

Las Palmas Grand Residents Association

LPGRA Observer

LPGRA
2550 S. Ellsworth Rd. #666
Mesa, AZ 85209
lpgraboard@gmail.com
Editor: Sue Smith

May 2022

Vol 3 Edition 1

Resident Association Meeting Dates

CLUBHOUSE BALL ROOM

JUNE 2, 2022, 9:30

JULY 7, 2022, 9:30

AUGUST 4, 2022, 9:30

To view minutes of meetings, go to
lpgra@org.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Peggy Marcone #418 President
585-752-8279

Sue Smith #110 1st Vice President
801-628-0025

Donna Mueller #456 2nd Vice President
480-433-2347

Dee Hammann #282 Secretary
480-226-3470

Pam Williams #429 Treasurer
559-259-2559

LPG RECYCLING NEWS



We started our LPG recycling program with Aluminum Beverage Containers last April and expanded to Plastic Beverage Containers last August. Just for 2022, we have collected 305 lbs of aluminum and 870 lbs of plastic beverage containers. Total amount of profit for 2022 is \$525.60.

Our recycling program was started by Alan Smith who has stepped down to travel more and Bob Williams is now the lead. Bob and his crew are Dick Nations, Fred Hammann, Jim Clerkin, John Latsin, Mike Bickford, Dan Shanahan, and Alan Smith.

Remember, ONLY plastic water and juice bottles go in the plastic barrel. Plastic from

cookie containers and so forth are NOT recyclable; it is a different kind of plastic, even though it might have the 1 inside the triangle on the bottom of the plastic container.

The blue recycle barrels are located by the Green Waste dumpster on Juniper Hills inside the gate. The gate is open during normal business hours and locked at all other times. Questions?? call Bob Williams 559 269-3022.

The big green dumpster is for lawn clippings only. It is not for anything else such as old water heaters, dressers, lamps and other household items or for renovation waste. You may see these items in the dumpster or along side of it but that is not what the dumpster or area is for. Please don't be one of those "I don't care about the rules" people.

Remembering Decoration Day



By **Kimberly Powell**
Updated on August 11, 2021

Memorial Day is celebrated in the United States each May to remember and honor military men and women who died while serving in the nation's armed forces. This differs from Veterans Day, which is celebrated in September to honor *everyone* who served in the U.S. military, whether or not they died in service. From 1868 through 1970, Memorial Day was celebrated on May 30th each year. Since then, the official national Memorial Day holiday is traditionally celebrated on the last Monday in May.

Origins of Memorial Day

On May 5, 1868, three years after the end of the Civil War, Commander in Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)—an organization of former Union soldiers and sailors—established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers.

The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. The cemetery already held the remains of 20,000 Union dead and several hundred Confederate dead. Presided over by General and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant and other Washington officials, the Memorial Day ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of General Robert E. Lee. After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the

cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.

Was Decoration Day Really the First Memorial Day?

While General John A. Logan credited his wife, Mary Logan, with the suggestion for the Decoration Day commemoration, local springtime tributes to the Civil War dead had previously taken place. One of the first occurred in Columbus, Mississippi, on April 25, 1866, when a group of women visited a cemetery to decorate the graves of Confederate soldiers who had fallen in battle at Shiloh. Nearby were the graves of Union soldiers, neglected because they were the enemy. Disturbed at the sight of



the bare graves, the women placed some of their flowers on those graves, as well. Today cities in the North and the South claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day between 1864 and 1866. Both Macon and Columbus, Georgia, claim the title, as well as Richmond, Virginia. The village of Boalsburg,

Pennsylvania, also claims to be the first. A stone in a cemetery in Carbondale, Illinois, the wartime home of General Logan, carries the statement that the first Decoration Day ceremony took place there on April 29, 1866.

Approximately twenty-five places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, many of them in the South where most of the war dead were buried.

Official Birthplace Declared

In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, New York, the "birthplace" of Memorial Day. A local ceremony held on May 5, 1866, was reported to have honored local soldiers and sailors who had fought in the Civil War. Businesses closed and residents flew flags at half-mast. Supporters of Waterloo's claim say earlier observances in other places were either informal, not community-wide or one-time events.

"This is the day we pay homage to all those who didn't come home. This is not Veterans Day, it's not a celebration; it is a day of solemn contemplation over the cost of freedom." —*Tamra Bolton*

AAMHO -- Arizona Association of Manufactured Home and RV Owners

Email www.aamho.org

Only through membership and donations does AAMHO exist to help protect homeowners and RV owners with the Landlord Tenant Act (LTA); the laws that govern manufactured homeowners. They are our advocates for fair landlord/tenant regulations. They introduce and support regulations in Arizona to protect and strengthen your rights as a manufactured homeowner and oppose legislature unfavorable to community residents. Membership is per household and is \$35 per year or \$60 for 2 years. Go online to aamho.org and you can join there by debit, credit card or pay pal. Las Palmas Grand Residents' Association stands with AAMHO. Their work benefits all of us, let's get behind them and support AAMHO.

