



April 2022

TUCSON DRIFTERS NEWSLETTER

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



Tom Roubal, Editor

CARING AND SHARING

by Kendra Kuehn



Kuznicki, Ron	04/03
Roubal, Tom	04/12
Williams, Ted	04/15
Katz, Julie	04/16
Malisewski, Randi	04/23
Kucy, Andrew	04/24
Williamson, Sandy	04/24



Angel & Teresa Rodriguez	04/12
Ted & Elizabeth Williams	04/12
Bill & Betsy Hansen	04/27

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



DRIFTER'S DINNER MEETING

Tuesday April 4, 2022

Barnfire Mesquite Grill

8310 N. Thornydale Rd., Tucson, Arizona.

Dinner Choices:

- Grilled Chicken Alfredo Pasta with Salad and dinner rolls.
or
- Large grilled chicken salad and soup available for the others.
- Dessert will be cookies of some sort. Chips and Salsa as well.

Board meeting: 4:30 prior to dinner meeting. Meeting is open to all members. Any issues or concerns you would like to have discussed, please email them in advance to my email so I can attach them to the agenda. **ACTIVITIES MEETING TO**

FOLLOW.

Bernie

bkuehn@msn.com

Dinner Meeting: Social 5:30 Dinner 6:15

Cost: \$19.00 (inclusive) each, CHECKS PLEASE.

Please reply with your choice of dinner selection by March 31, 2022. As a reminder, should you confirm and no show, you will be responsible to pay for your dinner.

Paula Arnold
cell 303-807-8044

President's Corner:



Welcome to Spring, looking forward to warmer weather and fun RV trips, the next one will be a Drifters Picnic at the Catalina State Park, April 23, hope to see you all there!

The FMCA 104th International Convention & RV EXPO held at the Pima County Fairgrounds in Tucson, March 21-26. was well attended by the Drifters, enjoying the many displays, gadgets, and informative classes. We showed off our Tucson Drifters Club at the Chapter Fair Table March 22nd and was able to sign up potential new members. Many Thanks to Ruth and Tom Roubal for their hard work to have the best display at the fair.

Our April Dinner meeting is also our FMCA Required Business meeting at which we must set up a Nominating Committee to peruse the membership for a slate of Officers for calendar year 2023. I will be looking for three volunteers to help with this requirement at the dinner meeting. Thank you in advance for volunteering!

Many fun events are planned for the remaining season, but they can only happen with your help. Please volunteer!

Please contact me at president@tucsondrifters.org if you have any suggestions or issues that I may be of assistance.

Bernie

FRED'S TECH TIP



LITHIUM BATTERIES

There has been a lot of discussion lately concerning Lithium batteries and the advantages and drawbacks of changing over to them from lead acid batteries in your recreation vehicle. The following is a brief overview about characteristics of the batteries and some of the considerations concerning that decision.

Lead acid batteries including AGM (maintenance free) have a life expectancy of 3 to 5 years under normal conditions. The average cost per battery is between \$100.00 and \$250 depending on AGM or wet cell choice. You can only use 50% of the battery's capacity. A fully charged battery is 12.8 volts, a battery at 50% discharged is 12.3 volts. If you discharge the battery below 50%, you start to damage the batteries' ability to be fully recharged. The weight of an average deep cycle battery is 75 pounds.

Lifepo4 batteries (lithium iron phosphate) have a life expectancy of 10 to 15 years under normal

conditions. The average cost per battery is between \$1000.00 and \$1300.00 each. You can use 100% of the battery's capacity. A fully charged lifepo4 battery is 12.9 volts. It can be discharged down to 11.2 volts. The weight of lifepo4 battery is 50% less than a lead acid battery. The battery has a built in BMS (battery management system) that controls the wellbeing of the battery. It will not allow you to overcharge or over discharge the battery. It protects the battery from over temperature or under temperature. All these parameters can be adjusted to your needs.

Other factors to consider include how the Lifepo4 batteries like to be charged. They DO NOT like alternators on vehicles. That would require an additional dc to dc charger if you had a motorhome. They like 3 stage charging to fully charge them to 100% (inverter/converters have this ability). They like solar panels that are controlled by MPPT controllers because there is a setting just for lifepo4 batteries.

