

Issue 1, Vol 1: News, views, and all sorts of how-to's for lovers of teardrops and other 'lil trailers

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T A L E S & T R A I L S



Welcome to the new  
**Tales and Trails...**

*A letter from Doug and Geoff...*

On behalf of both of us, Doug Wingate and Geoff Kooris, and our informative and talented contributing editors and correspondents, we're proud and happy to welcome you to the first issue of the new Tales and Trails magazine. We're now in a full page format, and we're delivered electronically. We have some great articles and interviews in this first issue.

This is the first of two free issues. After you receive the second issue towards the end of January 2011, we'll be going on a subscription basis. The cost will be \$30 per year for six issues, and at the end of the year every subscriber will receive a printed directory full of information about your fellow campers. Where they live, what they tow, their club affiliations - the works. Of course, being listed in the Tales and Trails Directory is completely voluntary. We'll have more on the Directory as the year progresses. To get the paid subscription, please send \$30 via Paypal to [gkurz128@optonline.net](mailto:gkurz128@optonline.net). Put 'Tales and Trails' in the note section. You'll receive a confirmation email within 24 hours.



**Needed for the next issue:** Articles about your own camping adventures, club news, and schedule of camping events for the upcoming season. Help us get the word out! In addition - we're hoping you'll share with us your own special rebuild or construction techniques that might be of help to our fellow campers. Please email any and all of the above with pictures, if you have them, to [gkooris@gmail.com](mailto:gkooris@gmail.com)

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# A Gathering of Friends

## End of the Season

*Submitted by Alan Hill*

The camping season ends quickly here in northern New England. For the last five years we have held an end of season ritual. A gathering of friends that varies from year to year depending on schedules and priorities. There are a handful of us who have made it every year to celebrate friendship, another year of camping and to moan about the impending winter.

The last two years this event has been held at MiTeJo campground in Milton, NH. Before I expound on the virtues of MiTeJo, I have to interject a bit of personal history. Among the best of places and people that have to do with NH is a native son from neighboring Merrimack County. Tom Rush. I first heard Tom Rush when I was maybe ten or twelve years old and his music has been a major part of my life ever since. So what does this have to do with the End of the Season? Well, for me, a lot. You see there is a song called "The Urge for Going". It was written by Joni Mitchell but there is no finer performance of it than that by Tom Rush. Every year when school started for me, and then for my kids, it signaled the end of summer. Then and now, after Labor Day, the song invariably shows up in my head and the CD (I wore out the vinyl) comes off the shelf.

MiTeJo Campground is the consummate place for our gathering. The amenities are nothing short of perfect. We set up in the group field. The term "field" is a very loose interpretation. It's more like a finely manicured lawn. The sites each have water and electric. It's a short walk to the spotless bath and shower facilities. There is an enormous open sided pavilion right there for our use. And use it we did. We



gathered there for a group breakfast and again for a pot luck dinner. The campground is located on a pond for anyone interested in water sports and there is an athletic field available although our athletic activities seem to be limited these days. We have never found more accommodating hosts than Gary and Susan. They were always available for anything we needed. The entire campground is full of unique planters and tree carvings. And be sure to wander around to see "stuff". What a collection of cool old tractors and implements!

We had another great gathering of old and new friends this year. Not enough can be said about what it means to get together with friends around a campfire. So if you're in Northern New England the weekend after Labor Day you'll know where to find us. We are a group who love teardrops and vintage campers but it doesn't matter if you're in a tent or a class A we'll find room for you.

Til' next year:

I'll ply the fire with kindlin'  
And pull the blankets to my chin  
And I'll lock the vagrant winter out  
And bolt my wanderin' in  
I'd like to call back summertime  
And have her stay for just another month  
or so  
But she's got the urge for going  
And I guess she'll have to go

- Joni Mitchell

# Tin Can Tourists North East Rally

March 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> marked the third annual TCT Northeast Rally held at Sampson State Park in Romulus NY and by most accounts was the best rally to date. With nearly perfect weather, a great assortment of vintage trailers, hard to beat food, super entertainment, and outstanding participation by everyone, what more could you want?

