

RV Lifestyles  
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Sharing information on the full-timing lifestyle, job tips, travel experiences, and much more. Part I comes out on or about the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Part II comes out around the 25<sup>th</sup>.

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Please forward this ezine to anyone who is interested in learning more about or would like additional resources for living the RV lifestyle.

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#### IN THIS ISSUE

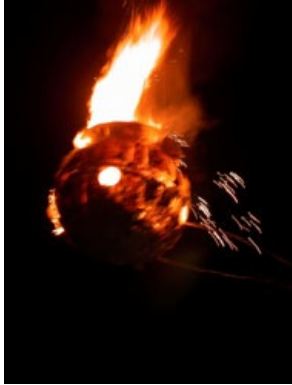
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1. JAIMIE'S VIEW

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Did Fleetwood pull a fast one? It looks like they may have. They recalled a number of RVs because the carrying capacity was double what the government said it should be. See RVs IN THE NEWS section for more information. Let us know if this affected you.

This is a time for RV migrations. For us it has meant meeting up with other RVers as they pass through Arizona where we are located. We've had a couple of get-togethers with friends who work for the U. S. Forest Service in the summer and will meet them and another set of friends this afternoon. Yesterday we drove to Flagstaff to meet FabGrandma and her husband (Karen and Jim). We've e-corresponded for years and finally met. They worked at the Grand Canyon, north rim, last summer.

The first week in November, we'll head to Tucson for the All Souls Procession. Lots of RV friends will be coming for that. We'll also meet two couples from the Workamper forums. While in Tucson, our friend DeAnna has been lining up plays and other activities for those who need a culture fix.

George and I are doing the Ideal Protein® eating plan. George has lost more than 20 pounds. I've lost a few, but then I had fewer to lose to begin with. The main health benefit from the eating plan is to rest your pancreas from overload from carbs, i.e. sugar. It's a bit of a challenge when meeting people for meals, but we're managing.

This month

- \* From Alice — Death Valley Days- what an event!
- \* Tom and Nancy - Road trip, new netbook and recipe
- \* Resources —map of gas prices, RVers and CDLs, choosing a domicile, pumpkin stencils
- \* News — Read about Fleetwood's recall, is bottled water worth the money? and Halloween RV horror movie

Read on!

Safe travels.

Jaimie

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2. AT RVLIFESTYLEEXPERTS.COM:

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FEATURED BOOK: Amateur Radio for RVers



Amateur Radio for RVers: A primer by Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, is written in everyday terms we can all understand- even if you are a beginner. The CD answers these questions:

Are you aware of the communication modes available to you when cell phones don't work?

What is Ham Radio? How can it help you?

Is the licensing procedure difficult...can I qualify?

These questions and many more are answered in Bernie's latest CD. See <http://www.rvlifestyleexperts.com/rv-books/rv-authors-co-op/amateur-radio/>

READ OUR BLOG: RV Home Yet? <http://blog.rvlifestyleexperts.com> You can also subscribe and receive email updates when an entry is added.

- \* Build your own RV
- \* What were they thinking? RV dump and drag
- \* Perks- the new retirement
- \* Halloween and winter deadlines are fast approaching!
- \* Cruise - take a break or work on one
- \* RV migrations and hitch-itch
- \* Downshiffters - RVing on the way to a dream
- \* South Dakota voters - read this

SURVEY RESULTS: How much boondocking (camping without hookups) do you do?

- \* 10% Boondock all or most of the time
- \* 13% Only blacktop boondock at Wal-Mart, truck stops, etc.
- \* 17% Boondock when traveling from point A to B
- \* 43% Boondock when it makes sense
- \* 11% Have never tried boondocking
- \* 6% Never plan to boondock

NEW SURVEY At RVLifestyleExperts.com: Does your RV have solar panels? Vote at <http://www.RVLifestyleExperts.com>

WHAT'S NEW: Just a few more days! Don't forget our call for submissions for our new book: Choosing the RV Lifestyle: Real People, Real Choices. You don't have to be a writer to submit. We're looking for short pieces of advice on a variety of topics. We'll do the editing. Deadline is October 31. Find the guidelines at <http://www.rvlifestyleexperts.com/free-rv-info/rv-writing/>

We are offering a new service! In addition to doing complete résumé makeovers, Alice and I are now offering an evaluation of your résumé for working on the road. See <http://www.rvlifestyleexperts.com/rv-books/resume-evaluation/>

See What's New for new, informative articles at [RVLifestyleExperts.com](http://www.rvlifestyleexperts.com/new-on-our-website/) <http://www.rvlifestyleexperts.com/new-on-our-website/>

