



# THE ELITE CHRONICLE

Volume 4, Issue 9

The Elitists—An FMCA Western Area Club

SEPTEMBER 2011

## CLUB OFFICERS

### President

*Bob Wagstrom*

### Vice President

*Roland Weber*

### Secretary/Treasurer

*Lorrie Gould*

### Membership

*Gigi Bost*

### National Director

*Dan Jones*

### Alternate

### National Director

*Jim Gould*

### Wagonmaster

*Bill Ozanne*

## PAST PRESIDENTS

2007 *Herb Breivik*

2005-2006 *Jim Gould*

2003-2004 *John Hill*

2001-2002 *Ed Staben*

1999-2000 *Gary Heliker*

1998 *Walter Hayes*

1997 *Bill Maxey*

1996 *Gary Funk*

1995 *Ernie Soper*

1994 *Betty Frary*

1993 *Dick Sandnes*

1992 *Bill Ulm*

1991 *Clint Smith*

1990 *T.J. Saxberg*

1989 *Jerry Keyes*

1988 *Roland Weber*

1986-1987 *Gene Pollock*

## BISHOP—MAMMOTH RALLY

September 29—October 5, 2011

### Article by Lorrie Gould

We were invited to join the Foretravel Motorcade California Chapter for their rallies in Bishop followed by the Town of Mammoth Lakes. It was a "Friends" rally which allowed us to join their rally. We all met in Bishop at Brown's Town Campground on Thursday and had our usual hearty appetizers affair. As with our club, the food was sumptuous and delicious. We all got along famously and Gloria Maxey was very impressive going around introducing herself to everyone she didn't know.



Friday was a free day and we all went off in different directions. We saw beautiful fall colors up at the Lake Sabrina area above Bishop. Norm Olson and Vivian Dice took the Ozanne's on a tour to the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest and ended up doing a really neat four wheel drive down that made Jim Gould jealous! The Ozanne's took

off to view the Indian writings and ended up halfway to Mammoth, never finding them. In the evening we had a steak barbeque with ice cream Sundays. Yummy!!! Afterwards the Sweet Adeline's put on a short singing show for us.



Saturday we went to the Tri County Fairgrounds, a few to the Choo Choo Swap Meet early, then all of us to the Fall Colors Classic Car Show. There were a lot of beautiful cars to view, mostly hot rods but several classic cars. In one of the buildings there was a craft show (I didn't see too many crafts but a lot of stuff to buy).

Sunday after breakfast about half of the group went up the hill to Mammoth Lakes and enjoyed a good Italian dinner.

Monday morning we drove down and took a short hike to Devil's Postpile

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## Future Rallies and Conventions



### JANUARY 2012

#### WESTERN AREA RALLY

January 11-15, 2012  
Riverside County  
Fair and National Date  
Festival  
Indio, California

### JUNE 2012

#### NORTHWEST AREA RALLY

June 21-24, 2012  
The Mill Casino on  
Coos Bay  
North Bend, Oregon

### AUGUST 2012

#### FMCA'S 87th FAMILY REUNION & MOTORHOME SHOWCASE

August 27-30, 2012  
Indiana State  
Fairgrounds  
Indianapolis, Indiana

## Next Elite Rallies

### VALENCIA

March 19- 23, 2012

San Diego, California

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National Monument and enjoyed a wonderful guided tour with a National Park naturalist. We learned a lot of interesting things and saw a lot of beautiful scenery. Devil's Postpile celebrated its 100th birthday this year.



Tuesday was a free day and several of us went on a tour of the Mammoth area and the Lakes Basin with a member of the Foretravel group who had lived in Mammoth almost all of her life. It was very interesting and even Jim and I (who live here) learned a few things we hadn't heard before. It was really cold and we were freezing between the car



and the various sites. The Maxey's went up 395 to visit Mono Lake and the visitor center there. Towards the evening it was getting very cold and an early snowstorm was forecast. Two of the motor homes left early to

avoid the morning departure in the snow. Wednesday morning it was snowing and believe it or not everyone stayed for breakfast before leaving for home. Everyone made it home safely and I was informed by Gloria that the snow turned to rain just a few miles down the road at Crowley Lake.

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by Bob Wagstrom

Thank you Lorrie and Jim for hosting a super rally in Bishop, CA and continuing on to Mammoth Lakes, CA!



Lorrie and Jim received lots of help from Nancy & Jerry Coleman of the Foretravel club. Lynn and I had a great time, I'm sure the rest of the Elitist (all four couples) that participated did as well. We enjoyed meeting the members of the Foretravel Motorcade Club in Bishop and those that continued on to Mammoth Lakes. In Mammoth Lakes we had local experts for tour guides, it is Lorrie and Jim's hometown. Kudos to them for a fine rally!

As I indicated above we had only five coaches at the rally! Another indication that we need new members, our ranks are getting thin.

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Without the Foretravel club members we would have had a very quiet rally. To repeat, we need new members and only you can bring in members that will enjoy our rallies.

Also remember that each of you should be a reporter for our award winning Elitist Chronicle. If you attended our rally tell the rest of our group what you did and why it was fun. Or maybe what you would have rather done. If you did not attend the rally because you had other fun events to attend, we would like to hear about your experience.

Once again I want to say, if my message sounds like I'm pressuring you, I am. It is only if we all support the club will it continue to be a club we all want to associate with. You do not need to do it by yourself. Get an idea, pass it by your friends and other club members, and soon you will have a committee to put on a rally or write an article for the Chronicle. Thank you for supporting the club.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the March rally in Valencia, CA hosted by Norm Olson and Vivian Dice. See 'Save the Date' in this issue of the Elite Chronicle.