With 43 units registered attendance was down a bit from last year with graduations being the main cause. Nonetheless those that attended were enthusiastic and made more fun than twice their numbers.

Starting on Thursday night with pizza and beverages followed by a very in depth presentation given by Jerry Freitag on the history of Scotty trailers. Jerry brought a wealth of literature, photographs, and memorabilia as well as a rare film showing how Mr. Serro put together his little wonders way back in the early 60's. Many Scotty owners were present with models ranging from Jerry's tiny 1957 teardrop to a new manufactured 2008 model. Friday came off bright and sunny with a on site flea market of vintage and camping items. This was started at last year's rally and seemed to

grow not only in size but also in the variety of items. Friday was also a 'free' day to explore the area and visit it's many attractions. By late afternoon the chili started coming into the main recreation hall with over 20 pots to be



sampled. When the smoke cleared, the Clayson family from Cuba NY took the top honors winning a nice smoker/cooker combination donated by Will and Pat McDougal. On a side note, Brandon Clayson along with his parents won the unofficial 'Friday Night Lights' display with an almost uncountable amount of wattage on their little 'Arrow' trailer. You would have to see it to believe it. After the chili settled in the crowd was treated to the traditional Irish music of 'Traonach' featuring TCT member Mark Bickford. Get out the Guinness (many did)!



And yet for a third day more fine weather greeted everyone for Saturday, the 'big' day. With trailer judging and the public invited folks got busy making their trailer and campsite as attractive as possible. Displays ranged from the rustic to a fully accessorized version of an early 60's full blown picnic. Each site had a chance to vote for their favorite 'Best in Show' trailer and this year the vote was closer than ever.

**Best in Show**  
1963 Shasta Airflyte  
Don & Barbara Stucke and family

**1st Runner Up**  
1960 Shasta Airflyte  
Mike and Kathy Marshall

**2nd Runner Up**  
1961 Winnebago  
Dave and Janice Coon

A special award was given this year which hopefully will be the first of many in this category. Named the 'Hat's Off' award it was given to the person(s) that went above and beyond to make the rally a success.

For building a trailer mounted smoker/BBQ specifically for the rally and tending the fire and pork (best ever BBQ) for almost 14 hours, Jason, Kim, Jacob and Ryan Bailey were the recipients for 2010. Speaking of BBQ, to cap off Saturday our much anticipated dish-to-pass supper was held followed by door prizes for almost all attendees. Everybody full to the brim and prizes to boot, it doesn't get much better.

Our thanks go to those that donated door prizes including Vintage Trailer Supply, Brad's Trailer Service and the fine TCT members that without whom there would be no rally.

Special thanks also to our picture takers, Mark Oros and Jeff Honig and to Stan and Lynn Ink who generously donated the use of their PA system.

Next year's event will take place at the same location, Friday, September 16th through Sunday, September 18th. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2011.

*Our heartfelt thanks for your continued support,*

*Fletch & Denise  
TCT Northeast Reps.*



# The Dam Gathering of the Tears

...is the longest-running Teardrop gathering (that we know of) in the world. It's held the first week-end in May in a lovely wooded campground on the banks of Lake Shasta in far Northern California. It's attended by some tremendously nice people.

We had eight Teardrops at the first Gathering in 1994, on the Sacramento River below Shasta Dam (hence the Dam Gathering). We outgrew that site by 1997, then moved to Antlers Campground on the shores of the Sacramento River arm of the lake, and now have 60-70 Teardrops regularly.

We welcome all Teardrop enthusiasts. If you do not have a Teardrop, by all means



come anyway and camp in a tent or whatever you have... we'll have a space for you. If you're new to Teardropping or intend to build one of your own, bring a camera or videocam and feast on all the ideas and innovations.