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#### KEEPING UP WITH JAIMIE & ALICE:

- \* See Jaimie's article "Six Phoenix Day Trips" at <http://www.roadtripamerica.com/DayTrips/Day-Trips-from-Phoenix-Arizona.htm>
- \* If you haven't seen "15 Awesome Autumn Drives," that quotes Jaimie and has photos from Alice and Jaimie see <http://www.wistv.com/global/Story.asp?s=9058406>
- \* Alice blogs at My MobileHomeSpace.com (you need to register first, then click on blogs)
- \* Alice also blogs at RV.Net.com "A Woman's View" at <http://blog.rv.net/2008/08/30/a-womans-view-introduction/>

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### 3. COLUMN: FULL-TIME RVING: MORE THAN BEAUTIFUL SCENERY # 63 - Alice Zyetz

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This column is about the many options available to the full-time RVer and how to access the information needed to pursue a specific interest. This month I want to describe the variety of activities you can enjoy when participating in an historical celebration. Since I've been on the road, I've attended Death Valley Days <http://www.deathvalley49ers.org/> several times. As a folk musician, I was first attracted to the musical contests on stage and the informal jamming at many people's campsites.

To my surprise, I was captivated by the wealth of other attractions. First, it is a celebration of the wagon trains that chose the difficult desert route to California to reach the goldfields in 1849. Death Valley Days began at the centennial celebration in 1949 and has continued every year since, totally run by volunteers. There is a re-creation of the original wagon trains that stay out in the desert and then form a triumphant parade down the main street.

Some of the other activities include readings of traditional and modern cowboy poetry, a competition of traditional costumes, a juried show of Western art, a Gospel sing led by a Dick Van Dyke look-alike with incredible energy, a horseshoe contest, golf, 4 x 4 tours, wheelbarrow race. Did I mention traditional music everywhere?

And, of course, you must take the opportunity to see the unique landmarks in Death Valley <http://www.nps.gov/deva/>: Artist Drive with its multi-colored rocks; Badwater, the lowest point in the Western Hemisphere; Zabriskie Point, best viewed at sunrise or sunset; the vast sand dunes; Titus Canyon, a breathtaking (literally) one-way drive; and so much more.

If you are in California, try to visit Death Valley Days, November 5- 9, 2008, for a complete experience. Camping and lodging are included in the park boundaries.

If you are involved in a special interest as you travel, please contact me at [youshoulda @ aol.com](mailto:youshoulda@aol.com)

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Alice Zyetz

Co-author, *The Woman's Guide to Solo RVing*

Co-editor, *RV Traveling Tales: Women's Journeys on the Open Road*

Author, *You Shoulda Listened to Your Mother: 36 Timeless Success Tips for Working Women.*

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### 4. ON THE LIGHT SIDE

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#### QUOTE:

"I travel not to go anywhere, but to go. I travel for travel's sake. The great affair is to move." Robert Lewis Stevenson

"The traveler sees what he sees, the tourist sees what he has come to see." G. K. Chesterton, essayist, poet 1874-1936

#### KNOWLEDGE QUIZ:

1. Which could affect the amount of insurance you pay on your RV? A. Credit rating B. Previous RV driving experience C. Membership in an RV club D. All

2. To connect to the Internet on the road, which is not an option? A. Satellite Internet B. War driving C. Aircard D. All E. All but B

CHUCKLE: How about some coffee?

[http://www.cartoline.it/pics/\\_zoom\\_flash.htm?immagine=scherzi\\_150404\\_01.swf](http://www.cartoline.it/pics/_zoom_flash.htm?immagine=scherzi_150404_01.swf)

1. Click on the link (coffee machine below)
2. Put the coin in the vending machine
3. Choose your drink
4. Click on the cup when it is ready
5. Click on "open"

Enjoy! Don't forget to click on "open!"

HINT: Peel a banana from the bottom and you won't have to pick the little 'stringy things' off of it. That's how the primates do it. From Annise.

