

May 6, 2025 Quarterly Meeting Notes

The 2025 second quarter meeting of the villages RV club was held on May 6th with 13 members in attendance. The agenda covered recent and upcoming 2025 trips, upcoming events, club logo wear, updates related to the RV lot including the upcoming fee increase, and a discussion related to the California ACT regulation.

The group welcomed member Van Adams who moved to The Villages with his wife Liz 8 years ago. He camps in an all electric Travato after selling his Airstream. He is a lifelong camper and backpacker. He published a book in 1973 titled Ghost Trails of California. His favorite place to camp is City of Rocks in Idaho.

March and April Club Outings

The March Club outing (3/24-3/28) Five RV's and 10 members attended the Black Oak Casino outing in Tuolumne. It was a fun time with activities such as biking, game night, and thrift shopping. The usual potluck and dinner out in the town were also enjoyed by the group. Evidently the Casino was a popular amenity as well although I didn't hear about any big winners. ;)

The April Club outing (4/21-4/25) was at River Point Landing in Stockton and had six RV's and 11 people attend. This RV facility is located directly on the San Joaquin River and is close to Stockton shopping and restaurants. It was amazing to see the huge ships traveling just yards away from the riverbank as they made their journey to the Port of Stockton. The group went on a couple of bike rides to The University of the Pacific campus, toured the Cambodian Temple and checked out a part of town called Miracle Mile. Culinary endeavors included Happy Hours, a potluck, lunch at the marina at Garlic Brothers and a dinner at Arroyo's.

Upcoming Outings

The May Club outing (5/9 – 5/13) at Costanoa in Pescadero has six groups attending with some traveling by RV and others renting bungalows.

June 14th Villages RV Club Open House: The 2025 RV Club Open House is scheduled for June 14th in the RV Lot. Bob Robles, who chaired this event last year has agreed to a repeat performance was not at the meeting to update the group on current plans for the event. Joel noted that a canned food drive is still planned in conjunction with the Open House. George Muller offered to donate items left from the sale of his RV to the Club to sell at the Open House.

June Club Outing (6/22-6/26) to Santa Cruz Redwoods Resort has five members signed up. Check their website to see if there are spots left to join this outing.

Cancelled: July Club Outing (7/21-7/25) to Zephyr Cove in Lake /Tahoe – Jim Koski explained that this is a very popular place and that changes to their reservation system made it very difficult to book sites. He suggested that we may want to plan to attend this park during October when schools are back in session.

August 3rd Villages RV Club Annual BBQ: The event will be held at the Cribari Center. There are no details available for this event.

August Club Outing (8/11-8/15) at the Dumbarton Quarry Eastbay Regional Parks in Fremont with full hook ups and bridge views. There are no members signed up for this outing to date.

September Club Outing (9/26-9/30) at Yosemite Lakes Thousand Trails in Groveland. There are currently 2 members signed up for this outing.

October Club Outing (10/30-11/3) to Wine Country RV Resort in Paso Robles. Joel recommended calling the park soon as there were limited spots and mentioning The Villages RV Club so they can try to keep us together. The park also has a 25% discount available for a 3 night stay. There are currently 2 members signed up for this outing.

November Club Outing (11/3-11/7) to Pismo Coast Village in Pismo Beach. There are currently 4 members signed up for this outing. You can call now to reserve this park. Request a site at the North end of the resort (33-39 or 50-56) and mention The Villages RV Club.

December Club Outing (12/1-12/5) to New Brighton State Beach in Capitola. Reservations can be made beginning June 30th.

RV Lot Items

There was discussion regarding outstanding requests that the Club has with The Villages Management/Maintenance Departments. Most of these need to be addressed further.

Dump Station: The current dump station was installed backwards and there is the possibility of flooding under the VMA shed with the current configuration. The cement housing needs to be broken down and reconfigured. No adjustment to the plumbing is required.