I hope that I have given you enough information and not confused anyone. If you have any questions, I will be willing to answer them at the next Drifters dinner meeting.

Fred Brooks, retired RVIA luxury coach technician.

TUCSON DRIFTERS' RALLIES

March FMCA International Rally



FMCA WRAP UP. We had a great turn out for this rally and had a good time. Camp Central worked out well and looked great. We had available for those choosing to have sweet breads and fruit for breakfast almost every morning and snacks were out during the day for all that chose to come by.

In the evenings, we had "Let's get together hour" followed by a potluck on Wednesday evening, Thursday block party with pizza, salad, dessert, and good fellowship. Saturday night we had heavy hors d'oeuvre. We also went to Denny's that was close to the fairgrounds for dinner on Monday night with 14 members of the Drifters. Some of us even managed to get lost when we entered the fairgrounds in the dark.

Tucson Drifters took 2nd place in the Chapter Fair contest with appx. 30 entries.



We had 3 new couples that signed up to join our Fantastic club from the rally. Not bad, considering this was a national rally and not a regional.

All in all, FMCA provided good vendors, lots of RVs on display and good entertainment. We showed up in numbers, we participated, and we made sure we used our Visa cards. What more can you ask!!!

A great Thank You to all our members that contributed tents, fire pits, coolers, tarps and all of the good food that you brought and shared. Remember, IT'S NOT WHERE YOU GO, BUT WHO YOU GO WITH!

Ruth Roubal, VP of Planning
Tucson Drifters RV Club

April – 2022, IT'S BBQ IN THE PARK. Your chapter Executive Board is treating you to an afternoon of fun, food and friendship at Catalina State Park on Saturday, the 23rd of April. We could not get an area for the RVs but have reserved the main picnic area for the whole day so you can come sit, visit, and relax



whenever you wish. We plan to serve the BBQ at 2:00 pm and we'll be featuring pulled pork and shredded barbequed chicken with rolls, cowboy beans and coleslaw. The chapter is providing the set-ups (plates, napkins, utensils, cups, ice) and bottled water.



We have plans for games – you should sharpen your physical and mental dexterity. So . . . bring your camp chairs, your appetite and your competitive spirit ‘cause I can’t think of a better way to spend a “Drifters’ Saturday Afternoon” before folks leave for their summer travels.

Reservations are required so please e-mail Barb Schultz at schultzbarb@msn.com or phone her at 520-742-2541 and let her know you’re coming. If you choose to bring guests that’s fine, but there will be a charge of \$18.00 each.

There is a park entrance fee of \$7.00 so car-pooling might be a good idea. The fee is for the whole day so if you wish to come early and hike or see the park, you can.

Watch for more details in next month’s newsletter.”

May 15th to 19th, 2022. "LET'S GET OUR KICKS ON ROUTE 66" WILLIAMS, ARIZONA. (17 coaches are signed up for this rally). **SOLD OUT BUT TAKING BACK UP RESERVATIONS..** Call Ruth Roubal for further availability.

We will be in Williams for a 5-day, 4-night trip that will thrill you with breathtaking beauty. 1st night (Sunday), we will have our 50's & 60's pizza night dinner at the RV Resort with 50's music, decorations, 50's costumes for prizes and topped off with Root Beer Floats from our very own Soda Shop. We will also be treated to our very own signature drink called Tucson Drifters Route 66. We would like you to come up with an original recipe. Your rally host will select the winning recipe and that couple will win a prize. Have fun with it and send it in. Make it so it can be served non-alcoholic or alcoholic. We will have both. The pink ladies with their greaser guys will be your host that evening.

Day 2 - (Monday) will be carpooling thru the beautiful Oak Creek Canyon to Sedona, where we board a trolley bus for a 1 1/2-hour sightseeing tour.

Dinner this evening in club house for KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN. BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS.

3rd day (Tuesday) You will travel on a 1st Class scenic train excursion to the Seventh Natural Wonders of the World "The Grand Canyon" followed by lunch at the famous El Tovar Hotel and Restaurant. Grand Canyon Village to the rim of the Canyon and hike as far as you like to see breath taking views.

We will be having lunch together and returning to the train at the same time. On the train, you will be treated to a light continental breakfast in the morning and the afternoon journey will have cold drinks and snacks.