**MARCH 19 – 23, 2012  
SAVE THIS DATE**

Norm Olson and Vivian Dice will be hosting a rally in Valencia, CA that week at the Valencia Travel Village. They have two great outings planned.

The first a guided tour of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library (Museum) in Simi Valley, as you may know, the museum also includes Air Force One, the Presidential plane.

Second is a tour of the Nethercutt Collection which contains over 50 Antique, Vintage, Black Iron and Classic automobiles. This is also a guided tour. Across the street from the Nethercutt Collection is the Nethercutt Museum that has over 120 Antique, Vintage, Black Iron and Classic automobiles. For the car buffs this is a special day! The rest of you will be impressed by Mr. Nethercutt's collection of autos. There also is a 1912 locomotive and Pullman rail car to see.

**This is a rally not to miss!**

Article by Bill Maxey

**10 THINGS WE LEARNED  
DURING THE BISHOP/  
MAMMOTH RALLY**

**1 –** One of the biggest sellers in drinking water is bottled in a place long known as "Dirty Socks", because of the local smell.

**2 –** A certain Mr. Mulholland, a man much revered as the far sighted pioneer that planned much of Los Angeles and insured our water supply, is also famed around Independence, CA as "that no good smooth talker that stole Owens Lake".



**3 –** The Elitists certainly don't have any corner on fun loving RVers. We met a great bunch of amiable and gracious people from the Foretravelers.

**4 –** When you are fortunate enough to park under the "bird poop-a-torium tree" your awnings will assume a whole new color scheme – as did the shirt of our president, Bob Wagstrom.

**5 –** Indecision when shopping at Schat's famous Bishop bakery can lead to lots of bread eating for over a month, and still ongoing. See next rally's newsletter for final day's count.

**6 –** Unlike your scribe, Mammoth Lakes has grown up, down, sideways, and a great deal more urbane since my last visit there in 1960. How

could there be so much change in only 51 years?

**7** – Skinny legs in shorts may not be the ideal get up for walking the trail around the Tufa formations at Mono Lake, but it does make for a record setting pace when enjoyed during a rapidly approaching snow storm.

**8** – Pine cones – big fat, snow laden ones – falling on the coach roof make for a sure fire, and cheap alarm clock, especially between 12 – 2 AM.

**9** – Several inches of wet snow on the coach awnings insure a somewhat unhasty departure on the last day of a rally.



**10** – Bacchus has to have been an early Elitist because we had great food and drinks at every meal.

Those of you that were smart enough to take in this event know what a great time we had, and those that didn't don't!!

“THANK YOU” Gould people for a great rally, car show,

gourmandizing and snow show.

Article by Bill Ozanne

The Foretravel group is a neat bunch to be around, sure wish we were 20 years younger, we would join up!



We made the car & swap meet show, but it was a lot of walking for Rusty so we didn't stay all day.



We were invited to go with Norm & Vivian to the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest, up to 4-wheel country. There was pavement one way and rocks and dirt coming home. We came out at the Laws Railroad Museum. I guess we were on an Edison repair road, but I don't see how they get any big trucks up those narrow dirt roads. We had lunch in the middle of the road, but two other 4-

wheelers came by and we had to move. The weather was great. Norm & Vivian are great to be with and he is a good driver!



We also went to Devil's Postpile with Bob & Lynn and had a nice time with them too. Several of our group walked to the top of the postpile, they must be in good shape.

Rusty and I took a ride out on Highway 6 trying to find Indian petroglyphs, but we only ended going for a long drive halfway up to Mammoth to Tom's Place and had a great lunch.

I have to say that you put on a great rally, snow and all.

I'm not a cold country person as we moved out here from Iowa in 1956 and we turned thirty out here, so we've been in the warmer part of the USA for some time. We can see the snow from our patio on the mountain tops and that is all right with me!

Article by Jim Gould

Being that I have a little extra space, I thought I might share

my frustration with the end of the rally.

As you all know, I'm pretty proud of my Foretravel motorhome and my racing garage floor! I only had about 2 blocks to go from the Mammoth RV Park to my warm garage.



So much snow had accumulated on the roof that my slide-out would not close properly.

Not being properly dressed for this surprise early season storm, I had to carefully crawl on the roof to remove the snow from the slide-out awning (a little too late as the awning uprights and locks got bent).

When we got home, the rear wheels without chains kept slipping on my slightly sloped driveway. Once in the garage, the photo above shows the roof snow that of course



melted leaving dirt on my race floor.



**NEWSLETTERS  
VIA E-MAIL**

Internet users can access the site of the Western Area of FMCA ([www.wafmca.com](http://www.wafmca.com)) and receive their *Elite Chronicle* under the tab, *Newsletters*. Additionally, newsletters are sent in *pdf* format to those who are able to receive attachments over the internet. The current newsletter can then be viewed on home computers and may be printed out on color printers. Members are encouraged to let the Membership Chairman know your email addresses or any changes.

**Attendees at the  
Bishop – Mammoth  
Rally**



- Jim & Lorrie Gould
- Bill & Gloria Maxey
- Norm Olson & Vivian Dice
- Bill & Rusty Ozanne
- Bob & Lynn Wagstrom

**EDITORIAL STAFF**

**Jim Gould, Editor/Publisher**  
PO Box 2764, Mammoth Lakes,  
CA 93546  
[lorriegould,jimgould@verizon.net](mailto:lorriegould,jimgould@verizon.net)

**Lorrie Gould, Assistant Editor**

**PHOTOGRAPHS BY:**

*Jim Gould*

