

*It's More Than Living... It's A Lifestyle...*

## On the Road Again...

Members of the SCOV Sundowners RV Club keep their wheels rolling.

By Joy Huxtable

You might be surprised to learn that RVing is a lifestyle shared by many residents in Sun City. Did you ever wonder what it would be like to travel around the country in an RV? Well, numerous SCOV homeowners found their way to our community during a road trip in their motorhome, fifth wheel, trailer or van. SCOV RVers often take to the open roads during the summer months. They visit their families, national and state parks or maybe only travel as far as the Arizona White Mountains. When they are not traveling, they enjoy the camaraderie of fellow RVers who live in our community.

SCOV's Sundowners RV Club recently celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a party where former and current members came together to share RV stories and reminisce. Currently, the club has 127 members and holds monthly meetings from October through May. The meetings provide a time to connect with fellow RVers and learn about the latest in RV accessories; how to handle RV maintenance, repair and safety issues and to discuss plans for the next club trip.

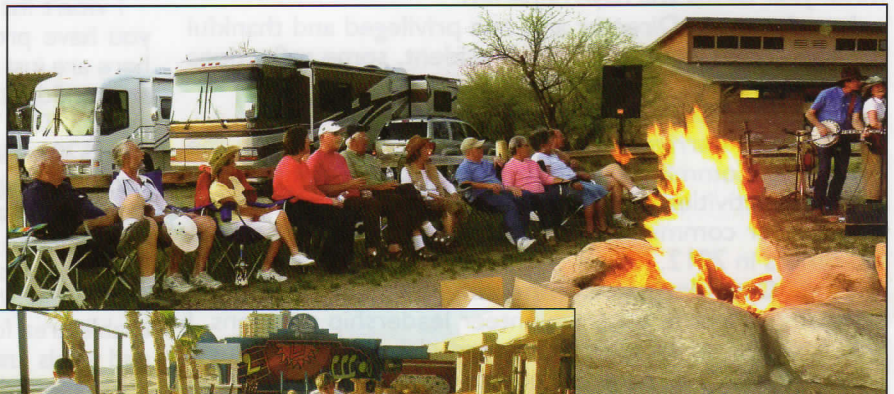
For Sundowners president, Dennis Kraft, "Participation in the RV Club embodies a wide range of the active adult lifestyle. Club trips have included hiking, birding, visiting historical areas, attending the theater, dining out, off-road excursions and more. We have members who don't even own an RV, but want to take advantage of our club's wide-ranging activities and social events." Contact Dennis at 612-799-4047 to learn more about the club.

Long time member, Jim Wisda, explained, "There are so many advantages to being a member of the fun-loving Sundowners RV Club. We have met many wonderful people with shared interests. Fun club activities have included exciting trips to interesting locations, great sightseeing, campfires, social events and entertainment."

Remember Johnny Cash's song, *I've Been Everywhere Man*? The Sundowners have taken group trips everywhere from the Olympic Peninsula to the San Antonio Fiesta, from the Albuquerque Balloon Festival to Branson, Missouri. The club has also traveled south to Rocky Point, Mata Ortiz and Teacapan, Mexico. You might find the club in California exploring San Diego, Borrego Springs, Pismo Beach or the Monterey area. Off road four-wheel drive trips in the National Parks of Utah, visiting Silver City, New Mexico and participating in the '49ers Encampment event in Death Valley were some of the special club-sponsored trips. Hal Hufford, a past RV club president, stated, "Participation in the RV Club has encouraged Sharon and I to visit places that we would never have

gone on our own. Every day on an RV trip is a new adventure."

Club RV trips are planned and led by members called Wagonmasters. They pick a place to visit and select an RV Park where the group will camp. Wagonmasters plan optional activities in the area and group potluck dinners. According to Dianne Wisda, who has been the Wagonmaster for several fun trips, "It is really easy to plan an outing for people in the



Top photo: SCOV RV Club members enjoy a camp fire and live music at an outing in Catalina State Park.



Left photo: SCOV RV Club members dine at Rocky Point, Mexico. Photos by Vic Huxtable.

Sundowners RV Club. They are so flexible and roll with the punches. They deal with adversity well but are thrilled when they find an RV park that isn't located next to a railroad track. Members' potluck dishes are often culinary delights!"

Most RVers have funny stories of their misadventures while RVing. A few years ago, the club instituted the I Screwed-Up award. This is such a prestigious award that many members will report on their own mistakes just to be able to proudly display this special award in their RV.

Sundowners hold several fun social events each year. However, their annual April Campout and BBQ at Catalina State Park with live western music around the campfire is the highlight of the year! Marge Allen, a past club president, observed, "I don't think I've ever belonged to a more interesting, fun and caring group in my life. Members look forward to not only the RV trips, but to the social interaction we experience while on these trips. Just traveling to a place isn't necessarily what it's all about; social time before dinner, group potlucks, campfires in the evening, scouting new areas, that's what it's all about."

If you see your neighbors loading up their RV, they are probably humming Willie Nelson's famous song, *On the Road Again*.