4th day (Wednesday) morning will be a trip to Bearizona and following that trip a picnic at Lake Kaibab. That afternoon we will have a treasure hunt on the route 66 portion in Williams portion of The Mother Road. Dinner that evening at a highway 66 diner, complete with the 50's and 60's motif. We will finish off our journey down memory lane with a chocolate milk shake or Banana Split at the Route 66 Dairy Queen. We will view all the neon signage that lights-up the Williams highway 66. We will wear our poodle skirts, pink jackets, or rolled up white tee-shirt if you choose.

These are the highlights of the trip, so start thinking about joining your fellow Tucson Drifters on this journey. Deposit is \$66.00 and cost of trip is \$766.00. All-inclusive trip with all amenities included. Rally host: Tom and Ruth Roubal, Brad and Michelin Taylor and Bernie and Kendra Kuehn. Rally Events are always subject to change if necessary.



WHAT DOES NEXT YEARS SCHEDULE LOOK LIKE?

October - 2022 - Lake Powell with all its wonders and scenic beauty. October 5th to the 10th, 2022 (4 nights). Rally host are Paul and Jan Spaeth, Charlie and Pat Chandler and Rick and Judy Rolland. This will be a great start to our fall season of the Tucson Drifters.

See a detailed description of this rally later in this newsletter.

SOLD OUT, TAKING BACK-UP RESERVATIONS AT THIS TIME.

Rally Host: Spieth, Chandler, Rolland

October - 2022 RMMA - Rally in Tucson 2022 -Near the end of the month.

November - 2022 -Kartchner Cavern - Needs host!!! We could change venue if someone wanted to do this month.

December 2022-2023 - New Year's Celebration Rally at the Palm Creek Resort in Casa Grande. Highlight's will be first class live entertainment and dance Party with heavy hors d'oeuvre on New Year's Eve in large ballroom. Rally host are Tom and Ruth Roubal, Bernie and Kendra Kuehn and Bill Nickerson and Helen Baldrige and Rick and Judy Rolland.

February 2023 will be a journey to Phoenix to see the Renaissance Festival at the Gold Canyon area. This rally may have to be dry camping at the Superstition Mountain State Park in the group area. We are still trying for hook-ups but not looking so good. First 16 members (8 coach) to sign up will be able to go as an invited guest of Dreamworks Production by Steven Spielberg and ASU for a thrilling experience with a walk with the dinosaurs and the second part- scuba diving in the ocean (all virtual of course, but you will feel as much a part of it as if it's real). The remaining members will be

treated to a very special 3-D movie on the campus of ASU. We will partially drive into Mesa and then take the train to the ASU Campus where we will dine for lunch as well. We will have additional venues for you planned such as Barleen's famous dinner show.

Rally Host: Roubal, Spieth, Dimmick & Raymond

March - Open and looking for suggestions- Maybe Rocky Point - Would need Rally Host. BEING REQUESTED FOR A REPEAT TRIP!!!

April - 2023 - Looking at an annual trip to Catalina State Park. This is a paradise close to home but will seem like a hundred miles from home. Very tranquil and semi wooded area. Should be very cost affected. Marv and Suzi Bass and more are needed.

May - 2023 - Ruidoso, New Mexico - Beautiful country and so much history!!! Rally Host are, Bass, Salfen, Kucy and Katz.

Long Haul - 2023-2024 (date still not decided) SPECTACULAR COAST OF OREGON - Still a thought but need to get this trip planned IF WE DO IT. Rally host will be Tom and Ruth Roubal, Bernie and Kendra Kuehn, Mike and Carol Frizzell, and Mike and Julie Katz and Jack and Connie Mayberry. This trip will most likely be around 3 weeks and we will see all the beautiful sites up the coast of Oregon and back down the beautiful interior. We will travel the coast of the Pacific Ocean, view lighthouses, Tillamook Cheese and Ice Cream Factory, waterfalls, and sights to last you for years. CAN YOU SMELL THE CLAM CHOWDER YET? (ON HOLD DUE WORLD CONDITIONS)

My fellow members, this is your club, and we **NEED YOU TO HELP OUT** to continue to have the quality, exciting and fun rallies that the Tucson Drifters



want and expect!!! If each couple does their share on one rally a year, then all of us can enjoy all the others. I think this is a win, win situation. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Let's make memories that will last a lifetime.

