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RV Lifestyles  
Issue 157

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Publishers: Jaimie Hall Bruzenak and Alice Zyetz  
<http://www.rvhometown.com>  
Blog: RV Home Yet? <http://blog.RVLifestyleExperts.com>  
Columnists: Tom Vineski, Alice Zyetz

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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>.

You can read this issue online in its entirety at  
[http://www.rvhometown.com/HTML/Newsletter/JUNE\\_2008\\_Pt\\_2.pdf](http://www.rvhometown.com/HTML/Newsletter/JUNE_2008_Pt_2.pdf) The links are live. Hold your mouse over a link and you'll be able to click on it to go there.

Find links to back issues at [http://www.rvhometown.com/HTML/Newsletter/rv\\_lifestyle\\_newsletter.htm](http://www.rvhometown.com/HTML/Newsletter/rv_lifestyle_newsletter.htm)

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IMPORTANT: Do not reply to this e-mail address. You can contact the publisher/editor at calamityjamie @ gmail or youshoulda @ aol.com

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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1. JAIMIE'S VIEW

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We welcome our new subscribers! Please pass this newsletter on to friends who might enjoy reading it.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July is almost here! Are you looking for a place where you can hunker down over the busy weekend? Last year we were in Minnesota, parked in one of George's friend's driveway. His annual high school reunion was on the 4<sup>th</sup>. This year we'll stay at our homebase rather than venture out.



We spent three days in Winslow, AZ last week. We traveled up to the Hopi reservation plus visited Homolovi Ruins State Park where the Hopi had lived along the Little Colorado River before moving up to the mesas. See our blog, RV Home Yet? <http://blog.rvlifestyleexperts.com> for more about our visit.

Our new Web site, RVLifestyleExperts.com is coming along. Our shopping cart is working. Give us a look-see!

This month Tom and Nancy discuss the impact of high fuel prices on RVing. They also give you a source for a sun oven, if you'd like a way to beat the heat.

Also find resources to add enjoyment and interest to your travels - plus one that could make a huge difference if you are exploring in a city - find a clean restroom! See what readers think is the most important factor in choosing an RV park for an overnight stay. The results surprised me; I thought price would be tops.

Safe travels,

Jaimie

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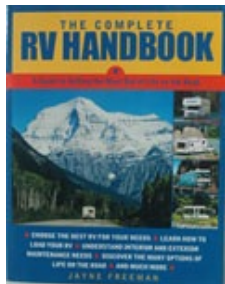
The information presented in this ezine is for use at your own risk. RV Lifestyle Newsletter makes no warranty to completeness, accuracy, or fitness for any purpose. Use common sense and take normal precautions in how you use this information.

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## 2. AT RVHOMETOWN.COM:

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FEATURED BOOK: The Complete RV Handbook by Jayne Freeman



THE COMPLETE RV HANDBOOK combines RVing fundamentals with advanced topics and innovative solutions that will appeal to America's 30 million RVers. It is based on Jayne's extensive RVing experience and her interviews with hundreds of others. Jayne Freeman shows you how to select the most appropriate RV, plan for excursions of varying lengths, and arrange to be away from home for any length of time. Jayne offers tips for dealing with unexpected situations, and help in choosing the best destinations and avoiding the worst. Its goal is to help the reader get the most pleasure from the RV experience with the least hassles. Read more or purchase at [http://www.rvhometown.com/HTML/RVAC/RVAC\\_FREEMAN.htm](http://www.rvhometown.com/HTML/RVAC/RVAC_FREEMAN.htm)

READ OUR BLOG: RV Home Yet? <http://blog.rvlifestyleexperts.com> (Note: this is a change in URL. Rebookmark if you had the old address saved. You can also subscribe and receive email updates when an entry is added.)

- RVs - traveling motel rooms?
- Hopiland - a step back in time
- RVs going the way of covered wagons?
- Rt 66 - Standing on the Corner

- Will the downturn change the RV industry?
- Givin' them away
- RVs for the homeless in affluent Santa Barbara

SURVEY RESULTS: What is the #1 factor you look for in choosing an RV park for an overnight stay?

