

# CHIRPER



August 2012

Katydids Square Dance Club Newsletter

Volume 49, No 8

**START YOUR WEEKEND RIGHT ...DANCE WITH THE KATYDIDS ON FRIDAY NIGHT!**

## Free Fifth Friday Night Dancing with the Katydids

Yes! Really!  
Free for everyone!

(January Class Pleasant Plus Level)

August 31  
November 30  
2012  
7:00 - 9:30 pm



Caller - Jim Osborne

Campbell United  
Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Avenue  
Campbell



### CLUB CALENDAR

[www.katydids.info](http://www.katydids.info)

- Fri., Aug 10:** Campbell United Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
7:00 – 9:30 PM; **HOT AUGUST NIGHT!**
- Fri., Aug 17:** Campbell United Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
7:00 – 9:30 PM; DBD PLUS WORKSHOP  
**\*\*PARTY NIGHT\*\* WEAR GREEN.**  
Bring food to share
- Fri., Aug 24:** Campbell United Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
7:00 – 9:30 PM; DBD PLUS WORKSHOP
- Fri., Aug 31:** Campbell United Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
7:00 – 9:30 PM; **FIFTH FRIDAY DANCE!**  
January Class Level  
Bring food to share.

- Fri., Sep. 07:** Campbell United Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
7:00 – 9:30 PM; DBD PLUS WORKSHOP  
9:35 PM, Executive Board Meeting  
*Chirper* distributed
- Fri., Sep. 14:** **DARK -- Jubilee**
- Fri., Sep. 21:** Campbell United Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
7:00 – 9:30 PM; DBD PLUS WORKSHOP
- Fri., Sep. 28:** Campbell United Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
6:30 – 7:45 PM NEW CLASS BEGINS  
7:45 – 9:30 PM; Club Dancing
- Fri., Oct. 05:** Campbell United Church of Christ  
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
6:30 – 7:45 PM NEW CLASS BEGINS  
7:45 – 9:30 PM; Club Dancing

## SQUARE HEAD ASSIGNMENTS

## and DUTIES

*Super Square Head**Stephanie Stevens (408-871-9525)*

Aug. 10.....Stevens  
 Aug. 17.....Benevento  
 Aug. 24.....Malstrom / Scharfen  
 Aug. 31.....Hebson

Sep. 07 .....Caywood  
 Sep. 14 .....Dark -- Jubilee  
 Sep. 21 .....Franger / Moore  
 Sep. 28 .....Howlett / Clark, B.

Oct. 05.....Graff / Gray / Cosentino  
 Oct. 12.....Angotti / Smith  
 Oct. 19.....Darknell  
 Oct. 26.....Oros / Hastings

**Before the dance:**

- Notify the Super Square Head, Steph Stevens, 408-871-9525 of any needed change to assigned dates.
- Purchase and bring 6 to 8 lbs ice for the water cooler.
- On scheduled night, the designated Square Heads should arrive by 6:30 PM. A Katydid with a key will open the doors.
- Sweep floor as necessary and set up tables and chairs.
- Make ice water.
- Start hot water for tea and coffee.

**During Club dance:**

- Welcome everyone at the sign-in table.
- Collect a **\$5.00** donation from each guest and have them sign in. "Regular" guests sign the prepared sheet, new guests sign the guest book.
- In the green box, there is an envelope with petty cash for making change.
- Offer raffle tickets: 5 tickets for \$1.00.
- In the green box, there are envelopes for keeping track of money collected during the evening.
- Divide the raffle proceeds – 50% to the Club, 50% to the winner.
- Check that water and cups do not run out.

**After the dance:**

- If Treasurer is not present, pass monies collected to any Executive Board Member.
- ALL MEMBERS: **Clean up!** Help pack up supplies and jugs and put into the Club cupboard.
- **Remove non-recyclable trash accidentally tossed into the designated recycle bins.** Take the trash bags out to the dumpster located in the side parking lot.
- Sweep or wet mop the floor as necessary.
- Note: Tables must go into the closet FIRST (remember the Caller's table, too), then the chair rack.
- Notify the Quarter Masters, **Gary or Sue De Lapp** 408-446-1910 of any supplies needed.