YOUR VICE PRESIDENT OF PLANNING, RUTH ROUBAL

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT OF PLANNING, VERA SCHLICHTNER



Lake Powell Rally

October 5-10, 2022 (5 nights)



*Summarized Agenda
(Detailed information and
directions will be provided.)*

Wednesday, Oct. 5th

Our rally begins with an easy 213-mile drive to Distant Drums RV Resort in Camp Verde.

5:00 - Enjoy Happy Hour and at 5:30, a Potluck dinner.

After Dinner: Cliff Castle Casino for those who want to gamble some, see entertainment, or just explore!

Thursday, Oct. 6th

The next morning, we have a 255-mile drive to the Glenn Canyon National Recreation Area to stay at the Lake Powell Resort's Wahweap Campground for 4 nights (Thurs/Fri/Sat/Sun). Wahweap, AZ. Be sure to bring your National Parks senior pass card to waive the \$30 Park entrance fee.

5:30 – Red Heritage Dinner Show. Native American entrees and live performance.

Friday, Oct. 7th

9:00 – Coffee Chat & Daily Update at “Camp Central” (Designated Host camp site)

Option 1

10:45- Lower Antelope Canyon Tour is at (meet there at 10:15). \$63 per person. This tour may not be for everyone so is optional. See attached sheets for information. The mysterious and haunting beauty of Antelope Canyon take you to this awe-inspiring sculpture set in stone and is a must for photographers. Tours last 60-90 minutes. Lunch after on your own. (Suggestions will be provided.) *Must pay for this with deposit fee as reservations are on hold only temporarily and this tour will sell out fast. It is fully refundable with a 3 day notice.*

Option 2

Hanging Garden Walking Tour. This is a relatively flat, 1.5 mile easy hike. Hidden by Jurassic Navajo sandstone, this seeping spring creates a lovely, lush plant and animal habitat. Time: TBD (and/or Behives Rock Formations)

Option 3

Relax, or select another option that looks good to you!

6:00 – La Fiesta Mexican Dinner. Reservations made, but everyone will be responsible for their own dinner and payment (to keep rally costs down and allow folks to get what they want).

Saturday, Oct. 8th

9:00 – Coffee Chat & Daily Update at “Camp Central” (Designated Host camp site)

1:00 - Navajo Canyon Boat Cruise, 3 hours. This is an absolutely beautiful water canyon on Lake Powell. The walls are 600 to 1,000 above the water in some spots, and there is a lot of variety on this cruise, including a water perspective of the Glenn Canyon Dam. Large, very nice cruise boat. Bathrooms onboard. (Be there at 12:30).

5:30-6:00 - Dinner at the beautiful Rainbow Room, Lake Powell Resorts & Marina (near the campground). Reservations made, but everyone



will be responsible for their own dinner and payment (to keep rally costs down and allow folks to get what they want).

Sunday, Oct. 9th

9:30 – Breakfast provided by hosts. (Bring your own coffee!)

1:00 – Beehives Rock Formations, Fascinating, easy walk around and through very unusual large rock mounds.

3:30 - Horseshoe Bend Overlook Walk. Lovely 1.5 mile (round trip) walk to see this spectacular, well-known natural wonder. (See photo below.) Path is paved and easy.



6:30 - Big John's Texas BBQ dinner and live country music.

Monday, Oct. 10th

Monday morning, we will depart for home. Happy travels and good memories!

(Info on other activities will be provided, which you are welcome to do in place of options listed here.)

Lower antelope canyon **(Option for Friday morning, \$63 per person in addition to rally fee)**

The total hike to, from, and through the Lower Antelope Canyon is just over a mile. Lower Antelope Canyon has a set of stairs that lead into the canyon. There are 5 sets of stairs with about 70 steps total, going down. They are all made of metal and there are sturdy handrails on both sides to help you down.

To get through and out of the canyon, there are about 4 more medium flights of stairs and a few small flights of 4-5 stairs going up, not down! There are about 60 steps, total, going up in different sections. The longer sections have handrails.

