

ENTHUSIASM

RVer Audrey Ussery, shows off her TOOL hat!



HATS OFF TO OUR PRESENT RV BUILDERS!

We cannot thank these folks enough for all the work they put in at the Kriedeman site. 1) They worked all week before the Bikers came to help prep the house so the 33 bikers had something to do. 2) They supervised various groups installing insulation, wall board, roofing, and painting. It was like a busy bee hive that Saturday. 3) The next week the RVers also skipped their day off, worked until 4 PM on Saturday at the site & helped clean up after the Pig Roast. On Sunday, they brought gospel music to the site where they wanted to finish a project before leaving for Spokane.

These three couples who have helped here before are *fantastic, dedicated friends.*



RVer, Diane Gravlee, shows the new ReUse Store sign she painted!

***CONGRATULATIONS:** Verne & Judy Blalack are celebrating their 50th Anniversary this month with a host of family and friends! You have our Best! God Bless You!

EAGERNESS, EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE!!

By Barb Fisher

Three RV couples received a welcome back to the Silver Valley at a potluck at Mountain View Congregational Church on June 12. During the potluck, I had the chance to spend some time with them and get to know them better. *Shirley & Richard Harvey:* Although the Harvey's are from Texas, they started in Miami and have now taken part in "builds" in Texas, Georgia, New Mexico, South Dakota, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho! Shirley and Richard noticed that as you build with the family, you get *close* to them. This is the second year the Harveys have been in the Silver Valley.

Diane & George Gravlee: Diane & George are from South Carolina and have been involved in working with "builds" since 1993 working with 116 "builds" in 41 states. This is their second time in the Silver Valley also.

To the George and Diane, it is a *Calling*, and brings with it *many special memories!* They helped with the "100th build" in Alliance, Ohio and for their 46th anniversary; they were given a special party by their RV friends.

Audrey & Bernie Ussery: They are from Lom Poc, California and their first "build" was in 1998. Altogether, they have helped with 51 builds, including builds in New Zealand, Washington, Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, South Carolina, Indiana, and Kentucky. Audrey and Bernie feel that being a Care-A-Vanner is something they *can* do and especially enjoy meeting the families. One of their special memories is of a man in Billings who worked at Wal-Mart in the evenings and helped with "builds" in the daytime. He worked with *no* fingers! One of the Usserys' special memories happened ten years ago when they were in Kentucky. They bought an eight year old girl a porcelain doll—her first doll. The girl is now 18 and in college. They enjoy going back and seeing people where they've worked! After we finished and I began writing this, I thought, "We just touched the tip of the iceberg—I'm sure they have many more stories and could write *books* about their work on *builds* and their *adventures* as RVers!!

**Fill-in Editors Note:* Barb Fisher's article should inspire all of us to head down to the present build site at the 204 Hill Street location in Smelterville and get acquainted with these RVers. Bring a smile, a hammer and help out while you're at it! I'd bring my computer, but I don't think that's the type of help they need right now!

Janet Harpel

Biking, speaking, building (Photos by Judy)

Susan Pratt (from her blog) FCBA cyclist

Today was magnificent. Yes, our shirt says we bike, speak and build. We have been biking some of the most beautiful and challenging routes I have ever been on for the past six days and speaking at some of the churches. Yet, this day, we did our first of many builds. It started out with two very generous gestures.



John Tallman picked us from the school in a stately green Fort Sherman bus. He drove us to the nearest McDonalds (in Kellogg), where McDonalds treated all thirty four cyclists and crew to breakfast. There we met two new members of our group, Caleb Hopwood and Jim McCracken. Caleb will be here this weekend and Jim will be riding with us for the week.

All satiated, we continued on to Darnell Kriederman's home. There was no time for rest. We divided up into four teams: painters, roofers, sheet-rockers and insulators.



Ten of our crew painted the inside of Darnell's house, while the other teams put up sheetrock in her basement, put on a new roof on her shed and put insulation and OSB on the exterior of her house. With an extraordinary amount of teamwork, we accomplished our tasks and more. We even were able to install a couple of windows.