## UPCOMING SQUARE DANCE EVENTS

**Plus Level Dances**

- Aug. 11: Lucky Steppers Slab Dance**  
 Ben Lomond Slab  
 7:00 – 7:30 PM; PreRounds: Sue Harris  
 7:30 – 10:00 PM; Caller: **Jim Osborne**
- Aug. 18: Lucky Steppers Slab Dance**  
 Ben Lomond Slab  
 7:00 – 7:30 PM; PreRounds: Sue Harris  
 7:30 – 10:00 PM; Caller: Eric Henerlau
- Aug. 25: Dancing at Sunnyvale 100th Birthday**  
 Sunnyvale Heritage Park Museum  
 570 E. Remington Ave.  
 3:15 – 3:45 PM  
 Callers: Roger Smith, Rich Reel
- Aug. 25: Lucky Steppers Slab Dance**  
 Ben Lomond Slab  
 7:00 – 7:30 PM; PreRounds: Sue Harris  
 7:30 – 10:00 PM; Caller: Charlie Robertson
- Aug. 25: Ice Cream Hoedown; Singles 'n Pairs**  
 Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave.  
 7:00 – 8:00 PM Pre-Rounds: George Gardner  
 8:00 – 10:30 PM, Caller: Buddy Weaver
- Aug. 26: Dancing at Sunnyvale 100th Birthday**  
 Sunnyvale Heritage Park Museum  
 570 E. Remington Ave.  
 12:45 – 1:15 PM  
 Callers: Roger Smith, Rich Reel
- Sep. 1 New Caller Hoedown; SCVCA**  
 Murphy Park, 260 N. Sunnyvale Ave.  
 2:00 – 4:00 PM
- Sep. 8: Squarecrow's Ball**  
 History Park, San José  
 7:00 – 10:00 PM  
 Caller: Scot Byars
- Sept. 14-16: Jubilee; SCVSDA**  
 Gunderson High School  
 Callers: Romney Tannehill, Hunter Keller  
 Cuers: Rey & Sherry Garza
- Sep. 22: Challenging Plus Hoedown; Stanford Quads**  
 St. Andrews Methodist Church  
 4111 Alma St., Palo Alto  
 7:30 – 8:00 PM; Pre-Rounds: John Flora  
 8:00 – 10:30 PM; APD Plus  
 10:30 – 11:30 PM: A & C Star Tips  
 Caller: Rob French
- Sep. 29: Wing Ding; SCVSDA/SCVCA**  
 Callers: Keith Ferguson, Robert Algea,  
**Tork Clark, Jim Osborne**  
 Cuer: Sue Harris

FREE!! CPSD Plus Dancing  
 Tuesdays: Aug. 11 - Sep. 4 ••• 6:30 – 8:30 PM  
 Camden Community Center  
 Caller: Tork Clark

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Salutations Katydid's,

Haven't seen a number of you for a week or two as we were dark last week for the Fair. The Fair went well I thought. I counted 10 squares at one point and a couple of folks stated we had 12 at one point. I'll settle for 11 to keep the discussions short.

It was a beautiful night. Not too hot, not too cold, Goldilocks would have been happy. The pad was a good size for the number of folks attending. The Fair provided a number of chairs, and I believe once those were full, they even unloaded a few more as they seemed to magically appear on the other side of the square.

We had 35.71% of our active Club members there. With a club size of 42, I'll leave it to you to calculate how many Katydids were there. Not too bad.

We even had a few spectators watching and a number of them left their contact information for the myriad of classes starting this fall – Almost a page full. I don't know how many people that is, maybe 89%? Not bad really ...

Which brings me to another "minor" topic ...

Katydids have put forth marketing material to start a beginner class starting Sept 28<sup>th</sup>. Dory and I remember being in the class that started in February 2008. We made it through Mainstream. Katydids tried for another class after that but that didn't catch. So we try again.

How is this going work? How will this affect you?

