



April 2021

TUCSON DRIFTERS NEWSLETTER

It's not where you go, but who you go with!



Tom Roubal, Editor

CARING AND SHARING

by Kendra Kuehn



Ron Kuznicki	04/03
Dale Christensen	04/07
Tom Roubal	04/12
Julie Katz	04/16
Hans Dernison	04/22
Tom Tucker	04/22
Andrew Kucy	04/24
Susan White	04/26



Bill and Betsy Hansen 04/27

If anyone knows of a sympathy or hospitalization card that needs to be sent out to a member PLEASE let me know.

Kendra Kuehn kkuehn65@msn.com

TUCSON DRIFTERS ANGELS are ready to help those members in our club that need a helping hand. Should you need some help with prescription or grocery pickup's and/or rides to a Doctor's appointment, call Ruth Roubal 520-886-1955.

Your Tucson Drifters Angels are:
Paul and Jan Spaeth

Ray and Nora Toscano
Brad and Michelin Taylor
Jeff and Linda Salfen
Tom and Ruth Roubal

SAVE THE DATE - 10 April 2021

Mark your calendars because our April meeting is going to be a Saturday Bar-B-Que at Catalina State Park. We have a reservation for the picnic facilities at the Ringtail Group area. The details are still being refined so watch your e-mail for all you'll need to know about this chance to once again spend time with your Drifter friends."

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER



Annual Tucson Drifters membership dues of \$20.00 were due January 1, 2021. Membership is considered delinquent after February 1, 2021. Any member who does not submit their dues payment by April 10, 2021 will be dropped from the Tucson Drifters membership.

Also, remember that all members must keep their FMCA membership current. This renewal does not apply to those who joined the Chapter after June 1, 2020; your dues are paid through 2021.

In addition to the due's payment, please submit the membership renewal form. It is important to support bookkeeping and to verify each member's information in the membership listing that is published on our web site. The Renewal Form is at the end of the newsletter.



President's Corner:



Drifters –

Hope you're enjoying our lovely end-of-winter weather. Flowers blooming, trees budding (sneeze), warm breezes – sure doesn't feel much like March to me but I still have enough of the east coast left in me to not expect those things until sometime in May. This beautiful Arizona weather makes we want to spend some rally type time with my Drifter friends. I'm hoping the proposed Saturday Bar-B-Q in the park will satisfy that need for me and for all you folks who may feel the same way. Keep

your eyes open for an e-mail (if you've not already received it) listing all the things you need to know about a "BBQ in the CSP".

Suzi

FRED'S TECH-TIPS



INVERTER/CHARGERS

These devices are probably one of the most misunderstood electrical components ever installed on a motorhome. Most owners don't use them because they have no idea what they do and by nature we dismiss things we don't understand.

For starters, lets define exactly what an inverter is and how it works and then we will explore its benefits and then its problems. An inverter is a device that takes 12-volt battery power and changes it into 120-volt household power. Most inverters have a 2000-watt capacity which means they can operate appliances like microwaves, coffee makers, blenders, hair dryers, televisions, and satellite systems. It is an alternative energy source when you do not have shore power and you don't want to use your generator.

How you use your motorhome will determine the usefulness of this electrical device. If you are the kind of RVer that only goes to RV Campgrounds or State Parks, then the inverter has little to offer. If you like to go exploring and bring the grandchildren with you then they are especially useful while you are in transit. You can power up televisions and DVD players, I-pads, tablets, and the like. They will keep them occupied instead of "are we there yet". You can make popcorn in the microwave and all that without running the generator. If you think about it, it is "free electricity" because the engine alternator is keeping the batteries charged while you are driving.

One of great benefits that I really enjoy is this: We went to Mesa Verde National Park without a reservation and picked a campsite that was next to a meadow that had no hook-ups just a pad. Our solar panels charged up our batteries in the daytime and our inverter supplied us with all the electricity we needed at nighttime. We were there 5 or 6 days and never started the generator. Besides all that we really liked when the deer and fawn would come and visit us at dusk ever night!

