



THE GOPHER TRAP

EST: JUNE 1965

ISSUE: APRIL 2020

Meetings: First Friday of the Month 6:30 pm
Wyandotte Grange, 4910 Foothill Blvd., Oroville
ophirgopherjeepclub@gmail.com

Events

All events canceled until further notice due to Covid-19 restrictions

- Apr. 3, 6:30 pm Meeting
- Apr. 4 French Creek Run or Stagg Pt. Workday
- Apr. 5, 7:30-10:30 am Grange Breakfast \$8
- Apr. 8, 6:00 pm Grange Bunco \$5
- Apr. 12 Easter Sunday
- Apr. 18, 5:00-6:30 pm Grange Dinner \$10, Ham



From the Summit

Jerry Roberson, President

Greetings, fellow Gophers. Aren't these some crazy times? Sheltering in place, social distancing and all the other things that go with this COVID19 debacle. I'm looking forward, as I'm sure are all of you as well, to our lives getting back to normal.

Kudos to Keith for cancelling the last run. We do need to set a good example as well as look out for one another. We need to cancel meeting until further notice as well. Just best to not take any chances. I'll post something to that effect on the Facebook page.

What are all of you doing to pass the time during the shelter in place? Last weekend, 3/21-22, Bev and I started a marathon game of dominoes. We began with double 15's and as of the following Thursday, we're down to double 10's. Still have a long way to get to double blanks. My pool table is now covered with dominoes. Please share how you all are spending your time.

Please, everyone, protect yourselves. I don't need to list all the personal precautions. We all know what we need to do. Hopefully it will be over soon, or at least not all locked down.

Until next month,

Jerry

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Straight from the Gopher's Mouth

Joie Cherry, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 6, 2020 MEETING

- Meeting called to order by Jerry Roberson, President, at 6:45 p.m. at Jerry & Bev's home.
- Attendees:
 - Members: Judy Bennett; David & Cheryl Casagrande; Kevin, Mary, & Watson Casagrande; Sharon Cherry; Joie Cherry & Vanessa Purdy; Miguel Madrigal; John & Glenna Morse; Jackie Peterson; Jerry & Bev Roberson; Keith Van Zandt
 - Guests: Charlie Miller; Dan & Shannon Tiedemann
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Kevin.
- Secretary's Report – Joie Cherry, Secretary
 - Motion made by Jackie, seconded by Glenna & Sharon, to accept the minutes of the February meeting as written.
 - Called to vote and motion carried.
- Treasurer's Report – Judy Bennett, Treasurer
 - Motion made by Sharon, seconded by Kevin, to approve the treasurer's report.
 - Called to vote and motion carried.
 - The bank is going to start requiring a minimum balance. David will check with his bank and Joie will be doing more investigation regarding non-profit status and bank fees.
- Delegate's Report – David Casagrande, Delegate
 - Convention
 - Elections and voting took place
 - Win-A-Jeep won by someone in Southern California.
 - Cal4Wheel is still trying to get insurance for side by sides.
 - Convention was held at a veteran's hall. It was a good venue. Dinner was sold out. There was good weather for the weekend.
 - New Win-A-Jeep tickets will still be priced at \$5 each.
 - Next year's convention will be hosted by the Southern District in Visalia. Sacramento in 2022.
- Trail Master's Report – Keith Van Zandt, Trail Master
 - Next run to be at Prairie City SVRA on March 21. Leave Tractor Supply at 8:30 am.
 - April run is planned for French Creek, suggest change to a workday at Stagg Point if there is no snow.
 - No objections.
- Old Business
 - Jerry discussed his bylaws change proposal. John suggested leaving the bylaws as is but following them more intently.
 - Jerry brought up that we no longer have sign ins for runs. Sign ins are useful for reporting participation to Cal4Wheel. Joie will create some for approval to begin using.
- New Business
 - Jerry would like to have a "round table" at each meeting where members can report on their vehicles and any new equipment, repairs, etc. they have added.
 - David: Kevin kindly charged David's battery.
 - Miguel: New axels and gears.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.
- Dinner at Round Table.