The basics are, and this is just a plan, subject to good ideas, common sense, and just general going with the flow:

- The class would start at 6:30, 1/2 hour before official Club start time. It seems most Club members don't seem to get there until 7:30-8:00. This gives us a good run.
- Initially the class will be shorter, 60-75 minutes. The thought here is to minimize impact to the Club dancers.
- Towards the end of the class we can switch off between Club tips and class tips. This allows dancing by Club members and lets the class last longer.
- We encourage all non-grumpy Club members to help out with angeling. You just have to remember it takes awhile sometimes to catch on. Key things are helping out filling out the last square. And helping distribute class members in the square. You're not grumpy, ...., ?, right?

I think the hardest part of having a class is getting the students. Any ideas? We will do Craig's List. Word of mouth helps, that includes your mouth ...

Folks have asked me about Dory's and my train trip to Spokane for the Nationals. I have traveled by train in Japan and in Europe, but never in the US, except for the occasional fun train like the Skunk train up north. My mother tells me, way back, I've done the Chicago to Seattle run, but heck, I was probably just making it upright at that point.

Anyway, we boarded the train at 8:30 PM in San José. We got situated in our room. The porter was very helpful. Our car had free coffee, water, and champagne. What a deal. For Dory and me, our seating and sleeping room area was very spacious. We had a sliding door, a curtain, and loads of leg room. The seats were comfortable. Soon after getting situated we made our way to the dining car. Since we were in a sleeper car, our food in the dining car was basically free, within limits. It was great. I think the best part of the whole trip was the meals.

I really enjoyed sitting in the dining car, with a glass of wine, white table cloths, and the world just whizzing by. For our three meals, we sat with different folks each time. All nice folks and we had great conversations. I loved it. The food was great.

Everyone should try the Coast Starlight, with a sleeper car at least once. Next time, I am going for the big room. And maybe start in San Diego, and do the whole run to Seattle. Just for the heck of it.

For our 2013 Sweetheart Special, our 50th anniversary, February 9<sup>th</sup>, the caller will be Deborah Carroll-Jones. And the cuer will be Sue Harris.

If you are reading this at home. I hope Hot August Nights went well for you. If you are reading this on the issue date, at Club, look around, Hot August Nights is in progress

Happy dancing!

Tork

.....

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!

Dory Clark .....Aug. 04

Annette Graff.....Aug. 04

**Chirper Chatter...**

A little update on **Sandy Bruns**. She realized she was again having trouble dancing all evening because of foot pain. She knew she had to do something so she could continue the dancing she loves. Seeing a podiatrist, he recommended surgery to correct the severe bunion on her foot as well as correct the damage done to the next 3 toes from the pressure. Surgery was done on June 11<sup>th</sup>, cast removed on July 25<sup>th</sup>, replaced with a walking cast, physical therapy for another 6 weeks and hopes to return to dancing in September. She thanks everyone for calls, concerns and prayers...



**Sandy Hastings** had "walking pneumonia" for three weeks and which is why we have missed her. Dancing is okay but must take it easy. She still has a slight cough. She missed everybody...

**Nanci Scharfen** is planning to run the New York Marathon in November which she has never participated in. She has the experience in running marathons and is in training for this one...

**Bea Clark** wrote me to tell me she did not want the Club to think she went AWOL. She was preparing for guests for two weeks, have had a cold/flu for two weeks (ED: not sure if they were the same two weeks), was out-of-town the following week but we saw her on July 20<sup>th</sup>...

**Morris "MoHo" Hosoda** had a busy month in senior softball. He played 5 games on the weekend of July 7/8 at Folsom, 5 games on the weekend of July 21/22 at Carson City, NV, and 6 games on the weekend of July 28/29 at Antelope (near Roseville). At Carson City he had dinner with **Howie & Harriet Althouse**, former members of Katydids now residing in Gardnerville, NV...

Former member **Sal Stagnitto** was injured in a ladder fall in the house on April 30. This fall became more serious and Sal has spent 35 days in the hospital, followed by 30 more days in rehab. They later discovered a blood clot in the lower aorta and was operated on that. He is now home but still bedridden. He has physical therapy done at home...