CAMP SITES... there are no reservations (so do not call Antlers). Most of the campsites will accommodate from two to six Teardrops comfortably. Long-time attendees tend to stay at the same camp sites yearly, saving space for their friends. So far, this has not been a problem, as the whole gorgeous campground is ours for the Gathering, with lots of space.

The camp sites with electricity, however, are limited, and on a strict first-come, first-served basis. If you arrive early and get one of these sites, you may hold space within your campsite only for friends. If you need electricity for medical reasons, let us know by April 25th.

Our registration tent will go up on Wednesday. At that point, we ask that everyone sign in on the Arrival List clipboard, giving arrival date and campsite number.

We'll post the hours we'll be there to check you in and give you your pre-ordered T-Shirts. Also info about what will be happening at the Gathering (and when) as well as interesting things to see and places to go, such as Castle Crag,



Dunsmuir, Lake Shasta Caverns and Shasta Dam.

We'd like to in-institute the Friday Night Dutch Oven Sampler. So all you D.O. aficionados cook your hearts out! And the rest of us will come taste what it's all about. Mmmmmmm. The Saturday Night Campfire & Chili Cookout is pot luck for accompanying dishes. If you wish to contribute to the huge over-the-fire chili pot, your contribution must be freshly prepared or canned. (Please, no "hot stuff") This is when we all gather together



around a huge campfire for fun, fellowship, and food. We have competitions, hand out awards, enjoy the feast, give the Five-Wide group a hard time, and have a rousing old-fashioned darn good time!



We have marina access to the lake (whether the water is high or low) and great fishing, so bring your gear, kayak, and canoe! The camp rest rooms have flush toilets and warm showers.

We always hope for sunny weather, and usually get it, but it has been known to rain. Be prepared.



Antlers RV Park & Campground is located off Interstate 5, approximately 25 miles north of Redding and 35 miles south of Mt Shasta. Take the Antlers/Lakehead exit. Go east one block to the stop sign, turn right, and follow the Teardrop signs. *This year's gathering will be April 28, 29 & 30, 2011.*

To register for this event, follow this link:  
<http://www.teardrops.net/18thDGreg.html>

**CAMPING DATES & WHO TO PAY...**

We are going back to the original procedure we had with the previous owners of Antlers:

- If you arrive early, pay at Antlers office for all nights through Wed, 4/27
- If you stay later, pay at Antlers office for all nights starting Sun, May 1.
- The folks at Antlers will extend the Gathering's special rate for you. Thank them!
- You will pay us, through registration, for the nights of 4/28, 4/29, and 4/30.

# Classic Campfire Cooking

Recipes from  
the fireside

by Doug Wingate



For some reason, a lot of my camping activities revolve around food. Even though camping is an outdoor activity, it's probably the only one I have that seems to increase my waist line exponentially. The more camping I do, the more my jeans shrink. I'm sure this has to do in a large part to my cooking activities at campsite - I love to cook in the woods. Here are a couple of great recipes that don't involve a lot of preparation, cook all in one pot, and can be done either over your fire, or on a camp stove.

The first one is actually adapted from one of my favorite cookbooks, which has just come out. It's entitled *Mosh Potatoes: Anecdotes, and Mayhem from the Heavyweights of Heavy Metal*. It's written by fellow camper **Steve Seabury** from Garden Park, NY. It's available in stores or on Amazon, and it's a lot of fun for fans of Heavy Metal, Rock and Roll, or Foodies in general. The website for the book is [www.moshpotatoescookbook.com](http://www.moshpotatoescookbook.com).

Steve has a great appetizer in there called Heavy Metal Mushrooms (mushrooms, not 'shrooms!). Here's my adaptation of the recipe - they turned out great!

