day as ED will be December 31, 2016. Bruce and Linda have generously volunteered their time, love and support of GWTA for the past 19 years and have done an awesome job! They will be truly missed!

However, If you're interested or know of someone who would be willing to volunteer in this position, please contact your Regional Representative on the Board of Directors. The next generation of touring riders is counting on you!

WAIVER INFORMATION – VERY IMPORTANT!

All GWTA meetings, events and activities are covered by 3rd party liability. Should you have a guest/visitor who attends a meeting and wants to ride with the group or if they will be attending a TA campout, they MUST sign a "Release and Waiver of Liability" or else GWTA's liability becomes null and void for that specific event. We know it might be awkward in asking a new person or feel that they might be offended, but please explain that the 3rd party liability covers the group as a whole and that safety is first and foremost with GWTA members as it is with all organizations. Again, as this can become a sensitive issue, please contact us directly to discuss this further.

The "Release and Waiver of Liability" form can be found in the National website under http://gwta.org/doc_library/list.htm then look up "[Release and Waiver of Liability.](#)"

MEMBERSHIP IS ONLY \$50 PER YEAR!

Remember, annual memberships are \$50 per year! If your chapter could afford it, offer a new member to purchase two years' membership and the chapter pays for their third year. Think of other incentives to recruit new members. As for expiring members, call or better yet, visit them and encourage them to renew. Get out there and let's grow GWTA!

NEW & RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS

As told by National, TA cards are made when we have a bulk order of 50 or more to save cost. However, as Regional Directors, we were given access and authority to create temporary membership cards.

Chapter Directors – If you have new members and or renewing members who need TA cards, please send us ALL the information requested below:

- Name of Member
- Membership Number
- When they first joined GWTA (at least the month and year)
- Expiration Date
- Working phone number (so we can call if we have further questions)

We will then process the cards and send it back to the Chapter Directors for distribution. Should you have further questions, please contact us.

TOURING NEWS

We have mentioned in an earlier eNews, *Touring News* is published every other month and can be read online at the national website: www.gwta.org. We are indeed several months behind mostly in part of planning this year's Gold Rush with limited staff. *Touring News* will resume shortly and we apologize for the inconvenience.

In the meantime, please continue to send articles and pictures to *Touring News* to:

Touring News Magazine
P.O. Box 42403

Indianapolis, IN 46242-0403

Chrysa Keenon - Magazine Editor

Email: gwtamembership@gmail.com

National Webmaster

The new website is still under construction. There have been many challenges along the way. You may have heard about how computer programs from the 1980's and 1990's do not communicate with the programs of today. There are ways to fix that and are being handled right now. Several members have volunteered their time to help transfer old files into new file formats that the new website will understand. Moving forward, when the new website comes online, each member will have full control of their membership online via a logon and password.

DAVE CAUDLE special National Report

This week, I had several conversations with Steve and Ralphine and received emails from Bruce Keenon – Executive Director and Dennis Farnum – Chairman of the Board.

To paraphrase:

At Gold Rush this year, Bruce announced that GWTA National is still in debt. The national office still has a “brick” office in Indianapolis on a long term lease. The lease, however, ends on November 30, 2016. At that time, that office will close. Because the organization is listed with the IRS as a non-profit organization in the state of Indiana, it must maintain an office in that state. That has been the case since 1987.

Bruce is looking to find a small office and storage area in Huntington Indiana which is his home town. This is to maintain an address and store the supplies related to GWTA. He is looking in the budget of \$500 per month which is a small fraction of the cost of the current lease.

Currently, GWTA is in debt to the amount of \$34,000. This includes past rent of roughly \$11,000, balance due to fulfill the lease through the end of November, and all other operating expenses through the end of the year. Currently, Bruce and Linda are paying \$500 per week out of their pocket to protect the lease. Over the years and especially this year, Bruce, Linda and other members of the national staff have donated thousands of dollars to help keep the bills paid. Many members have also come through in times of need.

The only funds coming into the office right now are from membership dues at roughly \$200 per week. That is only a fraction of what is needed to keep the organization going at our current state. The economy took a big hit on our organization. Membership continues to decline at a record rate. In the past, National has done fund raisers, which has helped keep the organization afloat. Our biggest one was the bike raffle. Over the years, the funds raised have declined rapidly. 10 years ago, National sold close to 50,000 tickets. This year, National only raised just over \$800.

Moving forward, GWTA will become a primarily online organization. Bruce and Linda are stepping down at the end of December after 19 years of dedication. When Bruce became National Director, GTWA was in debt. Bruce’s goal is to hand over the keys to the organization to the new director “Debt Free. That is why the funds are needed.