Talking to **Carmen Hea**, former Katydids member, at our Katydids bus trip to Fresno, is recovering nicely from her hip replacement and is thinking of returning to square dancing. She has attended some of the CPSD classes. We want you back, Carmen!

Our frequent guest visitor, **Barbara Johnson**, will not be dancing with us at least for the rest of the year. She had an emergency appendicitis operation last month and is scheduled for a cornea transplant on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> on her right eye. She had this procedure done on her left eye two years ago. It requires the patient to be flat on their back and literally motionless for three days to allow the transplant to adhere to the eye. We will have a corner saved for you so hurry back ...

*Morris Hosoda, [moho77@gmail.com](mailto:moho77@gmail.com)*

**MARRIED**

**Jeanne LaRue**, ex Club Member and sister of Club Member, **Teri Cosentino**, married Charles Russell in Tennessee this past spring.



Photograph courtesy of Teri Cosentino

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

**Art & Sandy Bruns .....Aug. 23**

**James Thompson & Willie Albino.....Aug. 30**

**HALL OF FAME CEREMONY**

**TO INDUCT MORRIS HOSODA ON THURSDAY, AUG. 16TH AT 11:00 AM**

The Northern California Senior Softball Association's 2012 Hall of Fame Ceremony will be held at the Yankee Stadium of Big League Dreams (BLD) Sports Complex, 1077 Milo Candini Drive, Manteca on Thursday, August 16th at 11:00 AM BLD Sports Complexes are very fancy compared to the old traditional ball parks. There are 6 others in California, 1 in Texas, 1 in Arizona, and 1 in Nevada. They charge everyone, players and guests \$2..00 admission fee. There are about 6 softball fields designed and named after major league parks, like Fenway Park with its giant left field wall, Wrigley Field with ivy plants in the outfield (painted). Spectators are painted on slanted plywood in the outfield. It is best to Google the address for a map. The complex is located off of Airport Drive exit off of Hwy 120, the connecting portion of the freeway between Hwy 5 and Hwy 99. The complex lights can be seen on the north side of the freeway as well as Costco. It is just about an hour and ten minutes drive from the San José area. [ed note: maybe we can get a carpool going for anyone who wishes to attend? There will be a game that day, too, but the time has not been set, yet.]

*Morris Hosoda, [moho77@gmail.com](mailto:moho77@gmail.com)*

***Stay connected the old  
fashioned way.  
One night a week.***

***Do you want to get a little exercise??***

***Do you enjoy music?***

***Do you want to meet new friends?***

***No TV or internet for one night...***

**Then this class is for you!**

## **Modern Western Square Dancing**

***Singles, Couples, Families,  
& New and Former Dancers  
Welcome***

**Class starts Friday, September 28, 2012, 6:30 pm**

**\$5 per person per week**

***Fun \* Wholesome \* Affordable***

**400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell  
Campbell United Church of Christ  
First two nights free!**

For more details:

[www.katydids.info](http://www.katydids.info) • Tork Clark 408.847.3592

# BEGINNING SQUARE DANCE CLASSES

*Southern SF Bay Area – Fall 2012*

## **Clodhoppers – Fridays, Redwood City** (*couples / singles / families*)

STARTS: 21 September TIME: 7:30-9:00pm CALLER: Bob Elling  
LOCATION: Peninsula Community Center, 3623 Jefferson Avenue, Redwood City  
COST: \$5/person/week  
INFO: <http://www.clodhoppersrwc.org> 650-591-1237

## **CPSD – Tuesdays, San Jose** (*adult couples / singles*)

STARTS: 11 September TIME: 6:30-8:45pm CALLER: Tork Clark  
LOCATION: Camden Community Center, 3369 Union Avenue, San Jose  
COST: free during September, \$5/person/week thereafter  
INFO: <http://www.c-p-s-d.org> 408-663-1477