## Heavy Metal Mushrooms

Ingredients:

Large container of fresh mushrooms  
Pound or so of Italian sausage  
Shredded Mozzarella Cheese  
Olive Oil

Take the mushrooms. Break off the stems, leaving the crowns. Into each of the crowns, put a drop or two of olive oil. Do a Jagermeister shot just to get in the mood, and chug a beer right after. Add on top of the olive oil enough sausage meat to fill the crown. Sprinkle plenty of cheese on top of that. Next, take your dutch oven. put a small rack inside it, and put the filled mushrooms on top of that. You can stack the mushrooms if you want. Cover, and put either on the rack over your fire, or in the coals. Bake for about 15 minutes or so, until the sausage has cooked and the cheese is melted. Make sure you're in the right shape to be dealing with fire before you safely remove your dutch oven from the heat - use mitts, or find somebody completely sober who has some mitts to do this. Now take the top off the oven, carefully put the mushrooms on a plate - and you're ready!



## Bacon Cheese Dogs

(a Wingate family favorite).

My Grandma, a hearty soul from Yellow Knife, Northwest Territories, used to make this for us, and we loved them.

Very simple... take four or five good sized hot dogs or knockwursts, make an incision running the length of the 'dog, but not end to end. Stuff it with the cheese of your choice. Wrap in bacon, fasten with toothpicks to hold the bacon. Put each dog on a stick to cook over the fire. then grill over the fire until done. Fantastic!!!

# NSSO SerroScotty Roadtrip...

Submitted by Nancy Kroes

The National Serro Scotty Organization (NSSO), founded in 2005, and credited by Doug Keister in "Teardrops and Tiny Trailers" as the reason Serro Scotty trailers continue to "thrive and survive", recently completed a four-stop road trip.



The NSSO at Watkins Glen State Park

The road trip, which began in SW Michigan and crossed Canada from Port

Huron, MI to Buffalo, NY, stopped first at Nick's Lake Campground in Old Forge, New York. From there, it continued on Route 28 through the Adirondacks and across Vermont and New Hampshire where a three-night gathering was held at Willey Brook Campground in Wolfeboro, NH. Fourteen Scottys, one vintage Shasta and one vintage Beeline trailer camped at Willey Brook. From there, the road trip continued to Dixon's Coastal Maine Campground in Cape Neddick, ME. Four Scottys camped three nights there and took in the sights of Maine, including a trip to LL Bean's flagship store in



Nancy & Mabel Kroes - 1959 Sportsman 12 (Rear Door)

Freeport. From Maine, the trip continued to Watkins Glen State Park beside Seneca Lake, one of New York's Finger Lakes. Nine members of the NSSO camped



Along Route 28 - through the Adirondack's Park

there, but were joined by a vintage Boler from Quebec, and a lovely family with a vintage Shasta who'd come

down from Buffalo to come with us because they'd used the NSSO website so extensively in restoring their beautiful Shasta.

The National Serro Scotty Organization has a very extensive website, considered among the best of vintage trailer sites, but is also very busy. A National Scotty Rally is held each July in NW Pennsylvania and many camp-outs are hosted across the



Nick's Lake, Old Forge, NY Campsite

county. In February, 2011, about 20 members will be getting together in Ocala, FL.



There's always a potluck at an NSSO event!

Right after that event, will be the second annual Winter Camp-in, where

members of the NSSO and several other vintage trailer clubs, will camp in their trailer wherever they are. Pictures will be sent to Nancy Kroes, the NSSO administrator, who will put them together into an online slide show with music, and, as last year, viewing the slideshow will help tide us over until we



From Watkins Glen we took a side trip and toured Fletchers vintage trailer sales

can get our trailers out of winter covers and get them out on the road again.