Karen Fuller serves pies for bikers at Silver Valley Worship Center in Smelterville.

I had so much fun. I ended on the top of a metal roof nailing studs in order to support the insulation and the OSB. Because the roof was wet from rain, I had the opportunity of a lifetime ... to slide down the roof, but managed to stop myself before falling off the edge.



Everyone clapped as youngest bike member, Blake Smith, hangs on long enough to staple the wrap under the eave.

A Special Thanks: Help for *Bike Adventurers*

Wallace School District, St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, McDonalds of Kellogg, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Wallace Inn, Osburn Seventh Day Adventist, Silver Valley Assembly of God Church, New Hope Assembly of God Church, Sierra Silver Mine Tour, Northern Pacific Railroad Museum, Wayside Market, Fort Sherman Academy, John Tallman,

Special thanks: R'Gean Lillibridge for coordinating the Bikers' stay.

A Big Thank You: Provided Lunches for Builders @ Smelterville work site: St. Rita's Catholic Church, Penny Michael, Bethany Lutheran Church, Osburn Christian Center, Silver Valley Worship Center, Mt. View Congregational Church, Pinehurst Church of Jesus Christ LDS, Osburn Community Baptist Church, American Lutheran Church and Real Life Ministries

***Calendar:**

Board & Committees meet Tuesday July 12, 6PM, Mt View Congregational Church

***Wish List**

- ❖ Fund Raising Committee members
- ❖ PR Committee members
- ❖ Volunteer helpers with the ReUse Store
- ❖ Volunteer Part Time Construction Supervisors
- ❖ Volunteer Assistant Bookkeeper

Little Shop Raffle Drawing

During a family reunion over the fourth last year, Judy sold a lot of tickets to her relatives. RVer, Shirley Harvey drew the winning ticket for the raffle at the Pig Roast. The winners are relatives, Todd & Amy Nelson, from Arizona. When he learned that his winnings were worth the \$1000 that Verne had offered, Todd chose to donate that \$ back to SV Fuller Center. Wow! *Thank you Todd & Amy.* The Little Shop will now become Judy's garden shed.

THOUGHTS ABOUT GIVING

By Verne Blalack

While a freshman at the University of Idaho, I lived with a scholar from India. He said that when he first arrived in the United States, he didn't understand why people were always in a hurry. Later he realized they were in a hurry because they were trying to catch the almighty dollar! He was right, of course. Our capitalistic society teaches and encourages us to get more and more and more. However, America also teaches us how to give.

38% of US giving involves religious giving—giving in essence to God. So, many of us learn to give in church. The next largest amount of giving (15%) goes to institutions of higher learning. Most alumni identify with and many support the institution they attended. This is a type of social group giving. America is a nation that creates an almost unbelievable number of volunteer organizations such as the Lions Clubs, the local PTA, etc. As a member of such a group, we support its worthy projects and usually support project of many other organizations. In 2000, 78% of adults made a charitable gift. Individual giving averaged 1.8 percent of income. Most of this is given to social goals we identify with. We support our family, our friends, our community, and our country—especially in times of disaster.

In the United Kingdom 25% of giving goes to international aid. With increasing education and involvement in world affairs, our outlook on giving is bound to broaden. More and more, we realize that many of the world's citizens are living in absolute poverty (incomes of 1 to 2 dollars a day). The money we spend on a kid's video game might support a 3rd world family a week. Most of us are fully engaged in making a living, raising children, etc. We don't have much time to decide all those intellectual giving questions such as: To whom should I give? Should I give volunteer time or money or both? Should I give anonymously? Is giving less than an auction item is worth really giving? If my business gives to receive needed publicity, is that really giving? Is it OK to feel morally superior if I give more than others do? When should I give? Maybe I should wait until I die and give through my will. I might need expensive medical services before I die. And, how much should I give?