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Off the Beaten Path

Keith Van Zandt, Trail Master

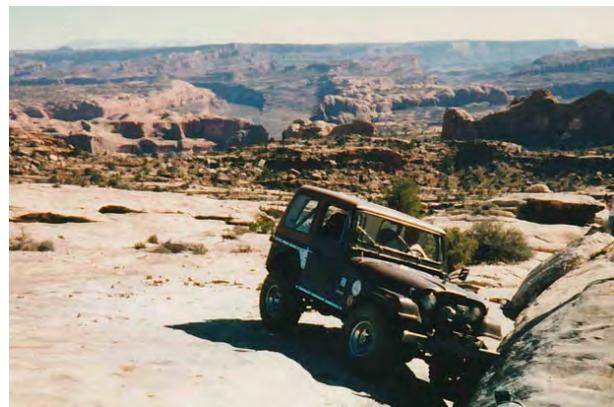
Greetings, fellow Gophers.

Well, there isn't much to report. The runs are still canceled until further notice.

With the lack of news, I thought a blast from the past may be in order. In 1997, the Ophir Gophers went to Moab, Utah. We took part in the Easter Jeep Safari. Sadly, some of the members have passed and a couple the Jeeps have gone up on flames.



Wheeling in Utah was quite different than the local trails. The scenery is very spectacular, it reminded me of the old Roadrunner cartoons. What they call slick-rock is a form of really tightly packed sandstone. The traction is amazing. Like driving on sandpaper. You would drive up to a near vertical wall and think, "No way!" but the tracks say otherwise. So, with some tire chirping and plenty of pucker, up you go. They take their wheeling very serious in that part of the country. Around here you may tip over. There...it is a long way to the bottom.







Hopefully we can get back on the trails soon.

Keith

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*Words of wisdom
from our President*



"WEAR CLEATS!"
"YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN
TRAGEDY WILL STRIKE!"

Art by
Joie Cherry

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Forest Service Update

David Casagrande

VALLEJO, Calif. — March 26, 2020. USDA Forest Service appreciates the public's interest in outdoor recreation, particularly in light of current events. The Pacific Southwest Region of the Forest Service, in response to the recent statewide shelter-in-place order issued by the Governor of California, is joining the cause to aggressively mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by closing developed recreation facilities on our National Forests statewide.

"Developed recreation sites" refers to designated recreational use areas designed to facilitate public use. Information on individual recreation sites and opportunities are available from local National Forests.

Closures of developed recreation facilities are being put in place until at least April 30th in an attempt to avoid groups of people and promote social distancing of staying more than six feet apart.

While designated recreation sites will be closed, the general Forest area including the extensive trail system will remain open and available to the public. Hiking and walking outdoors are widely considered beneficial to maintaining one's health. It is the intent of USDA Forest Service to maintain trail access to the extent practicable.

Please keep health, safety and the environment in mind when visiting National Forests. Your personal responsibility is critical to ensuring public safety and preventing further restrictions. We ask that you consider whether your personal participation in outdoor recreation at this time would pose an unnecessary risk to others as we all work together to flatten the curve and slow the spread of COVID-19.

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our National Forests safe and healthy for everyone's use.

Also, Lake Oroville is shut down. No boating or sitting on houseboats.

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Prayer for Serenity

Barbara Van Zandt

With all the craziness going on, I remembered this prayer and thought it appropriate.

“God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardship as a pathway to peace; taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that You will make all things right if I surrender to Your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.”

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Camp Food

We have several recipe submissions this month.

So, while you're sheltering in place, get out to your backyard and try some of these!

Creamy Bacon Pea Salad

Sharon Cherry

Prep Time: 10 min

Cook Time: 1 hr.