Besides the National Rally, and the event in Ocala, the NSSO has events planned along the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina, a major camp-out at Acadia National Park including side trips to Eastport, ME, and, in 2012, will travel the Natchez Trace from its ending point near Nashville, TN to its beginning in Natchez, MS and then continue down the Mississippi to New Orleans. Other than the National Rally, which is restricted to members of the NSSO, anyone, and any type of trailer, is welcome to attend NSSO camp-outs. More information about NSSO camp-outs, as well as a great deal of information about restoring vintage trailers, may be found on the NSSO website: [www.nationalserroscotty.org](http://www.nationalserroscotty.org).



# Cajun Teardrop Camper Gathering

Submitted by Brian Earnst



The Cajun Chapter held our 2nd annual Bayou Bash the weekend of November 12-14th. Hosted by our illustrious Chapter Co-Director Mike Miller and his lovely wife Pat. We had a wonderful turnout with 4 teardrops, 1 Scotty and 1 Fifth Wheel trailer in attendance! 20 Crazy Cajuns, with 6 micro pooches to keep the floor extra clean if there were to be any food falling. Great weather had 20 Crazy Cajuns camping in the Miller's fantastic Backyard with a covered porch, and exceptional restroom facilities. Bocce, Ultimate Frisbie, Vertical golf and the Washer game were just a sampling of the entertainment. Evening firelight was graciously provided by Red & Nodie with their portable mega fire place.

A Classic Cajun Gumbo was mixed up by Maggie and John whose daughter Allie and friend Callie joined for the fun. And just to make sure it was an official gathering: an obligatory phone call to Mr. Brunengraber was in order with a consensus on next years camping locations with final dates to be confirmed



and decided for next season!

Many thanks to all who stopped by, including Pam, Lizz Carie and Randy S and Lester Sr. who both picked up some building ideas for their home built teardrops.

## Romp in the Swamp

Submitted by Barry and Darby Haskell

We decided to mention that we were going to camp out one more weekend in our yard and if anyone was interested, they were free to join us. We had a decent sized fire pit and room for a few trailers and besides - no one was going to show up anyway. As luck would have it, about a week before our camp out weekend the weather decided not to cooperate and it rained and rained and rained some more.

That Thursday my wife and I were looking out the front window and commenting on the swamp we had in our yard. ( bet you can see where this is going, can't ya?) In the meantime, we found that there was indeed some interest from a few of the others in the group so the decision was made to go ahead with the camp out and much to our surprise the weather started to clear up on Friday morning.



We got through the weekend with only a few showers and had a blast all the while making little jokes about camping in the swamp. At the end of the weekend, after everyone was packed and things were winding down, My wife and I decided that we would do it again next year. Our little wrap up weekends continue to

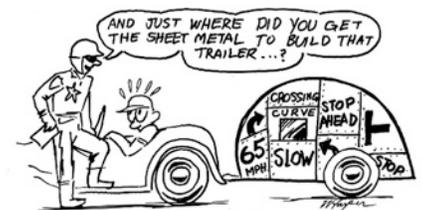
grow in numbers and we are having more fun every time we hold them. Over the past couple of years they have come to be known as The Romp In The Swamp. We usually draw between 5 and 15 trailers each time and everyone ( I think) has a great time. You couldn't ask for a better group of people to wrap up your camping season with !! So if your ever over here in New England in the fall and you've got a little time on your hands, you may want to check the "Tearjerkers" schedule and join us for a Romp of your own.



My only complaint is that our little Romps are too short. While it's true "Life moves a little slower on teardrop time." Time still flies when your having fun !!

Barry & Darby Haskell

## The Lighter Side of Camping...



Honus and Mirabelle, from London, Ontario, went camping with the most potty mouthed parrot named Buckshot you could imagine. One day in a campground near Dore Creek, Wisconsin, the bird's swearing got to be too much. Honus grabbed it by the neck and yelled "Dammit, Buckshot - shut yer damn beak!" But only minutes later, as

Mirabelle walked by, Buckshot yelled out 'Hey Mirabelle, is that yer butt, or did you steal two moons from Saturn?' The next day, the bird was so foul and nasty that the couple next door in a beautiful Modernistic stopped by to demand its silence. Honus was so embarrassed he locked Buckshot in a galley cabinet. That made it even worse. The next day, the bird was so foul mouthed a sailor camping next to them started blushing .

