

Earl's Diary - Saturday - July 18, 2009

Once again we had a very cool breezy day - probably in the mid 60's. This evening we had a potluck dinner - I took my corn casserole. It was cool and then got downright cold come 8:00. More about the potluck later.

This morning at 10:00 I went to a workshop on lighting with solar panels and LED lights. This was in interesting way to save on battery electricity. It makes one stop to think about changing a few incandescent bulbs for LED's. The speaker also gave a good explanation about the different kinds of batteries. I knew a little bit - but learned a whole lot more.

In the afternoon I made a tour of many of the trailers that came to the Gathering. It was interesting to walk around and see the many different types and floor plans. There were 94 trailers - 42 Casitas; 16 Scamps; 8 Escapes; 28 miscellaneous others. Some of the trailers were no longer being made and were pre 1990's but either restored or still in good condition. I walked through most of the different ones but still prefer my Peanut! I particularly wanted to walk through the Scamps to see how they compared to mine. Some people even made some major modifications to their rigs!

It's interesting listening to different people talking about why they like their trailer and why they don't like some other make. Two of the top "cadillac" models were present - Oliver, and Escape. The owners of Escapes were at the Gathering. Of course, to show off their product!

Yesterday, in my journal, I mentioned that Molded Fiberglass owners are a culture unto themselves. I was mistaken - They are more like a "cult". I learned a new term today (my apologies to you who may own a large rig). Molded Fiberglass people refer to those large rigs as "stickies". (You know those large rigs built with wood structure and aluminum siding.

Those 94 trailers brought 200 people to the Gathering. This evening we had a huge potluck. There was lots of food left but I think everyone had enough to eat. After dinner was an awards and thank you program. Some awards presented were: The newest owner, the one with the older trailer, the one who came farthest from the north, south and east. My partner and I were presented the trophy for winning the Golf Ball Horseshoe tournament. It was a cute little trophy on a 6 inch base with an upside down horseshoe (standing upright) with a golf ball hanging from a string in the middle of the horseshoe. My partner Zack

is just a youngster, perhaps in the eighth grade. We made a pretty good team!!!

A lot of participants are leaving tomorrow (Sunday). Some are staying until Monday (like me). Tomorrow's breakfast will be a Brunch potluck.

It was announced that next year's gathering would be July 15-18. I will not hesitate to sign up early. This was truly a fun time and all the people are so nice and friendly.

- - Earl

Earl's Diary - Sunday - July 19, 2009

This is another bright sunny, cool day. The last event of this Gathering was the morning brunch. Lots of different foods, from eggs, to grits, to toast, to fruit. One person set up a large griddle and was making pancakes for whomever wanted them and another lady brought her camp stove and griddle and was making french toast. Talk about food!! Oh my!!!

After brunch everyone seemed to start fading away. A large majority of people were leaving today, still others were planning to leave tomorrow.

Tomorrow morning I will leave for the small town of Crescent on Highway 97, south of Bend, to meet my brother and Suzie where we will spend 4 nights before I head south for home again next Friday. By that time I hope the temperature has cooled off a little. I heard on the radio this morning that Redding/Red Bluff was only going to be 111 today!!

Now it's into town to do a little sightseeing and grocery shopping. I will communicate with you tomorrow evening where WiFi is supposed to be available at our RV park.

Right now I'm sitting outside the library (which is closed) but the WiFi signal reaches out here. I'm on a bench sitting in the shade with the cold breeze blowing through me. The temperature on a thermomiter said 60 degrees. It's 1:15 now

- - Earl