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## 5. COLUMN: SOLAR AND OTHER THINGS

Tom and Nancy Vineski

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22 October 2008



Greetings again from western Riverside County, CA

As fall settles in and temperatures settle down, we're still enjoying the sunshine but not the hot Santa Ana winds coming off the high deserts. We did manage a quick trip to out of the area without the motorhome. And we found driving our new Prius through the high country of Arizona on our way to visit our daughter in Mesa Verde country of southwest Colorado a little more freeing and a lot more economical than taking our "home" on the same trip. Over 1800 miles in 10 days on less than 36 gallons was pretty amazing for us. Even with the cost of motels, which always take some getting used to anyway, came in under half the cost of taking the motorhome out at around 8.5mpg. What have we done? Is our RV lifestyle going to begin to suffer with \$ cost calculations all the time? Actually, in our defense we thought we had very limited time for the trip so we didn't take the motorhome. Only after a hurried one day visit to Mesa Verde NP and our last night in Cortez, CO did we hear via email that the date for my mother's surgery had been set for mid November and that we didn't have to return anytime soon.

Oh well, it was a wonderful visit and a chance to enjoy true fall with cottonwoods all golden and temps in the low 30's in the morning.

We used our new travel-sized laptop for the first time on this trip. After lugging around our old and large 15.4" laptop in Europe last year, we invested in the new Acer Aspire last month for just such experiences. It's called a "netbook" at just 2 pounds and measuring 9"x 6" with a nearly full-size keyboard, Windows XP and 1 gb ram/120gbHD...cute, convenient and economical. I have been known to even take it around to local WiFi and coffee shops. Always good for some conversation starters, too. This little Aspire is similar to the Assus EEE but with the XP option and a more finger-friendly keyboard.

I don't know if any were able to do much about drying some seasonal fruit and vegetables from last month's column. A great fall recipe that works well in the sun oven and is one of our favorites is Ms. Nancy's Apple Crisp. Take 6 apples (we prefer a tart, Granny Smith type apple), 1+ cup of rolled oats, 1/2 cup of sugar ( you can experiment with honey or maple syrup here later), about 4 Tsp olive oil, 1/2 cup of flour, 1/4 cup of raisins (optional) and cinnamon and nutmeg to taste. Slice the apples and place in baking dish. (You can also use dried apples but it's best to rehydrate them first). Mix together the dry ingredients then the wet and spoon on top of the apples. Place in the preheated sunoven and cook until golden brown and apples are done to your delight.

We hope to leave with the motorhome later in November for Death Valley and to meet up with friends in a favorite BLM area near Tecopa, CA. If any are around that area, let us know...and until then,

Happy trails,

Tom and Nancy

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Tom and Nancy Vineski

800-652-0826

solarnomads @ aol.com

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## ANSWERS TO KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. D. All could affect your premiums. See "The 13 factors that determine your insurance rates" at <http://www.rvlifestyleexperts.com/free-rv-info/getting-started/rv-insurance-rates/>

2. D. All. War driving is driving around until you pick up an unsecured Wi-Fi signal. For nine ways to connect to the Internet as you travel, see <http://www.rvlifestyleexperts.com/free-rv-info/getting-started/internet-on-the-road/>

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## 6. RV RESOURCES

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MAP OF GAS PRICES: Gas Buddy has a map showing gas prices. Zoom in on an area as well as see the U.S. [http://www.gasbuddy.com/gb\\_gastemperaturemap.aspx](http://www.gasbuddy.com/gb_gastemperaturemap.aspx)

CHOOSING A DOMICILE? This Web site gives the overall tax burden for each state, including broken down by tax. Excellent resource for choosing a domicile. <http://www.retirementliving.com/RLtaxes.html>

NEED CDL TO DRIVE AN RV? Do you need a special license or CDL to drive your RV? Check here. <http://changinggears.com/rv-sec-state-rv-license.shtml>

FUN STUFF FOR GRANDKIDS: Pick a stencil to make your pumpkin unique! [http://www.usaweekend.com/08\\_issues/081019/081019pumpkin-stencil-halloween-scary.html](http://www.usaweekend.com/08_issues/081019/081019pumpkin-stencil-halloween-scary.html)

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## 7. RVs IN THE NEWS

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HEADLINER: FLEETWOOD RECALL - OR IS IT A COVER-UP? Fleetwood was caught grossly misstating the cargo carrying capacity. This raises questions like are other manufacturers doing the same thing? Check to see if your RV is listed. [http://rvhometown.typepad.com/rv\\_home\\_yet/2008/10/fleetwood-recal.html](http://rvhometown.typepad.com/rv_home_yet/2008/10/fleetwood-recal.html) Follow the link to the actual recall.

BOTTLED WATER OR TAP? Is bottled water worth the money? It's actually more per gallon than diesel fuel! Read this article at Bloomberg, "Bottled Water Is No Purer Than Tap Water, Group Says (Update1)" and decide: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601124&sid=a4gqSuLAeFYU&refer=home>



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HOUSEKEEPING

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