# El Source-O Magnifico



Bill and Denise Fletcher

**T&T:** Recently we sat down for a nice conversation with one of the best sources in the North East, and the entire US as well, for all sorts of vintage trailer parts, and whole trailers. It's always great talking with Bill and Denise Fletcher of Fletcher Vintage Trailers, but this time we learned quite a bit more about their history and what they have to offer, which is why they are this issue's Tales and Trails featured El Source-Oh Magnifico...

**T&T:** How did your business evolve from your family's new trailer dealership to its present focus?

**Fletch and Denise:** We always had an interest in older vintage stuff in general. We're both drawn towards vintage equipment, tools, and trailers for the workmanship and more simply for the charm they offer. There are very few trailer businesses in the Northeast that have this focus. We've been totally out of new trailer sales as of 1986 or so. We went through a few phases until we got to vintage - and we find it much more interesting and a whole lot of fun.

**T&T:** What range of the services do you offer, besides the parts and old trailers aspect?

**Fletch and Denise:** As far as physical work we do, we'll work on anything towable, but the big interest and focus is in the areas of the chassis, axle, appliances, plumbing and electrical repair. At this time, we don't do full restorations. We will do the occasional skin or frame repair, but our main focus is the mechanical systems we mentioned before.

**T&T:** What do most of your customers come to you for?

**Fletch and Denise:** Customers come for mechanical and repair work, but our main business focusing on hard to find parts for a lot of different vintage trailers has simply exploded. We recently bought out 3 dealers of their old inventory, plus we attended an auction for what used to be a Spartan dealer, and we bought the majority of their parts inventory. Consequently, we have inventory of extremely rare parts. We have pictures of a lot of this stuff on the parts page of our web site, but no computerized inventory. Heck, we've got over forty different kinds of window operators alone! In keeping with the friendly vintage spirit of days gone by, we'd rather people called us up for a specific need. We also have a very good inventory of parts for more modern trailers as well.

**T&T:** How do new customers usually find you?

**Fletch and Denise:** Mostly on our website and we get a lot of word of mouth referral. We ship parts everywhere - all over the country and internationally as well. We have a great inventory of NOS parts that are becoming increasingly hard to find.

**T&T:** Who is your typical customer?

**Fletch and Denise:** We have basically have two different types of customers. We classify them either as 'local' or 'long distance'. Local customers are usually here for newer stuff, everyday supplies, or routine maintenance. We'll re-pack bearings, repair electrical stuff, winterize, that sort of thing. Long distance customers are people mainly looking for whole vintage trailers or parts that go with them, or both. The internet has made this vintage trailer business



Desperate to shut the bird up, he tossed it into his cooler. A few minutes went by, and the screaming and swearing suddenly stopped. All was quiet! Thinking the parrot might be dead, a worried Honus took it out of the cooler. "I'm sorry," said the suddenly contrite Buckshot. "I'll never swear again - promise." Honus was taken aback. He never thought the cooler would be this effective.

"Just out of curiosity," asked a very nervous parrot, "what did the chicken do?"

## Safety Check...

*How do you know when your trailer is level? Look inside your trailer, not outside. When your drunken buddy passed out inside drools evenly out of both sides of his mouth, it's pretty damn level.*

possible. We get the occasional rubbernecker stopping by, but that's unusual. The web is how we've gotten customers from all over the country and beyond. Our original intent was to interest vintage car guys in cool trailers to go with the cars, and dovetail with that crowd. We still love going to classic car meets. The trailer part of the equation simply took off.