In answering these questions, we must face the fact that we are not willing to become like Mother Teresa and are not as moral or altruistic, as we like to believe ourselves to be. Be this as it may—let's not stop giving. Sure we give to receive material, spiritual, and psychological rewards, but that's OK. We're humans not gods and other fellow humans need our help. So let's give whatever, to whomever, however, and whenever we feel comfortable doing so. Like it is said, sooner or later we must give our all. The only choice we have is whether we should make those decisions now or let someone else make them for us later.

Shoshone Base Camp Servants

By Margaret & Marcie



Three groups attended a servant event through Camp Shoshone in mid June. The groups consisted of; the McAllister family, members of the Faith Lutheran church of Nebraska and Redeemer Lutheran church of Washington. A team of six served under Verne with the Fuller Center in the Silver Valley.

We came for four days to work on a house under the supervision of Verne. Everyone enjoyed learning different construction skills each day. Verne showed incredible patience. He took a group of people knowing nothing about construction and after four days of work we had put siding up, reconstructed the floor, and built a new roof. Verne and the others at the Fuller Center were always extremely grateful, greeted us with a smile, and never lost patience after the countless bent nails and less than straight cuts with the saw. We couldn't have picked a better organization to work under during our time at Camp Shoshone.

We thank these businesses for supporting our newsletter.

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Memorials

Marie Carver in memory of Mary Ann Palmer
 Verne & Judy Blalack in memory of Mary Ann Palmer
 Patricia & Donald Namara in memory of Terry Gosline
 Moe & Joyce Pellissier in memory of Stephanie Pellissier

Greater Blessings Donations

Verne & Judy Blalack, & Josephine Davis



Verne and Kevin & Adam Hutchings unload Vickie Orsburn's donation left from her garage sale!

Coming Up: July 13-14 @ the Dena Mora Rest Area
Needed: 4 Couples to serve & Tons of Cookies:
Cookie Drop areas: Real Life Café in Pinehurst, Kellogg Guest House Inn & the Wallace Inn
Thank you: Trident Financial/Cash Donation

Here's Help for SVFCH . . .

- ❖ I'd like to join the "300 Club" and pledge at least \$10 per month for one year. Please note 300 on your check.
- ❖ Here is my pledge for \$ _____ per month for one year.
- ❖ Here is my gift of \$ _____.
- ❖ I have a house and/or land to donate.
- ❖ I can make a no-interest loan for \$ _____. Please call about working out the details.
- ❖ I can provide construction materials either discounted or at no cost.
- ❖ I would like to help with construction and/or committee work. Please call me to help or send a volunteer form.

Name _____ Phone _____

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Swede Little joins the RVers, Bernie Ussery, George Gravlee, Audrey Ussery, Shirley Harvey, Diane Gravlee, and Richard Harvey at lunch break.



Lunches for RVers Provided By:

St. Rita's Catholic Church, Penny Michael, Bethany Lutheran Church, Osburn Christian Center, Silver Valley worship Center, Mt. View Congregational Church, Church of Jesus Christ LDS, Osburn Community Baptist, American Lutheran Church, Real Life Ministries



The Pig Roast servers are Gary & Chris Dishman, Care-A-Vanners who have served here several years in the past. They decided to surprise Verne & me by showing up at the Pig Roast. I immediately put them to work as servers. :-)

Pig Roast

Barney's Sooper Center, Harvest Foods, Stein's Family Foods, Yoke's Foods, Wal-Mart, Lake City Harmonizers, Thunderbird BBQ, Pig Roast helpers: Amethyst Pelham, Swede Little, Capri Ball, Ron Boothe, Terry Sverdsten, Ruth & Kaitlyn Miller, Alex Eaton, and RV Builders

- I do not wish to be on your mailing list.
- I do not wish a receipt or thank-you.

Scenes of “Ride the Wall”



Julie Zook & Linda Piekarski help with registration.



Bikers check their gear before “Riding The Wall”



Moe & Joyce Pellissier visit with Rick Gilman at the BBQ following the “Ride.



Joe Peak gives his orientation before bikes take off.

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