Update: This project has been completed.

Electrical Drops: Prior to the solar panel project the tenants of the RV Lot had access to electrical drops that allowed them to charge their RVs for a short period prior to heading out on a trip. The RV Club is requesting the replacement of these electrical drops in a manner consistent the solar panel system.

Update: This project is approved but is in the process of being prioritized. There is no schedule for completion at this time. Members held a lively discussion about the solar panels and where the proceeds from the power output are recognized. It was mentioned that the power output is

credited against the main PG&E bill for the Club. The configuration of the electrical drops and the projected cost of \$100K+ were also discussed.

Drainage: The RV Lot floods around sites 58-62 during the rainy season creating a messy slurry of algae that makes it unsafe for tenants to access their RVs. The maintenance department tried to address the issue with straw waddle last year but their solution was not effective.

Update: The straw waddle was not very effective. A better solution would be to run a drain pipe under the surface to the runoff area. This could be combined with the planned resurfacing for 2026. Joel will continue to work with Ryan Bell to pursue this as well as to fix the potholes that are continuing to grow larger in the RV Lot.

George Muller mentioned that he noticed a \$16K item for work on the RV Lot solar panels in the Villages Project List for 2026. Joel agreed to look into when the work was to be completed and how it will impact the RVs in the Lot.

RV Lot Fees Increase: Andy Altman informed the group that RV Lot fees would be increasing beginning in July by \$4 for large sites and \$2 for small sites. Some members were upset with the increase. Andy Altman informed them that some Club Board Members wanted to increase the RV Lot fees to be more in line with RV lot fees outside of The Villages. That would raise fees by hundreds of dollars.

This initiated a group discussion that revolved around the point that the RV Lot was self-sustaining as a Club entity. George Muller believed the RV Lot entity to be a sequestered account that could only be used for specific RV Lot expenses. Andy Altman who is Treasurer of the Club Board stated that the RV Lot account is self-sustaining but no longer sequestered with the new accounting system even though it can still be viewed as a separate entity. He defined the RV Lot as an amenity, much like the Stables. He stated that this also meant that the RV Lot could be allowed to run a deficit for more than a year.

RV Lot Waiting List:

There are currently less than 10 people on the RV Lot waiting list for various space sizes. 9 of the 10 people are looking for a better space than they currently have. Management is prioritizing spaces for people who currently have no space over people who want to upgrade their space.

Club Bling with The New Logo

At the last meeting Elizabeth Schwartz volunteered to look into how club members could purchase clothing, hats or other items like coffee mugs with the Club Logo. She returned to share some ideas for stickers as well as a website called Printify where she has created an online store for the RV Club. Coffee mugs with the RV Club logo are \$6 for a small and \$11 for a large size mug. Baseball caps are \$14.50 and there is a possibility of a t-shirt with a logo on the pocket. Shipping is \$6.95 per order so she recommended that members get together and order in bulk.

Andy Altman mentioned that he had recently been to a local business that appeared to make custom shirts. Ed Knott mentioned embroidered logos as an upscale alternative. Elizabeth is going to follow up and make a recommendation for the best path forward.

California's ACT Regulation Update

Ed Knott has developed a website called RV4EVER.info which provides people with ways to express their concerns to government officials regarding the current requirement for smog testing RV's in California. The purpose of the website is to get RV's which contribute only 0.2% of the emissions reclassified as exempt from smog testing.

Open Discussion

Jim Koski invited members to join him on a Golden Gate biking adventure that will involve trail riding, a train ride, bridge ride and ferry ride. Contact Jim for more information. Estimated cost is \$25.

A member asked about why there was an outing scheduled for Mother's Day. Joel replied that some outings were booked for weekends to accommodate members that worked during the week. He added they didn't realize that the May date was also Mother's Day at the time the schedule was published.

Jim Koski asked members to please take care to replace the air hose and water hose back in their proper resting positions when done with using them.