## **CPSD – Fridays, Santa Clara** (*couples / singles / families with teens*)

STARTS: 14 September TIME: 7:00-9:30pm CALLER: Bob Steele  
LOCATION: Resurrection Lutheran Church, 2495 Cabrillo Avenue, Santa Clara  
COST: free during September, \$5/person/week thereafter  
INFO: <http://www.c-p-s-d.org> 408-663-1477

## **El Camino Reelers – Wednesdays, Palo Alto** (*gay/lesbian club – all welcome*)

INTRO NIGHT: 19 September CLASS STARTS: 26 September TIME: 7:30-9:30pm CALLER: Rich Reel  
LOCATION: St. Andrew's Church, 4111 Alma Street, Palo Alto  
COST: \$135/person if paid by 1 October, or \$75 by 1 October plus \$75 by 1 January  
INFO: <http://www.reelers.org>

## **Katydids – Fridays, Campbell** (*singles / couples / families*)

STARTS: 28 September TIME: 6:30pm CALLER: Jim Osborne  
LOCATION: United Church of Christ, 400 West Campbell Avenue, Campbell  
COST: first two nights free, \$5/person/week thereafter  
INFO: <http://www.katydids.info> 408-847-3592 650-549-5273

## **Lucky Steppers – Thursdays, Santa Cruz** (*couples / singles / families*)

STARTS: 20 September TIME: 7:00-8:15pm CALLER: Don Benson  
LOCATION: German-American Hall, 230 Plymouth Street, Santa Cruz  
COST: first three weeks free, \$5/person/week thereafter  
INFO: <http://www.mixed-up.com/lucky> 831-726-7053

## **Stanford Quads – Sundays, Palo Alto** (*singles / couples / teens / families*)

INTRO/OPEN NIGHTS: 7, 14, 21 October TIME: 7:00-9:00pm CALLERS: Harlan Kerr and Bill van Melle  
LOCATION: Fairmeadow School, 500 East Meadow Drive, Palo Alto  
COST: intro nights free, \$8/person/week thereafter (lower if paying by the quarter)  
INFO: <http://www.stanfordquads.org> 408-774-1570 650-948-4935

## **Sunnyvale Squares – Tuesdays, Sunnyvale** (*adult singles / couples*)

INTRO NIGHT: 4 September CLASS STARTS: 11 September TIME: 7:00-8:30pm CALLER: Rich Reel  
LOCATION: Murphy Park, 260 N. Sunnyvale Avenue, Sunnyvale  
COST: first night free, \$25/person/month thereafter  
INFO: <http://www.sunnyvalesquares.org> 408-744-1021 650-968-1432

## **Westminster Squares – Fridays, San Jose** (*singles / couples / teens / families*)

STARTS: 10 August TIME: 6:00-7:30pm CALLER: Diana Hilliard  
LOCATION: Clubhouse at 900 Golden Wheel Park Drive, San Jose  
COST: \$3/person/week  
INFO: 408-453-9450 408-315-1874

**General Square  
Dance Info**

[www.scvsda.org](http://www.scvsda.org)

[www.dosado.com](http://www.dosado.com)

Coming in 2013

**Bows and Beaus  
Mondays, Los Altos**  
(*adult singles/couples*)

STARTS: January

CALLER: Keith Ferguson  
<http://www.bowsandbeaus.org>

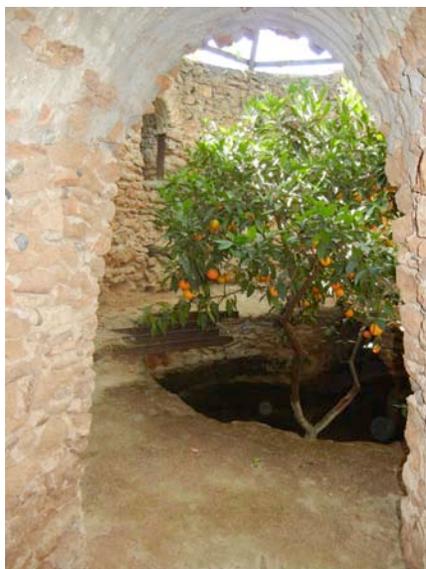
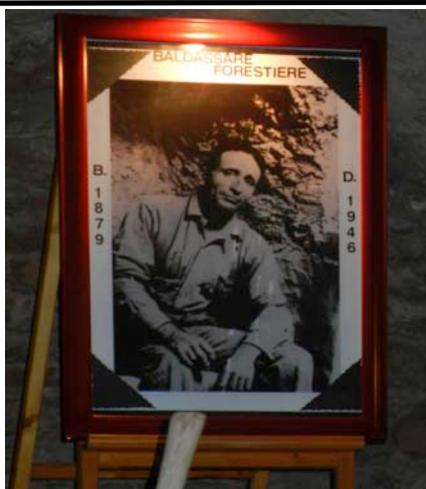
*For updates on these  
classes and for  
information about  
classes elsewhere in the  
Bay Area, across the  
country, and around the  
world, check online  
listings.*