- 5% - Close to the highway
- 0% - Decent restroom facilities
- 18% -Availability of Wi-Fi or Internet
- 12% -Sites that accommodate a large RV
- 24% -Price
- 11% -A member of a camping club that gives discounts
- 3% -Swimming pool and/or spa
- 0% - Recreation for kids
- 27% - Location- where we want to travel

NEW SURVEY AT RVHometown.com: If you were to purchase an RV in the very near future, what feature would be at the top of your list? Vote at <http://www.rvhometown.com>

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BE ON THE ALERT! U.S. Marshals are looking for the following vehicle believed to be driven by fugitive Samuel Israel, III. Israel is wanted for failing to surrender to serve a 20 year sentence. He is traveling in a 2007 coach Freelander recreational vehicle, NY license plate: EEN-5973, color: white, Vin: 1GBJG31U451240922. Sam Israel has been known to use the aliases Sam Ryan and David S. Clapp.

This vehicle has a hydraulic lift on the rear which may be carrying a blue 2005 Yamaha scooter. There may be body damage on rear passenger side. Vehicle was last seen on June 6, 2008 in Westchester County,NY. Israel may be at RV parks, camp grounds, or highway rest areas. See the wanted poster for Israel's description. [http://www.usdoj.gov/marshals/investigations/major\\_cases/israel.pdf](http://www.usdoj.gov/marshals/investigations/major_cases/israel.pdf)

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3. COLUMN: FULL-TIME RVING: MORE THAN BEAUTIFUL SCENERY # 59 - 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. I am fortunate to have the input of three RV women golfers: Patsy Cook, Fran Rayner, and Judy Rinehimer—plus Fran's husband Bill as channeled through her.

When asked why they play, they all said they love the challenge of the game. "It's you against the course, which is different in each location," says Patsy. "You contend with tall or short grasses water holes, sand traps, and trees. It's a huge challenge but when you do it right it is a great feeling." Golfers also like playing with others and they love the beauty of the scenery whether walking or riding. Judy adds, "My home park doesn't allow carts so it's a great source of exercise."

Finding a place to carry their clubs is a challenge for RV golfers. For Fran and Bill that question is one they always consider before buying a new rig or passenger vehicle. In their almost 40-foot Monaco, they use their big bays underneath to store the clubs. Patsy who travels by herself in Sweet Pea, her 23-foot Winnebago, tried to put her clubs on the floor in front of the passenger seat, but couldn't see the side mirror. So she put them in the seat with the seat belt and a bungee cord around them. "I've had some comments from people I meet about my co-pilot," she says.

Judy also had problems when she and her husband traveled in a 22' Class C with very little storage, Her clubs wound up in the top bunk with her husband. "We often joked my husband slept with my clubs more than he slept with me!" Judy says.

Finding golf courses as they travel has not been difficult. Bill will ask at the campground where they are parked. When they traveled in the Maritimes, he was part of a foursome that made it a point to scope out courses at each stopping place. Currently all of them are going to the Escapees Rally in Wyoming. Golf will be one of the activities. Right now they are at a pre-rally and spending time playing. Photo is of Judy, Fran and two other friends, Gloria Goss and Dianne Gruelle. They are among a group of 15 RV men and women golfers at the pre-rally. Although no one mentioned going online to find a course, I discovered an excellent site that describes public and private courses in all 50 states. Visit Golf Nationwide [<http://www.golfnationwide.com>].

Finding partners is easy while traveling. Just go to a course, sign up for a tee time as a single and you will be matched up with two or three others. Most of the people are friendly and gracious. They are all there to have a good time. And they do. Sounds like a typical RV experience. Doing something in the open air with congenial people. What could be bad?

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:

"Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Willing is not enough; we must do." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"How different it would be if we looked at the earth as our mother. Do you treat the planet with the same love, care, respect and honor that you treat your mother?" Peter Walsh, expert in organizational design.

