

Southwest Sun Chasers

Steve and Renate were the first to arrive in Terlingua a day or two before the rest of the group. The Masseys and Parmans left El Paso just a bit before the Telfords. All three met up in Van Horn and travelled together to Marfa, TX. They spent the night at the Marfa Lights Viewing Area hoping to see the lights but were disappointed. The night was cool, and the viewing area was very busy until 10:30 pm when most visitors left. The viewing area is a great place to spend the night - having space for seven or eight rigs. All were surprised that the Marfa restaurants were very busy and required reservations...even on a Wednesday night.

On Thursday morning Lynn and Charlie departed Alamogordo and the Wilsons were on the road from El Paso. The Maitlands were also on the road from Las Cruces. The Masseys, Telfords, and Parmans thought they would have breakfast in Alpine but found out that all the restaurants were closed for inside dining, and only McDonald's was open for carry-out.

Everyone arrived in the afternoon at Maverick Ranch with Steve and Renate being able to move RV Parks in order to join the rest of the group. That evening most joined in the club house for soup, sandwiches, and a host of sides.

This was our first outing with Steve and Renate and the Maitlands. It was fun to have new faces with the group.

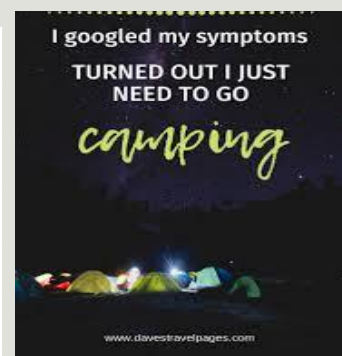
Friday brought several activities. Some took a horseback ride for about five miles. Lynn and Charlie took a ride to Presidio and enjoyed the beautiful scenery along the Rio Grande. A couple of us stayed in the park on the phone or computer taking care of distance work. Others enjoyed a trip to Terlingua and the immediate area around Maverick Ranch. Friday night most came together for a potluck dinner with steak, shrimp, other main dishes, and many sides. We finally go to taste Linda's pineapple upside down cake. It was wonderful.

Saturday brought more activities. The day was a bit cooler and not quite as windy. A few enjoyed a couple of hours on the zip line. Others took a ride to Big Bend State Park while others took the longer drive to Big Bend National Park. A couple enjoyed lunch at the restaurant at the Lajitas Resort and again later for dinner. A few enjoyed leftovers for lunch, had a short siesta, and then went to dinner at the Starlight Theater in Terlingua.

Sunday morning brought time to pack up and head home for most. Everyone arrived home safely. The Masseys, Telfords, and Steve and Renate decided to stop in Van Horn to spend the night. They stayed at the KOA and had dinner at El Capitan. Drinks, appetizers, dinner, and desert were wonderful. They departed Van Horn Monday and arrived in El Paso a couple of hours later.

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Surf & Turf and more!!!

Maverick Ranch RV Resort



Horseback riding in the desert



Beautiful
Big Ben



Our 'Marfa Lights'





Starlight Theater



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The 'A' Team



Famous Pineapple Upside-Down Cake



There are additional pictures on our [website](#). Don't forget to click on the videos as well.

April 30 – May 2/3, 2021	Timberon, NM (Host: none)
May 19, 2021	Monthly Meeting (location TBD)
May 27-31, 2021	Silver City, NM (Hosts: Lisa & Jim)
June 9-13, 2021	Albuquerque, NM (Host: RMMA)
June 16, 2021	Monthly meeting (Location TBD)
July 1-5, 2021	Mayhill, NM (Hosts: Ginny & Tim)
July 7-10, 2021	Gillette, WY (Host: FMCA)
July 21, 2021	Monthly Meeting (location TBD)
August 13-16, 2021	Fort Davis, TX (Kathy & Bob)
August 18, 2021	Monthly Meeting (location TBD)



Upcoming Rallies (click on the links for more information):