Steps Going Down into the Lower Antelope Canyon





- **One set of several Ladder Steps Going Through Lower Antelope Canyon, climbing up.**

(About 60 steps total from all the Ladders.)

- **Beautiful photos Inside Lower Antelope Canyon**





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:	Rocky Mountain Area Rally	3:10 to Yuma	Anasizi Ramblin Roads	None
Date:	19-23 Oct	11-14 Nov	2-5 Dec	
Place:	Pima County Fairgrounds	Yuma AZ	Hope, AZ	
Host:	Roubal, Bass	Bass, Kuznicki, Hansen	Anasizi Chapter Roubal	
February 2022		March 2022	April 2022	May 2022
Title	Be My Valentine Rally	FMCA International Convention & RV Expo	Catalina State Park	Let's Get Our Kicks on Route 66
Date	12-16	23-26	23	15-19 May
Place	Puerto Penasco, MX	Tucson Fairgrounds	Catalina State Park	Williams, AZ
Host	Roubal, Kuehn, Brooks	TBD (Looking for Hosts)	Bass, Schultz	Roubal, Kuehn, Taylor

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.



LET'S GET OUR KICKS ON ROUTE 66 WILLIAMS ARIZONA

MAY 15TH - 19th, 2022

Join us for a 4 night/5 day trip with first class accommodations at the RV Park on the rally "LET'S GET OUR KICKS ON HIGHWAY 66", 50's Pizza party with Root Beer Floats, Grand experience aboard the Grand Canyon Railroad to the Mightily Grand Daddy Canyon of the World, Lunch at El Tovar, Tour of Breathtaking Sedona Arizona by Trolley Bus, Bearizona that is a place like no other, picnic lunch at Lake Kaibab, Treasure Hunt on Route 66, Dinner at Goldies Route 66 Diner and to top it off Banana Splits or Milk Shakes on the famous highway



66.

Name:					
Phone:		Cell:		Email:	
Motorhome:		Length:		No. Slides:	
Pets:					
Total Rally Cost:	[X]	2 Persons	\$ 766.00		
Due Date:	October 30, 2021	Deposit Pymt:	\$ 66.00		
Due Date:	February 15, 2022	2nd Pymt:	\$ 350.00		
Final Payment	April 15, 2022	3 rd Pymt	\$ 350.00		

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FMCA NOTICE: An inherent risk of COVID-19 exposure exists in any public place where people gather. By attending this event you understand and assume all risk related to COVID-19 exposure. FMCA, its staff, officers, volunteers, members, exhibitors, service providers, and grounds personnel are not liable for any illness, injury, or death from COVID-19 related to your participation at this event.

Rally Hosts:	Tom and Ruth Roubal, Brad and Michelin Taylor and Bernie and Kendra Kuehn
Make checks payable to:	Tucson Drifters



Mail To:

Cindy Brooks 11695 Oilseed Dr, Marana, AZ 85653



LAKE POWELL RALLY

October 5 - 10, 2022 (5 nights)

REGISTRATION FORM

This is a beautiful and wonderful place in Arizona for our 1st rally of the season. Lake Powell is the 2nd largest man-made lake in the United States and is truly God's country in scenery. This rally includes all 5 nights lodging (\$88/night), venues as listed and good fellowship as well.

Names _____

Phone _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____ E-Mail _____

RV Length _____ # Pets _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

RALLY FEE: (2 PERSONS)	Total Cost: \$725.00	<u>Amt Paid</u>
\$150.00 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUESTED BY March 21, 2022		_____
Lower Antelope Canyon tour at \$63 a person		_____
(to be paid with the deposit of \$150) \$63 fee fully refundable within 3 days of the tour date.		
1 st Payment of \$275 Due by	May 26, 2022/asap	_____
Final Payment of \$300 Due by	August 19, 2022	_____
Additional RV site nights (\$88/night)		_____

Rally Masters: Spaeth/Rolland/Chandler

Make Check Payable to **Tucson Drifters**
Mail to: **Cindy Brooks 11695 Oilseed Dr, Marana, AZ 85653**

TUCSON DIFTERS RALLY DEPOSITS CANCELLATION POLICY

A **non-refundable** 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 deposit.. (The Lower Antelope Canyon Tour is fully refundable when cancelled by at least 3 days before tour date.)

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