#### KNOWLEDGE QUIZ:

1. Which RV manufacturers have gone out of business this year? A. National RV B. Alfa Leisure C. Travel Supreme D. Airstream
2. One item that someone pulling a 5<sup>th</sup> wheel needs to more conscious of than a driver of a car is A. Stopping distance B. Height of the vehicle C. How wide a turn you need to make to get around a corner or obstacle D. How close you park to another vehicle so you have room to leave

FUEL CALCULATOR: KOAs fuel calculator allows you to see how much more a trip would cost if fuel prices increase. Enter the current price per gallon, then the estimated price per gallon plus your mileage and length of trip or annual mileage and see just how much more it costs.  
<http://www.koa.com/where/fuelestimator.asp>

CHUCKLE: This warning label was found on an iron-on T-shirt transfer: "Do not iron while wearing shirt." Duh!

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5. COLUMN: SOLAR AND OTHER THINGS

Tom and Nancy Vineski

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22 June 2008

Happy Summer Solstice...

We trust you are warm and sunny:) Here in SoCal we wish rain was an option as temps continue well above seasonal normals while the Mississippi basin continues to tread water and hope. We haven't heard much from the summer RVing community as those friends that were traveling have done so and are setting up summer living at their workkamper and volunteer summer destinations. We did read an online board of a few who were continuing travels to the northeast US & Canada, and Alaska, but many appeared to be rethinking summer plans due to fuel costs. Somehow, I don't think we'll see much of a downward departure anytime soon, and probably that is good thing long range for the country.(Of course, there is an election forthcoming...) It will certainly inspire the innovation and changes long needed and help us awaken to reality of the world as a finite and precious place. Fulltime RVing is a great means to this vision, as well.

The RVing industry is going through some changes as the demographics appear to continue to favor the high end of the market, along with what appears to be increasing number of "weekend warrior" type rigs, the toy haulers and recreation crowds. Several major brands such as National, Alfa and Western RV have closed their doors. Locally, a large national chain RV retailer/repair facility has dropped its hourly shop rate considerably while offering all kinds of deals for financing new and used rigs. **We're kind of isolated this summer from much of the traditional traveling RVers so we welcome any observations from others about the state of RVing in America 2008. Please contact us with your thoughts and observations!**

As for us, we've undertaken an energy audit of the park where we're staying, looking at ways to reduce energy waste and increase efficiency in the basic operations here at the park. This has involved review of lighting, timers, water and pool heating, water pumping, irrigation and even landscaping plants. It's been a lot of fun, a good way to learn about the region and very rewarding. We continue to fascinate the locals with our "high tech" sun oven and the many delights we cook while keeping the heat outside the rig. It's always a surprise when folks gush over the cooker as some esoteric piece of otherworldly technology. We continue to share our cooking experiences, recipes, sources and even encourage folks to "build their own" from plans and ideas at the updated solarcooking site: <http://www.wiki.solarcooking.org/>

Hoping you're having a great beginning to your summer. Happy trails from 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. Which of these RV manufacturers have gone out of business this year? All but Airstream.

2. Height of vehicle. For an article on learning to safely tow a 5<sup>th</sup> wheel RV see <http://transinnova.net/how-to-learn-to-safely-tow-a-5th-wheel-rv.html>

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## 6. RV RESOURCES

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FIND GREAT EATS: In *USA Weekend*, several books were mentioned that suggest places to eat along your travels.

- ***Feasting on Asphalt: The River Run*** by Alton Brown- along the Mississippi River
- ***Hamburger America*** by George Motz - 100 best hamburgers made of freshly ground beef and served in a historically significant burger joint
- ***BBQ Joints: Stories and Recipes from the Barbeque Belt*** by David Gelin - focuses on independent joint
- ***Pacific Northwest Wining and Dining*** by Braden Rex-Johnson - recipes, photos, wine suggestions

FINDING THE UNUSUAL: ***Oddball Wisconsin: A guide to some really strange places***. If you are looking for more unusual sights, this book can help you plan your journey and locate them. Other states are also in this series including Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Colorado and Florida.

FIND A TOILET! If you are touring outside of your RV, finding a clean restroom can be a challenge. Mizpee.com has a database of 18 U.S. and Canadian cities. You can access it via your cellphone. Go to <http://www.mizpee.com/mizpeeweb/welcome.do> to get set up or search.