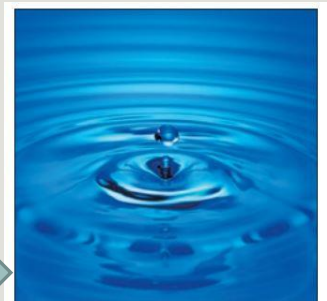
- **April 30 – May 2 (FRI-SUN):** [Circle Cross RV Park](#) – 1282 Sacramento River Rd, Timberon, NM. Reservations are being taken at this time (913) 200-5670. (137 miles)
- **May 27-31, 2021 (THU-MON):** [Rose Valley RV Ranch](#) – 2040 Memory Lane, Silver City, NM. This outing is scheduled to coincide with the Blues Festival. Reservations are being taken at this time (575) 534-4277.
- **June 9-13, 2021 (WED-SUN):** [Enchanted Trails RV Park & Trading Post](#) – 14305 Central Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM. (505) 831-4244. (269 miles). This is the Rocky Mountain Motorhome Association Region 1 Rally. Reservations must be made directly with the campground; however, an agenda and information is available on the [RMMA chapter newsletters](#).
- **July 1-5, 2021 (THU-MON):** [Deer Springs RV Resort](#) – 2112 Rio Penasco Rd, Mayhill, NM (127 miles). Reservations are being taken at this time (575-687-3464). Just a reminder – this park fills up quickly.
- **July 7-10, 2021 (WED-SAT):** Gillette, WY (XXXX). This is not an official chapter outing; however, all are welcome to attend. Bill will attend as our National Director.
- **August 13-16, 2021 (FRI-MON):** [Davis Mountain State Park](#) – TX-118 N., Park Rd. 3, Fort Davis, TX (206 miles). Group reservations were made January 27th and are closed. Individuals still wanting to attend need to check availability and make their own reservations.

Don't forget to let Tim (Wagon Master) know if you are attending these events.

Did You Know...

On the average, April is the driest month in El Paso with less than a quarter of an inch of rainfall? According to the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS), we are experiencing extreme drought conditions (level D3 (highest is D4)) in the Borderland.

You can help - do's and don'ts of saving water by Texas A&M Agrilife Extension. Click on the image for more information.



Silver City Rally (Rose Valley RV Park)

Rose Valley RV Ranch

575-534-4277
2040 Memory Lane

Thursday, May 27

6 PM – Soup & Sandwiches (Barn)
8 PM – Quarter Bingo

Friday, May 28

9 AM – Catwalk (Glenwood, NM)
5 PM – Dinner at Adobe Grill

Saturday, May 29

9 AM – Wolf Song Sanctuary
6 PM - Dinner at Little Toad Creek Brewery

Sunday, May 30

9 AM – Gila Cliff Dwellings
6 PM – Dinner: grill your favorite steak
and bring a side to share

Monday, May 31

Head for home!

NOTES:

- A detailed itinerary was emailed to everyone on 4.3.21
- Please let Lisa know what you are planning to attend by responding to the email which was sent.
- A Silver City group is set up on Signal. If you aren't receiving messages, let us know.

Rally Hosts

Timberon, NM (April/May)		Alamogordo, NM (September)	
Silver City, NM (May)	Telfords	Fredericksburg, TX (October)	
Albuquerque, NM (June)	RMMA	Tucson, AZ (October)	RMMA
Mayhill, NM (July)	Beaulieus	Rodeo, NM (November)	
Fort Davis, TX (August)	Linville	Carlsbad, NM (December)	
Lake Lyman, AZ (September)			



- Barbara K. 4/11
- Terry L. 4/21



Time to Celebrate

No April Anniversaries

Just for Giggles:

Not an RV joke, but too cute not to share. Thanks for submitting it, Tim.

High school reunion

Have you ever been guilty of looking at someone your own age and thinking, "Surely I can't look that old?" You'll love this one.

My name is Alice Smith and I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I noticed his DDS diploma, which showed his full name.

Suddenly, I remembered a tall, handsome, dark-haired boy with the same name who had been in my high school class some 40-odd years ago. Could this be the same guy that I had a secret crush on, way back when?

Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought. This balding, gray-haired man with the deeply lined face was way too old to have been my classmate.

After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended Morgan Park High School.

"Yes. Yes, I did. I'm a Mustang," he beamed with pride.

"When did you graduate?" I asked.

He answered, "In 1959. Why do you ask?"

"You were in my class!" I exclaimed.

He looked at me closely. Then, that ugly, old, bald wrinkled, fat, gray, decrepit son-of-a-gun asked, "What did you teach?"

A message from your president

Volunteerism

This month, I want to challenge you to volunteer and share your talents. Most of us joined this chapter to have fun and fellowship during our RV outings. Rallies, outings, and chapter functions, along with FMCA and RMMA functions, will be more fun if you find a way to participate as a volunteer.

You do not have to be a chapter officer or the leader of an ad hoc committee to volunteer. You could volunteer to be a rally host or co-host. You could plan games for outings. You could locate and plan for a visit to a specific location; such as: a museum, park, or other adventure during an outing. You could organize the meals and potlucks for our rallies and outings.. You could serve on the Rally/Outing Committee. You could do some research and provide good suggestions for future places to visit. You could volunteer at RMMA Rambles. When you volunteer, you attract others to do the same.

Tim Beaulieu has volunteered to take the reins of Wagon Master for Southwest Sun Chasers. Please find ways to help him as he plans our outings to the end of this year and starts to plan our rallies and outings for 2022.