Rev: 2 August 2012

KATYDIDS VISIT THE CENTRAL VALLEY  
Saturday, July 14, 2012  
Lunch at Wool Growers Restaurant, Los Banos  
Kearney Mansion, Fresno  
Forestiere Underground Gardens, Fresno



Photographs courtesy of Pat Angotti, Morris Hosoda, and Stephanie Stevens



Many thanks to **Pat Angotti** for putting this delightful trip together for all of us to enjoy. As we traveled by bus, our docent, **Gary Holloway**, regaled us with many tales of the Central Valley. We are looking forward to another trip in the spring! And, huge kudos to **Morris Hosoda** for the *GREAT* nametags!

Lunch at the **Wool Growers French Basque Restaurant** in Los Banos was a family-style seven course meal and I'm sure no one went away hungry!! • Raising King, M. Theo Kearney, completed the building of the Superintendent's Lodge (known today as the **Kearney Mansion**), headquarters for his 5,000 acre Fruit Vale Estate, in 1903 as the beginning of his planned Chateau Fresno whose inspiration came from the Chateau Chenonceaux, built in Tours, France. He was the son of an Irish laborer and emigrated in 1854, settling near Boston. He literally made himself into a refined aristocratic gentleman, living his private life in the highest social circles around the world. He came to California in 1869 and soon bought his first 8,000 acres in Fresno County. In 1872 the first canal system which secured the future of irrigated agricultural land in the Central Valley was completed. By 1875 Kearney's land development transformed the "sandy desert plains" into a colony of farms, irrigated vineyards and orchards. In 1906, just days after ground was broken for the Chateau, he died while aboard a ship sailing to Europe. • Quote from a plaque at the **Forestiere Underground Gardens**: "Here, beneath the hot, arid surface of the San Joaquin Valley, Baldassare Forestiere (1879-1946) began in the early 1900s to sculpt a fantastic retreat. Excavating the hardpan by hand, he created a unique complex of underground rooms, passages and gardens which ramble through-out a 10-acre parcel. ..."



FROM MARY & ROD - -

Below is a shortened version of a note recently received from Mary & Rod who used to be Katydid's Club members prior to their full time RVing.



July 20, 2012

Hello, friends and family!

May started with us in northeastern New Mexico and it ended with us less than 300 miles away in Denver. But we did twist around a bit along the way and we spent some time in places that we had only driven through previously. Here's how it went.

What better way to start the month (any month) than with ice cream! And Taos Cow was recommended by everyone in the area as a "don't miss". And it was on the way to Taos Ski Valley, which, being May and "between seasons" was pretty closed down and boring (but a beautiful drive to get there!).

Those of us from the Texas "Valley" are used to the Rio Grande as a lazy, meandering flow. (Well, there was that flood that wiped out Pepe's two years ago!) Here in northeastern New Mexico it's a different story - especially in the Spring. Lots of scenic overlooks from high ridges and raging water that the rafters love!



We drove the northern portion of the Enchanted Circle Loop, spending a little time in Red River (skiing was over and square dancing hadn't started for the summer yet) and then drove on to find this rustic location - which just happened to be the Co-

manche Canyon Brewing Company. Smallest micro we've found but good results!

