

TURNER LAMB FESTIVAL CARAVAN
MONTEREY BAY UNIT CARAVAN # 48

May 27 - June 7, 1992

Leaders:

Lloyd and Ruth Brown
Earl and Gerry Pettis

Parker:

Jack Benjamin

Caravanners:

Jack Benjamin
Lucille Conners and Ida Rodriguez
Dale and Virginia Leipper
Jay and Marian Leith
Mack and Molly McKnight
Earl and Gerry Pettis
Bob and Dorothy Schneider

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WEDNESDAY MAY 27. Caravan #48 started with a rendezvous at Happy Times RV Park in Dunnigan. All participants arrived in time for Happy Hour, hosted by Lucille Conners. The group included the Pettises (taking over as leaders because Ruth Brown's illness forced them to cancel), Benjamin, Conners (with her mother, Ida Rodriguez), Leippers, Leiths, McKnights, and Schneiders. Ruth and Dick Ginter drove over from Sacramento to join us at Happy Hour. We all enjoyed the hamburger feed hosted in absentia by Ruth Brown, followed by a pleasantly cool evening. Surprisingly, the uninvited insect guests we had expected, on the basis of past experience, did not join the party.

Even at this early stage of the caravan we missed having Ruth and Lloyd with us. We also missed having Rosa and Bob Oliver in the group -- because of problems with the Blue Dragger they too had to cancel.

THURSDAY MAY 28. Despite promises made last evening the Pettis and Benjamin trailers were on the road before some of us had eaten breakfast. The rest of the group departed in a more relaxed manner, each according to his/her own schedule. Many of us made the customary stop in Corning to purchase various goodies and then enjoyed a beautiful drive through the Siskiyou mountains. Snow topped Mt. Shasta was a particularly spectacular sight. Upon arriving at Lake Siskiyou RV Park we parked in the pine woods near the lake shore. Happy Hour visitors included a young buck who came to visit Freckles, the Pettis dog. Several of us enjoyed sitting around the campfire after dinner.

FRIDAY MAY 29. During the day's layover at Lake Siskiyou we drove to Castle Crags State Park for a brown bag lunch. The road to the picnic area was steep and narrow, followed by an even steeper short

walking trail to the picnic tables. However, the view of the Crags and Mt. Shasta made all the effort worth while. After lunch an accommodating Park Ranger made sure there would be no opposing uphill traffic as we made our way down to the State Fish Hatchery, where a knowledgeable volunteer guide gave us a very interesting tour. Back in camp for Happy Hour provided by the Schneiders, followed by a great chili dinner served by Mack and Molly McKnight.

SATURDAY MAY 30. Drove to Diamond Lake RV Park, a familiar site for many of us. Happy Hour was hosted by the McKnights, following which some of the group had dinner at the Lodge.

SUNDAY MAY 31. Our bicyclists took off for a ride along the lake shore. While they were gone the rest of us left for Crater Lake. Despite vapor lock problems with the Schneider mini-vehicle we all, including the later arriving bicycle group (without bicycles), met for lunch at the Crater Lake Visitor Center cafeteria. The ride back to camp, past snowbanks and interesting viewpoints, was followed by Happy Hour and a stew dinner courtesy of the Schneiders. The evening campfire was cut short because of hordes of very aggressive mosquitoes.

MONDAY JUNE 1. The day started out overcast and cool, but was warm and sunny by afternoon. The drive through the Cascades to Eugene was highlighted by roadside displays of wildflowers and rhododendrons.

TUESDAY JUNE 2. In Eugene. Lunch and a tour of the Steelhead Brewery, followed by a guided tour of the Weyerhaeuser kraft paper plant in Springfield. Another interesting and informative day, arranged by the Pettises.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3. A short drive in the Willamette Valley to Turner, the ultimate objective of the caravan. We joined the Oregon Unit Rally at the Oregon Christian Convention Center and were parked under the trees in shady and comfortable sites. We joined the rally activities for a short Welcoming Meeting in the afternoon, followed by a lasagna dinner. With the Turner Lamb Festival as its focus this promises to be a very enjoyable rally. It obviously is well organized, with friendly, helpful hosts.

THURSDAY JUNE 4. Several tours and activities are available as part of the rally, including a morning tour of the Detroit Dam and powerhouse. In the afternoon we watched a demonstration of sheep shearing and then enjoyed a stew dinner put on by the rally hosts.

FRIDAY JUNE 5. Because of the unexpected death of Earl's brother the Pettises left early this morning for the Bay Area. We wish them a safe trip and want to express not only our sympathy but also our sincere appreciation of their leadership of the caravan.

Today's rally activities included a tour of the restored Salem woollen mills (which now, in addition to the mill, includes boutique shops) and early settler homes in Salem. Following a brown bag lunch on the Bush House lawn we enjoyed a tour of the house. The adjacent gift shop enticed some of our group after the house tour.

SATURDAY JUNE 6. The Turner Lamb Festival parade formed at and near the Conference Center, so we had a good vantage point from which to watch the activities. After the parade we watched sheep dog trials, lamb judging, and more sheep shearing. Barbeque and ice cream stands were available to satisfy the inner man.

At our final Happy Hour Jack was presented with a colorful T shirt, after which we rejoined the rally for a beef barbeque dinner and a bugle program. We also had an evening tour of the old tabernacle building on the Conference Center grounds.

SUNDAY JUNE 7. Each of us left on our separate ways, marking the official end of Caravan #48. By unanimous agreement we want to express our appreciation to the Browns for planning and organizing the caravan, though we regret that they were unable to participate; to the Pettises for the superb job they did in taking over the leadership and planning the activity details; and to Jack for his usual great job in handling parking. Thanks to every member of the group for his/her willing and enthusiastic participation, all of which made this a caravan to remember.