Bill

Registration is opening at the end of the month for those interested in attending the Sunset on the Sonoran rally at the Pima Country Fairgrounds in Tucson, AZ. Registration application will be available at the end of the month on the [FMCA](#) website.



Rocky Mountain Area officer nominations: Association officers will be elected at the Association's annual meeting. This will be accomplished at the RMMA Board Meeting at Pima County Fairgrounds in Tucson, AZ in October. If you are interested in a position or just want more information, please follow the link:

[RMMA Officer Elections](#)

Message from Tim (Wagon master)

At this time, the plan is to have the first outing/rally meeting on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 @ 6:00 PM at my house (address will be provided to committee). I would like to recruit members who do not already serve on a committee or in a position in order to get more of us involved. When we meet on May 5th, please come with some location/activity ideas. To those members not on the committee, please share your location/activity favorites with the committee. Email ideas to tim65gt@att.net if you want them to be considered for the 2022 outing/rally schedule.

Meet Our Members

Eddie & Rosie

Eddie and I have been married since 2013; we have a “Brady bunch” family. Eddie has 3 children from a previous marriage, I have 3 children from a previous marriage, and together we have 3 children: the twins, Izzie and Marty, age 5, and Milo who is 3 years old and the youngest of nine children. Grandma Mary usually travels with us; she is Eddie's mom.

We started camping together in September 2019 when we purchased our trailer. So far our favorite trip has been to Albuquerque, New Mexico to the balloon festival. Our bucket list consists of many places we would like to travel to in the 48 states of the United States mainland.

Member News

- Charlie Westbrook is scheduled for cataract surgery on Monday. Sending you positive vibes, Charlie.
- Linda Parman officially retired but continues to be “on call” until June.
- Bob Linville missed the Lajitas outing, as he was under the weather. Looking good at last night’s meeting, Bob.

Vallarie & Brian

Brian and I started camping together in 2016 and had a class C. As we traveled with our 4 dogs and started camping more and longer, we bought our first diesel (2017). Now, we are on our second diesel and plan to keep it awhile.

We have been very active in FMCA, volunteering for parking, and some other areas. We are looking forward to Gillette (July 2021) where we are the seminars captains. We are very involved in RMMA where I was elected to be Region1 VP in 2019.

We are members of several clubs and enjoy traveling to different places, hiking, biking, off-road activities, and meeting & visiting with friends, new and old. We really enjoy Tucson (Pima County Fairgrounds) and Yuma Lakes in Yuma, Az.

Brian’s goal is to visit 48 states, and as of now we have visited 28 (Covid slowed us down). I would like to visit the East coast in the fall and see the color change and eat fresh seafood every day!

We are excited to be members of the Southwest Sun Chasers, where we have met a lot of you and look forward to meeting more.



Paul & Rebecca

When I was young, I went camping with my family - first in a tent, then truck camper, then Class A and finally in a Class C.

I purchased an RV park and service center in Las Cruces in 1999. After seeing my customers really enjoying the lifestyle, I purchased a 40' MCI bus to convert into an RV. I had RV techs that could help when business was slow. That was a two-year project. It had sheetrock tape and texture throughout and ceramic tile in the bathroom. I really enjoyed that bus because it was built so well and had air ride. We put over 10,000 miles on it in the first year. The only issue was the 8V71 engine was a dog, and it had a hard time with hills, especially when towing a trailer with a vehicle on it.

In 2005, I purchased a 39' Weekend Warrior fifth wheel toy hauler and used it to haul my Jeep to events throughout the Southwest. That was nice because we could always upgrade the tow rig without starting all over.

In 2006 I purchased an RV Dealership and owned it for two years--right before the crash. So, between the RV park, service center and dealership, I was very familiar with all brands, makes, models, and types of RVs. In 2019, we purchased our current unit which is also a toy hauler. Although we have not gone camping that much yet, we look forward to many miles and events in the near future.

Rebecca has been tent camping since she was a child with her family on the Texas coast. When her son Patrick was born, she was very active with the cub scouts and boy scouts and continued tent camping--often in very large groups. I introduced her to "glamping" in 2014. She loves our RV and looks forward to many years of us traveling together.



[Staying Safe on the Road](#)

- Don't share your real-time location
- Know your emergency exit windows
- Be careful if you have a second entry door
- Keep a flashlight on hand
- Keep others guessing

For more information, click on the title to access the article

Rv-ing Tips

Have a "tip" you'd like to share? Let your editor know.