It has been suggested that if each of the 150 chapters donates \$220, that would raise \$33,000. If each of the current 1400 memberships donated \$24, that would raise \$33,600. If each of the current 2800 members donated \$12 per person, that would raise \$33,600. As you know, not everyone will donate though. Many members and some chapters cannot afford to donate that much. Please go back to your chapters and let them know that the organization needs there help.

Since I took this office I refuse to “PASS THE HAT”. However, if any members, chapters, or other groups wish to donate money today, we will be happy to accept checks and can get them in the hands of the national office within the next couple of days.

State Chapter Directors in Attendance:

Chap A- Manny & Lucy Bernstein

Chap B- Not Present

Chap F- Dave Caudle, Laney, Jim Barber & Karen Padilla, Phil & Charlie Messer, Butch & Connie Ditmars

Chap L- Lynn Hollenbeck CD, Jana Van Housen ACD

Chap P- Rich McMillan ACD Cesar Higuera member

Chap R –Tim Smith member

Chap S- Dennis Therein –CD

Chap T – Skip & Teri Trautman CD, Skip Paquette and Sue Leamons ACD, Jim & Cathy, Lonna Applehof, Stu & Lew-outriders, Joe & Jenny Francis

Chap V –Joe & Mary Spencer- Stores/Treasurer, Christi Cue member

Chap X- Terry Owen CD & Debbie Warren ACD

Guests - Joe & Patsy Seco

Chapter events coming up: Next Year

Chap A -Polar Bear Run January 1 2017– Moose Lodge Acampo

Chap B – not present

Chap F – Chap F & V –Feb 11th, 2017 Winter Gathering VFW Hall, U Street Antelope Circus theme - \$6.00 entry and a potluck dish.

Mother/Father Day campout Sycamore Ranch F & T together May 5,6,7 2017

Chap. L- Nothing at this time

Chap. P- nothing for sure yet

Chap. R – no events planned

Chap. S- Lake Tahoe Campout Aug. 10-13, 2017 4 nights this time

Chap. T – Mother/Father’s Day Campout at Sycamore Ranch- May 5 6 7 2017 T & F together
Veteran’s Day Parade Nov 11,2017 10AM line up Peachtree Rest. breakfast earlier

Chap. V – Annual Toy Run Nov. 6th, 2016 in Woodland meet at Les Schwab Main St.

Chap V & F –Feb 11th, 2017 Winter Gathering VFW Hall, U Street Antelope
Circus Theme

Chap. X – Sock Hop, Oct. 15 2016 Los Molinos

Come & do lip syncing and camp at Terry’s

Ronnie Lee King, May 17, 2017 Red Bluff

Sock Hop, Oct. 21 2017 Los Molinos

REMINDER- Chapter registration due November 1st -\$100. Forms are here.

SPRING FLING N. CA May 25-29, 2017 – Plymouth, CA

THEME -TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Need a Logo design- by January 2017 State Staff- 1 person will win

Paul & Ruth coming back into the kitchen!

Brand new members- free registration to Spring Fling so that they might come and experience.

New Business

Discussion over the above note from Dave about National being in debt and Bruce Keenon wanting to leave the next Director debt free.

Skip Trautman motion to send National \$500.00 from N. CA, Mary Spencer 2nd all wholeheartedly agree. Lots of members in attendance donating more.

Cesar Higuera won a \$1,000 gift certificate from Big Bike Parts online at another event. He is donating it to State to raffle, $\frac{3}{4}$ money raised goes to National and Cesar would like the other $\frac{1}{4}$ made from the sales of tickets for this gift. PLEASE buy lots of tickets so that we can send a good check to National

Will pick the winning ticket at the Woodland Toy Run Nov. 6th 2016

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN...must use the gift cert. by Dec 31st 2016

Joe Spencer will be handling the tickets...Dave Caudle will be e-mailing rules and reminders to all chapter directors.

GOLD RUSH 2017- Fort Collins, CO July 10-13 2017

See above referenced notes from our Region Directors. Dave has added a couple campgrounds nearby. 2 KOA's 6 miles and 15 miles away from event, one called Holiday \$50.00 a night for RV'S don't know about tents. Eight miles away is Boyd Lake State Park \$24.00 a night- electric only.

Next Year Tortilla Toss at Sycamore Ranch again!

Had a BIG CARD game this time instead of 50/50... Jana WON \$110.00 and donating to National

Next Meeting – January 2017

Motion to adjourn by Mary Spencer, seconded by many Bernstein. All Approved
Meeting adjourned by Dave Caudle, CA State Director, at 10:55AM

Submitted by

Christi Cue

Secretary