I couldn't figure out why the baseball kept getting larger. Then it hit me.

A mom texts, "Hi! Son, what does IDK, LY, & TTYL mean?"
He texts back, "I Don't Know, Love You, & Talk To You Later."

Q. Want to hear a potassium joke?
A. K



Seven Things I Love About Roadtrekking

1 - Creating a Teensy Tiny Home

I've always loved decorating and organizing. So, getting a new (to me) van, was like getting a blank canvas to pretty up. I loved every minute of painting, papering, organizing, buying bedding, and figuring out the best way to store things! Tiny homes have nothing on Roadtrekkers. We are tiny homes, reduced by about eight. Perfect for free spirits! There's only a minuscule area to clean, so that takes about four minutes. And very little storage space, so we have less "stuff" to take care of. So, what do I do with my days? Oh dear, I guess I'll just have to read, or craft, or write, or just sit and enjoy my surroundings. Yeah, I can deal with that!

2 - People I meet along the way

So many people I meet randomly become good friends! The first Roadtrekking couple I met by accident while camping at Dead Horse State Park in Cottonwood, have stayed in touch, and were also at this rally.

We email often, and I plan to stay at their home when I go through Oregon in a few weeks. Then there are the two old cowboys I met in Durango, who bought me a drink, and one wanted to take me home with him! I declined his kind offer but did give the other one a ride to a nearby Walmart. Then there was the restaurant owner in Silverton who let me park in front of his house, when I asked about nearby campgrounds. And the huge family reunion who had appropriated my picnic table before I arrived, but then invited me to join them for dinner! Best meal ever, and great people.



3 - Learning from others who love what I love

Every time I go to a rally, or even run into other Roadtrekkers, I always learn something from them. Often it's about better/easier ways to do something in the van, but sometimes it's about great camping spots along my route, or "don't miss" places I really need to see. I've never been steered wrong yet, as everyone is always so willing to share what they've learned.



4 - The freedom to park anywhere in my 17-foot van

I have pulled into diagonal parking slots on several small-town main streets, hopped out and explored to my heart's content. Big rigs can't do that. Because of this ability, I've explored Sturgis, SD, Fredericksburg, TX, and other small towns, that I would have passed by had I not been able to get around easily and park in small areas.

5 - Being able to visit places big rigs can't go

Some rigs, not just the huge ones, but anything over 20' long aren't allowed in some places. The wharf at Santa Cruz for one, and some of the backroad areas where a 35' motorhome would just bog down, I can go. Even coming into the state park where I am, it was recommended that RVs take a different route. Being a van, I took the shortest, and also the most beautiful road directly to the campground. I would have hated to miss that scenic ride, but if I'd been in anything bigger, it would have been a harrowing drive.

6 - Not being afraid to “wing it”

I rarely make reservations ahead of time. Sometimes, especially if it's a campground or a Harvest Host I really want to stay at, I will call ahead, but even then only a day or two in advance, if not the same day. I don't want to be tied to a schedule. I know that, being in a van, I can park just about anywhere, if I don't find a proper camping spot. After all, that's the point of all this free-wheeling lifestyle I've adopted! I want to be able to drift with the wind!

7 - Being self-contained, while easily mobile

I can go anywhere I want (see 3 & 4 above) and yet have everything I need. I did a road trip in my SUV once, and I hated checking into motels each night and having to lug half my stuff in with me, then lug it out again the next morning. Now, I park—and sometimes, that's ALL I do—then I flip the passenger seat around, have a seat, and everything I need is within four feet of me; food, water, bathroom, bed. Badabing, Badaboom. Done and done.

Yeah, I pretty much LOVE this Roadtrekking life!

Submitted by Dee Dees

“Freedom makes a huge requirement of every human being. With freedom comes responsibility.”—*Eleanor Roosevelt*

Missed Flight and Other Problems

I used to travel once or twice a year with my job. My last trip before I retired was a special trip to Italy. I was excited about being selected and got my international driver's license before I left. I was going to have to rent a car and drive to Aviano Air Base from the Venice airport, one hour away. The directions I was given on how to travel there were vague -- very vague.