Traveling the "[Back Roads](#)"

Click on "Back Roads" for things you should know when traveling off the beaten path

Zion National Park:

For sightseeing or outdoor adventures, look no further than Zion National Park. There are opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, canyoneering and rock climbing; not to mention seeing the sites along Zion Canyon Scenic Driveway and Zion-Mount Carmel Highway. From mid-March to late November, a free shuttle bus operates along Zion Canyon Scenic Drive (private vehicles are not allowed on the route during this time). There is also a Human History Museum.

Click "[here](#)" for the top 10 campgrounds and RV parks in the Zion National Park area.

[11 Top Attractions and Things to Do in Zion National Park.](#)

(Click the title for a link to the article)



Places to

Visit/Camp

Recipe Favorites

Fruit Salad (courtesy of Lynne)

Ingredients:

Dressing:

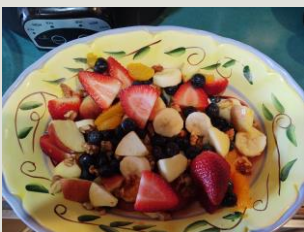
½ cup plain yogurt
½ tsp. vanilla
1 T. honey (try to use local)

Salad:

1 banana, sliced
1 apple, cubed
1 can mandarin oranges
1 pear cubed
1 cup berries (strawberry, blueberry)
1 handful grapes
walnuts

Directions: Combine dressing ingredients and refrigerate. Combine all the fruit. Just before serving, mix with dressing and add walnuts.

Note: This recipe has been tried and tested in the Brooks' kitchen. It calls for Greek yogurt, which can be bitter. I use Mountain High which only contains 8 grams of sugar.



Linda's "Dump" Cake

Ingredients:

1 box yellow cake mix
1 can cherry pie filling
1 can crushed pineapple
1 stick butter
1 cup pecans (or more if you prefer)

Directions:

Into a 9x13 pan ...

- "DUMP" the can of cherry pie filling
- "DUMP" the can of crushed pineapple
- Mix the two together
- "DUMP" the cake mix evenly over the top
- Cut the butter into little pieces
- "DUMP" the pieces of butter evenly over the top
- "DUMP" the pecans on top
- Bake in a 350 oven for 30 minutes

- "DUMP" a serving on you plate and ENJOY!

Note: "DUMP" a dollop of ice cream on top if desired.

From the Secretary's Desk



As our group continues to grow, it is important to have a headcount to submit to any venue where we plan to meet. The headcount is required in order:

- for the venue to determine staff requirements
- to receive a group room
- to avoid fees for lack of attendance

With this in mind, it means it's very important for members to RSVP to me (secretary) whether or not you plan to attend. My plan is to post a reminder on Signal 1-2 weeks out. I will also send out an email, as I know not everyone diligently checks Signal, and it is sometimes inconvenient to scroll "back" through the thread looking for one particular comment.

Thank you,
Ginny



A Message from the Wagon Master

I am in the process of getting an outing committee together to plan the 2022 Outing/Rally locations. I would like to recruit members who do not already serve on a committee or in a position in order to get more of us involved. At this time, the plan is to have the first meeting on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 @ 6:00 PM at my house (address will be provided to committee). When we meet on May 5th, please come with some location/activity ideas. To those members not on the committee, please share your location/activity favorites with the committee. Email ideas to tim65gt@att.net if you want them to be considered for the 2022 outing/rally schedule.

Tim

April Monthly Meeting

Meeting was held at Landry's. The icebreaker was catching members using the taboo word "yes." Wilson was on it – stealing the most marbles during the evening. The meeting was opened with a prayer and the Pledge, March minutes were read, and the treasurer's report was presented. Birthdays were announced. The secretary mentioned recruiting an historian. Tim was presented as assuming the role of Wagon Master. He asked for volunteers for an outing committee, and the first meeting will be at the Beaulieu residence. Bill covered the upcoming outings/rallies. Secretary requested that members provide "news" which they might like to share as part of the newsletter. Examples might include: surgeries, retirements, significant celebrations, and illnesses. The next meeting will be at Landry's on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 (dinner at 6:00, meeting at 7:00)



You can submit to Ginny: virginia.beaulieu@att.net. I truly welcome your feedback and any recommendations.

Your Officers: Don't hesitate to contact us if you need anything.

William (Bill) Massey: President & Wagon Master 915-497-6255
Wilson Mendez: Vice-President 915-850-3774
Kathy Linville: Treasurer 915-644-3465
Ginny Beaulieu: Secretary 915-217-6962
Historian: VACANT
Sandy Sweeney: Sunshine & Care: 505-862-6254

Websites: click on the title to access the site

[Southwest Sun Chasers](#)
[Rocky Mountain Motorhome Association \(RMMA\)](#)
[Family Motor Coach Association \(FMCA\)](#)