We completed our drive back in Angel Fire for another evening of pickleball. The nice people here were quite patient as us beginners. We're looking forward to playing more back in Tropic Star, TX this winter.



Another short drive outside of Taos brought us to the Rio Grande Gorge Bridge - third highest span in the country. The river is over 600 feet below.

In the Wild Rivers NRA we hiked the La Junta Trail down to the confluence of the Rio Grande and Red Rivers. The trail started at the top of that peak in the background and dropped about 1500 feet to the rivers. Great place for a picnic!

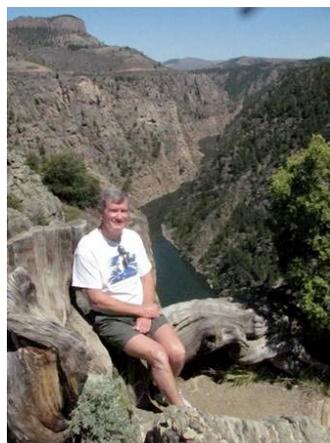


Finally time (that means warm enough) to leave New Mexico and head into Colorado. In doing so we crossed the continental divide for the first of many times this summer.



Did I say warm enough? Our second day in Gunnison we sat in the RV and watched it SNOW all afternoon - the middle of May! Another day we drove through the Cumberland NF, hoping to cross the pass and make it a loop drive - but the pass was still closed by the winters snow (pictured).

The Gunnison Gorge Square Dance Club has started up and provides a nice place and good company for dancing. They're also an excellent source of restaurant recommendations to celebrate Mother's Day!



We took a short drive to Pioneer Point for a picnic overlooking the Gunnison River. Notice the weather was much nicer! That's Spring in the Colorado mountains.



Another longer drive brought us to Lake City. Our Poker Alice Pizza destination was closed but we did find this guy in the neighborhood.

(Mary & Rod continued from page 9)



Time to move on – farther west. The drives through the Rockies are as good as the destinations – beautiful mountain vistas, clear sparkling lakes and rivers and canyons that are spectacular.

Several years ago we drove through Ouray (CO) with just the truck and vowed to return and stay longer someday.

Someday has arrived! A beautiful little town tucked in a canyon and surrounded by towering mountains. Unique for us, we stayed in a camp right in town, so we could walk for morning coffee, afternoon snack or “happy hour”. Main Street is 8 blocks long with many of the original buildings.

The 6 mile Perimeter Trail around town isn’t just a casual stroll, but it offers some wonderful sights and views of the community. Just wear your hiking boots and carry a lunch!

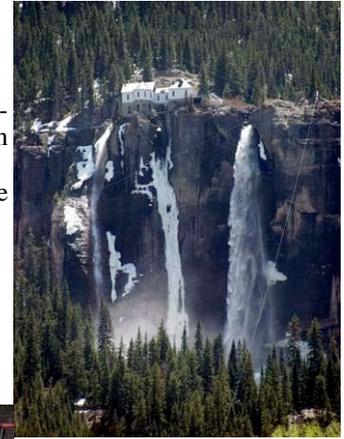


Another pretty spot along the trail – and a wild (2 legged) critter!

The trail takes us by the famous Ouray Box Canyon – here’s the view from the pedestrian bridge.



And the view of town from the lookout as one starts up Red Mountain Pass. Remember those surrounding mountains I mentioned?

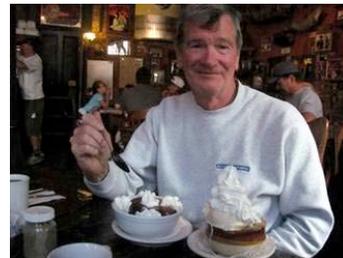


Another day we drove to Telluride. A beautiful mountain ride to get there and these waterfalls at the end of the road on the far side of town.



Telluride was larger than we expected and we spent several hours just walking around. We found an outdoor Middle Eastern food booth for lunch and this bench as an example of recycling. Or was it modern art?

Timing is everything – and a bit of luck always helps. In-between seasons, the locals have a “We Love Our Valley” celebration which featured 15 regional microbreweries!