My husband Larry, who likes to plan trips, went to Google Maps and mapped out the route and even looked at street level views. He showed me a turn I was going to have to make in a quaint town and told me there were no signs stating what the street name was or that the road continued IF you turned right. I did see a big church in the



middle of the street as the road had a fork in it. But, before the fork, I was to turn right. Little did I know that that image he shared with me would mean so much later.

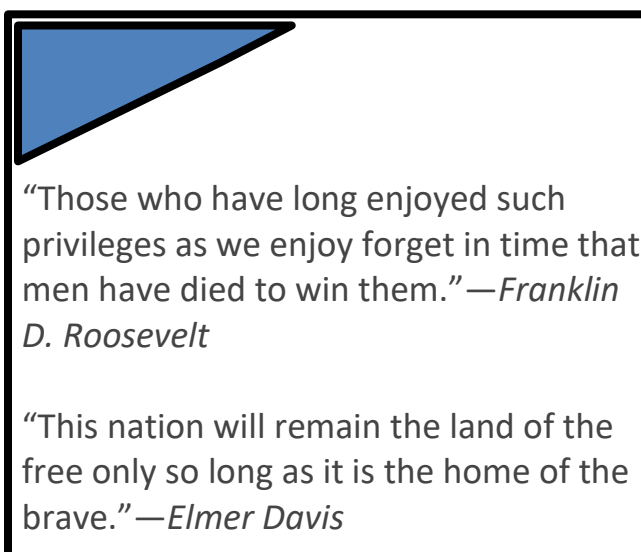
I arrived in Paris, my only layover, and I was still excited. The excitement started to drain

as I sat waiting for my next flight. I fell asleep and when I woke, the chairs around me were empty. I had missed my flight. I had missed my flight in a foreign country! I wanted on that flight so bad as it would arrive in Venice in the afternoon so I could see the roads and signs in daylight. Next flight got me into Venice at 7pm. Great. And I don't mean "great" I was happy, I wasn't. All went well though until I got the rental car and I said I could drive a manual, which I used to own. Little did I know till the next day the reason I couldn't get out of the parking lot was because I was in second and sometimes in third gear. Yes, the car did a lot of jumping. And rental car workers pointing at me.

I called Larry. All the signs looked strange to me. He goes online to Google Maps again and directs me how to get to the highway. Suddenly, I'm at a toll booth and I hear Larry saying that I shouldn't be getting on a toll road! Well, I'm at the toll booth with flashing signs and I'm asking the machine how much. I know, it was a machine. It keeps speaking to me in French and the voice is getting louder and louder the longer I sit, and I have Larry in my ear saying that there are NO toll roads to get to the air base. DON'T GET ON THE TOLL ROAD! What was I to do as the machine kept getting louder . . . until I remembered – credit card. Cleared that hurdle. Now, the base is in between two small towns and there are no signs that show Aviano Air Base this way. Larry stays at the street level of

Google Maps all the while I drive to Aviano. I pass through several small towns and several roundabouts. Sure was glad Larry could tell me which road to take on the roundabouts. Sometimes there were six roads leading into the roundabout. Signage just wasn't the best for this American. Then I came into this small town and wha la. There was the church! It looked just like the imagine I saw at home. I didn't miss the right-hand turn either. And there were no signs that stated to turn. Got to the hotel and was told all restaurants are closed on Mondays, which it was a Monday. I had a package of crackers and didn't mind. I was happy that Larry was willing to stay on Google Maps for the hour to ensure I made it to my destinations. Traveling back to the airport wasn't very difficult as I did it during daylight hours. The only issue was the flight was canceled and to my good fortune they put me up in a hotel and fed me. Taxi to the hotel no rental car which pleased me.

Submitted by Sue Smith



LPG NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE

Neighborhood Watch is still in need of street captains. It takes very little of your time to be a street captain. It is an informal way of meeting your neighbors. Also, we need a coordinator. It mainly is to brief street captains of any issues in LPG every other month. It too takes very little of a person's time. If interested please contact Donna Mueller, the chair of the Neighborhood Watch Committee at donnakay917@hotmail.com.

"Courage is almost a contradiction in terms. It means a strong desire to live taking the form of readiness to die."—*G.K. Chesterton*

Anybody Could Have

This is the story about four people named, Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There were some important jobs to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do them. Anybody could have done them but, Nobody did them. Somebody got angry about that because they were Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do them, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do them. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.

Next Newsletter
August 15, 2022

Deadline for submissions is
August 1, 2022

Please limit articles to 1 page

Submit: to
suesmithpc@yahoo.com

"Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime."—*Adlai Stevenson II*

Stay Secure

- Lock all your doors (even screen doors)
- Lock your shed
- Lock your car
- Lock up your bicycle
- Take the keys out of the golf cart
- Lock the door to the garage