SEND/RECEIVE POSTCARDS: Postcrossing.com, modeled after Book Crossing, is a way to send and receive postcards from all over the world. You register the card you send and log in any you receive. A fun way to get real mail full of surprises! Read more at <http://www.postcrossing.com>

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## 7. RVs IN THE NEWS

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MONOCO COACH LOOKS TO RV PARKS: To help offset losses in sales of RVs, Monoco is planning to expand their resorts. See what their reasoning is at <http://www.kgw.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D91FLMK00.html>

ANOTHER RV HOMELESS PARK: Last month we mentioned the RV accommodations for the homeless in Santa Barbara. Other cities are studying this idea. Autsin was one such city. However, nearby residents weren't notified about the plans so they protested at a neighborhood meeting. The plans may end up suspended. <http://www.statesman.com/news/content/news/stories/local/06/21/0621rvpark.html>

LUCKY CAMPERS: Last week an RV with 11 passengers pulled over to make repairs after hitting a deer. A policeman stopped to assist. Then a driver of a Little Caesar's Pizza tractor-trailer truck hit the RV, cutting it in half and pinning the police car underneath. No one was killed. Read details and see a photo at <http://www.kctv5.com/traffic/16650996/detail.html#>

EXTREME RV RECALLS THIRTEEN MODELS OF RV: Potential Fire Hazard from Refrigerant-Extreme RV is recalling 12,951 MY 2003-2004 RVs due to a defect in the boiler tubes of the refrigerators. Pressurized coolant solution could be released into an area where an ignition source is present. Release of the pressurized coolant under this type of condition could result in the ignition of the coolant, and fire. Thirteen models are included in the recall, manufactured between 1997 and 2004. See [http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rc\\_ID=08V252000&summary=true&PrintVersion=NO](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rc_ID=08V252000&summary=true&PrintVersion=NO) for specifics.

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## 8. READER CONTRIBUTIONS

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Do you have feedback on the contents of this ezine? Suggestions for future topics or resources? An RVing question to ask? Information to share? Write to me! Send your suggestions, praise, criticism and feedback to me at calamityjaimie @ gmail.com. Put RV Lifestyles in the subject line.

COMMENT: Dick suggested this article about an RV group for black RVers. The National African-American RVers Association <http://www.naarva.com> held their rally in Washington recently. They want to encourage more people of color to RV and camp. One study showed that out of 30 million campers, only 300,000 were black. Find out one big difference between white and black rallies by reading the article. [http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2004438673\\_blackcampers26.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2004438673_blackcampers26.html)

READER WEB SITES & BLOGS: We list your blog or Web site here. Send your information to calamityjaimie @ gmail.com with RV Lifestyles in the subject line.

One of the blogs I follow is by RV Boondocker Explorer at <http://rv-boondocker-explorer.blogharbor.com>

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^.....^RV LIFESTYLES^.....^

AVAILABLE AT RVHOMETOWN

- \*\* Support Your RV Lifestyle! An Insider's Guide to Working on the Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition with or without the companion CD (price reduced)
- \*\* RV Traveling Tales: Women's Journeys on the Open Road
- \*\* Working on the RV Road DVD
- \*\* Job Search Notebook as recommend in Support Your RV Lifestyle!
- \*\* The Woman's Guide to Solo RVing in CD or eBook format and now in print!
- \*\* Taking the Mystery out of RV Writing in CD
- \*\* Hall & Zyetz collection on CD: The Woman's Guide to Solo RVing and RV Traveling Tales
- \*\* Taking the Mystery Out of Retiring to an RV by Alice Zyetz in CD or eBook format
- \*\* You Shoulda Listened to Your Mother by Alice Zyetz- for the young business woman. Great gift.
- \*\* Malia's RV Checklist
- \*\* Frugal RVing or Pinching Pennies without Getting Bruised and Other Advice from the Road by Adrienne Kristine
- \*\* I've Got a Convection Oven in My RV. Now What? E-book by Adrienne Kristine. Now in print!
- \*\* Casino Camping 3rd ed. by Jane Kenny
- \*\* Camping with the Corps of Engineers by Jane Kenny
- \*\*\* and several books authored by members of the RV Authors' Co-op. Check them out!

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^.....^RV LIFESTYLES^.....^

HOUSEKEEPING

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