The highlight of Ouray is the drive over Red Mountain Pass to Silverton. The spectacular beauty of this drive is way more than my pictures could capture or this newsletter could portray. You’ll just have to put it on your list of “must see’s”.

However, many locals had told us that in Silverton we had to go to Handlebar’s for lunch – or at least for dessert. Always, always, always listen to the locals!

We might still be in Ouray, but one of our few scheduled stops was starting just up the road in Montrose (CO, not PA). The local Escapee chapter was having a rally and we joined them for a great time of socializing, swapping tales and playing “Farkle”.



The annular solar eclipse occurred while we were there. This is it “projected” through binoculars onto the side of an RV.

(Continued on page 11)

(Mary & Rod continued from page 10)

On an off day we drove to Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park for a repeat visit. This is another of those “normal pictures won’t capture it” places. You’ll just have to go there yourself, Yes, that is the pretty good sized Gunnison River down there at the bottom. And there is actually a road in the park that you can take to drive to the river’s edge! But no RV’s.



Our hosts had set up a trip to the Ute Museum and a guided tour to some local pictographs. Our guide was an archeologist who had worked sites around the world – very knowledgeable and quite an entertaining character herself.

We said our goodbyes to many new friends and drove in a major developing windstorm to Grand Junction.

Since the wind was predicted to be even stronger the next day, we decided to immediately take the drive through Colorado National Monument – a beautiful drive but too windy to hike – for us at least. However, as we were ogling Independence Monument, the most recognized of the many geological features in the Monument (center of picture), our binoculars showed us three climbers just cresting the top! Either very good, very crazy (on a good day!) or had traveled a very long way to make the climb on their vacation.



Yes, still within 25 miles of Grand Junction and, yes, it was 80 degrees the day before – but hey, this is still Colorado! We drove to the Grand Mesa National Scenic Byway, climbed a few thousand feet and peered through the snow squalls to see these remaining piles of winter snow. That and 40+ mph winds – this biker also falls in the crazy category!

Awesome scenery – it’s everywhere! This is along I-70 just east of Grand Junction as we head toward Denver. And on the right side of the road are major vineyards and orchards. And some pretty good wineries, too. The geographic diversity is almost unbelievable.



Time to rest for a few days. Found Sylvan Lake SP about halfway to Denver and at 9000 feet altitude. Good news – found a Costco along the way in the middle of nowhere. Bad news, such a small community, it was closed for Memorial Day!



Next stop, Denver to see friend Alyson. We’ll be there in time to meet for dinner. Leisurely trip.



Oops, I-70 is closed due to a bio-hazard spill. Helpful sign says “Find Alternate Route”. In the Rockies? With a 38-foot 5<sup>th</sup> wheel? Okay, decided to take the chance and drive Route 24 to Leadville and hope the truck can get us over

the two passes to almost 11,000 feet. It did and we got this view of a major strip mine operation. (By the way, this is the same Route 24 that was closed indefinitely last week because of a 100 foot sink hole caused by an abandoned railroad tunnel running underneath it!)

Since our last newsletter, daughter Deborah brought forth Hailey Arline Dorman on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Both are doing well and Madison and Jason are stepping up to their roles as big sister and big brother! Looks like Deborah and Phil did (another) fine job. Looking forward to a trip back east this fall!!!



Well, we did make it to dinner with Alyson. And that was a wonderful wrap-up to another month on the road. We hope you, too, are having a great summer and will share a few pictures and stories with us. We’re in British Columbia for the rest of the summer, with occasional internet service (there’s a lot of very tall trees and mountains around here!).

Mary & Rod • 817-308-5991 • marymonti@aol.com

PS – to make it easier to follow our route, I thought I’d try including a map



First Name Last Name  
Home Street  
Home City, Home State Home ZIP

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Official Newsletter of  
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**Chirper**

**August 2012**

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### CHIRPER STAFF

The *Chirper* Newsletter is written by, and for, members of the Katydid's Square Dance Club.

Copy **deadline** for the September issue is **August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012**. You can submit articles to the *Chirper* Editor, Stephanie Stevens, at:

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