Servings: 6

Ingredients

1 lb. peas, frozen
5 slices bacon, cooked, diced
¼ red onion, diced
3 oz cheddar, diced
1/3 c sour cream
1/3 c mayonnaise
¼ c ranch dressing
1 Tbsp. lemon juice
salt and pepper to taste



Instructions

1. Place frozen peas into a colander and place that into a bowl. Pour hot water over them to thaw them. Drain well.
2. In another bowl mix the sour cream, onion, mayo, ranch dressing, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Mix well.
3. Place the peas into a bowl and mix the dressing into the peas. Fold half of the bacon and all of the cheese into the salad.
4. Garnish with remaining bacon. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour to let the flavors settle.

One Pot Cheesy Pasta & Sausage

Jackie Peterson

Ingredients

3 c halved grape tomatoes, divided
1 large onion, thinly sliced
1 lb. mild or spicy Italian sausage links, precooked and sliced
20-30 basil leaves, divided
4 cloves garlic, sliced
1 lb. dry linguini
1½ tsp Kosher salt
1 tsp pepper
4½ c water
1 c shredded parmesan cheese



Instructions

1. Reserve half of the tomatoes.
2. Combine all ingredients except cheese in large pot. Cover & bring to a boil.
3. Once water is boiling, remove, cover & cook 7-9 min until al dente.
4. Toss cheese, remaining tomatoes, and basil into pasta. Cheese may clump but will melt.

Green Enchiladas Chicken Soup

Bev Roberson

Ingredients

2.5 lbs. boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs
28 oz can green enchilada sauce
24 oz chicken broth
1 c half and half (or heavy cream)
2 c Monterey Jack cheese
4 oz cream cheese, cubed and softened
4 oz green salsa (salsa verde)
salt and pepper to taste
optional garnish: avocado, green onion, sour cream, cilantro



Instructions

1. In a 6 qt slow cooker add chicken, enchilada sauce, and broth. Cook on low 6-8 hours.
2. Remove chicken and shred.
3. In a small bowl mix 1 or 2 ladles of soup with half and half. Stir, then add to slow cooker.
4. Add chicken, jack cheese, cream cheese, and green salsa. Turn crockpot to warm and stir until cheeses are melted. Add hot sauce or additional salsa to taste.

Notes

- To add spice, use additional green salsa or a green chili hot sauce.
- Make sure your cream cheese is at room temperature before adding to the soup. Could cream cheese will not melt very well. You can even soften in the microwave before adding to the soup.
- For best “meltability” (yes, I made up a new word), always grate your own cheese. Pre-packaged grated cheese is coated in potato starch which helps prevent sticking in the package. Unfortunately, this also keeps it from melting very well.

Camping Sangria

Barbara Van Zandt

Items Needed

Quart-sized mason jar with lid
1-gallon pitcher or dispenser
Wine cork

Ingredients

2 peaches, sliced
8-10 strawberries, sliced
1 c white or red grapes
1 (750 ml) bottle white wine
1 (750 ml) bottle vodka (you will have leftover)
1-liter Fresca (or other soda flavor)

Notes

- Any combination of fruits can work in a sangria. Get as creative as you want when you pick your fruits.
- You can also choose your favorite carbonated beverage. Any carbonated or non-carbonated juice works as a mixer.
- You can also try flavored vodka to customize the taste of this sangria.
- Every time you go camping, have fun and mix up a new flavor combo to share!

Instructions

1. Fill the mason jar with peaches, strawberries, and grapes.
2. Pour in vodka $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way up the jar. Fill the remainder with wine. Cork the rest of your wine.
3. Chill sangria concentrate overnight or at least for several hours.
4. Pack the sangria concentrate, Fresca, and remaining wine in an insulated bag. When you get to the campsite, mix all 3 together in the pitcher and enjoy!
5. Remember to drink responsibly!



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BLOOD DRIVE

Give someone
a new beginning.
Donate Blood



**Oroville
Community
Blood Drive**

**Thursday, April 2
1 - 5 p.m.**

**Oroville Sports Club
2600 Oro Dam Blvd.**

This lifesaving event is sponsored in part by
Oroville Sports Club.

Donate blood & receive a Vitalant T-shirt.

For an appointment, contact Vitalant at 530.893.5433.

Please bring a photo ID.
Please eat well & drink plenty of water prior to donating.

 **BloodSource is now Vitalant** 