The disadvantage of an Inverter is that they are not very efficient. They require about 10 times the battery power to make 120-volt household electricity. This means they can drain your house batteries quick if you do not have much battery capacity. Solar panels are a must if you are going to use the inverter while parked. The other common problem is people forget to turn them off when not in use. Even if you store your coach and turn off your battery disconnects, the inverter will still drain your house batteries if left on because they are wired directly thru battery cables to the house batteries. Add this to your shut down and storage procedures if you start to use the inverter as part of the coach's features.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Hopefully soon we will all be enjoying our coaches once again. We are finally starting to see the light with this pandemic and with that we will be having our April business and dinner meeting at Catalina State Park on the 10th of April. Hope you all join us for this outdoor activity with a real old fashion BBQ and good friendship. It will be great seeing you all real soon.

April-May - Grand Mighty Mississippi Rally April 30, 2021 to May 24th, 2021. This is an ON THE MOVE rally and everyone that is attending are really excited. Get together at the Roubal's home April 3 at 2:30 PM. All rally participants are invited for updates, books, Mardi Gras desert and coffee. Find the baby and win a prize.

June to August - We go dry but if anyone finds that a rendezvous is in order or you would like company on a mini trip, let our club know and we will let it be known to our fellow drifters.

October - Rocky Mountain Regional Rally to be held in the Old Pueblo at the Pima County Fairgrounds. Stay tune this summer for future information.

November - 3:10 to Yuma is still a go. Stay tune!!!

December no rally schedule.

January - We go dark.

February - Hopefully, we will have a Valentine Rally. Keep your fingers crossed.

March - National FMCA rally at Pima County Fair Grounds. This will be a first for Tucson. You will have a lot of fun.

April – Silver City

May - No rally scheduled at this time.

We need help and this has been a trying year for our club. If you have an idea for a future rally or can help with being a host, we would love to hear from you.

Ruth Roubal, VP of Planning

Vera Schlichter, Assistant VP of Planning

FUNNY BONES COLUMN



"You were right. Maybe I should've checked to see if the GPS was working before we left, because this doesn't look like the Florida Keys."

If you would like to add jokes to this column in future newsletters, please submit them to the Editor Tom Roubal



TUCSON DRIFTERS 2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

According to our Bylaws, annual dues become payable each January 1. In addition to the dues payment, **please submit the membership renewal form**. While the form may seem redundant to our membership, it is very important to support bookkeeping and to verify each member's information in the membership listing that is published on our web site.

Annual membership is considered delinquent after February 1, 2021. Any member who does not submit their dues payment by March 31 will be dropped from the Tucson Drifters membership. Also, remember that all members must keep their FMCA membership current. This renewal does not apply to those who joined the Chapter after June 1, 2020; your dues are paid through 2021.

TUCSON DRIFTERS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual Dues: \$20.00 (Payable January of each year)

FMCA F#: _____

Member Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Additional Cell Phone: _____ (Please note who the cell #'s belong to)

E-Mails: _____ (Please note who Email belongs to)

E-Mails: _____ (Please note who Email belongs to)

Rig(year/make/length): _____

Make check payable to Tucson Drifters and Mail to:

Ted Schaefer 9855 E. Irvington Rd. Unit 275 Tucson, AZ 85730



Tucson Drifters Event Calendar

2021-2022 - *A Work in Progress*

- *It's not where you go, but who you go with!*



October 2021		November 2021	December 2021	January 2022
Title:	RMMA Regional	2:10 to Yuma	Open	None
Date:	19-24	TBD		
Place:	Pima County Fairgrounds	Yuma AZ		
Host:	Need Host	Bass, Kuznicki, Hansen		
February 2022		March 2022	April 2022	May 2022
Title	Be My Valentine Rally	Tucson Drifters Come Home	Silver City Delight	Open
Date	TBD	TBD	TBD	
Place	TBD	Catalina State Park	Silver City, NM	
Host	Roubal (Looking for Hosts)	Bass, Salfen, (Looking for Hosts)	Schaefer, Kuehn, Kucy, Zappe	

Visit our website with our own club's name as the URL: www.TucsonDrifters.org

TUCSON DRIFTERS RALLY DEPOSITS AND CANCELLATION POLICY

A **nonrefundable** Rally Deposit must accompany rally registration. Once the Balance Due Date is passed and Total Payment made, no refunds of these monies will be made until the rally has been completed and records have been reconciled. Any refunds are exclusive of rally deposits.