**T&T:** *You do a Tin Can Tourist Rally every year - a big one. How did you hook up with Tin Can Tourists?*

**Fletcher and Denise:** We wanted to go to a vintage trailer rally, so we went online to find like minded people. We found Tin Can Tourists and it sounded like a lot of fun. We went in our pickup truck with our Avion truck camper, since Avion was the featured marque that year. We loved the people, the awesome organization, and we've become great friends with many of our fellow members. It's great because all trailers are welcome, no matter what they are, and the people are simply terrific. As things went along, Forrest Bone, TCT asked us if we'd be the NE reps, since we wanted to have a rally here. Now the Northeast Rally is held at Sampson State Park on Seneca Lake, in Romulus, NY. This will be the fourth year for the rally. We get lots of trailers, great live music, great friends, and simply amazing food.

**T&T:** *How did your rally go this year?*

**Fletcher and Denise:** Terrific! It really went great!

**T&T:** *What are some of the more notable trailers you've had, either as an owner, or for your clients?*

**Fletcher and Denise:** One would be a 1947 Curtis Wright Trailer, a customer's trailer. We have our own 1961 Bambi, which is all original. One of the coolest was a 1953 Spartan Manor, single axle, which is a very rare bird in the single axle version. We bought it from the original dealer in Syracuse. It was used as a summer lake cottage before it came to us. We also still have our 1966 Avion truck camper, #150. The absolute rarest trailer we have is a Compak, serial #2, made in Elmira, NY. These trailers were only built for two years. Of course, we still have lots of old

busses. They're currently being photographed for a forthcoming book on entertainer busses, like the ones musicians tour on.

**T&T:** *How do you find inventory?*

**Fletcher and Denise:** Ha! Company secret. Basically, you find these by staying aware, talking to people, keeping your eyes open. They turn up in surprising places. We just love these trailers, and the people we meet that are involved with vintage trailers. It's great!

Fletcher and Denise can be contacted by phone at 607 387 5838. We highly recommend a visit to their website, [www.vintagekingpins.com](http://www.vintagekingpins.com), simply because besides being a great source, it's a lot of fun! If you're lucky enough to get up to Trumansburg, NY, outside of Ithaca, their address is 5521 Route 227, Trumansburg, NY 14886

## Paha Qué whaa???!?



Jeff Basford

*Sooner or later, everyone (well, almost everyone) gets tired of getting dressed and undressed in a prone position. Well, most of us, anyway... Lots of us have added products to make doing those and other things*

*easier. It makes camping easier and more enjoyable. Many of us have bought products made by Paha Qué to make that happen. Recently, one of our fearless correspondents sat down with Jeff Basford of Paha Qué for a little background on the company and the products they make for teardrops and other trailers.*

**T&T:** *What made you guys get into making tents, and when did you start?*

PQ: Paha Qué Wilderness, Inc. began as a shared dream of three camping buddies from diverse professional backgrounds, who in 1996 decided to start a company dedicated to designing and producing

high-quality, high-performance camping tents and shelters.

**T&T:** *No offense, but where did you get a company name like Paha Qué, instead of something with the word 'tent' in it?*



Paha Qué - Little Guy ScreenRoom

**Jeff:** Hey, none taken. We were dubbed "Three Guys and a Tent" in the April 1998 issue of Outside Magazine. However, local legend has it that 'Paha Qué' is a Southwest Indian greeting, sort of like the way Hawaiians use Aloha. We picked it up from a local rancher who said his grandfather got it from the local Indians. Anyways, that's our name. But since that 1998 article, our designs have won a bunch of national awards. We're all really proud of Field and Stream magazine for naming us the "Best of the Best" in 2007. We've been doing this for fourteen years. We're still focused on making the absolute best tent we can, no matter which product it is.

**T&T:** *How did you guys go from just regular tents, to tents for trailers, and tear drop trailers specifically?*

**Jeff:** In 2001 we began a long relationship with Little Guy Trailers, well-known manufacturer of Teardrop trailers. Since that time Paha Qué has begun producing Custom Screen Rooms for Little Guy and other teardrop trailers. We've also expanded into the field of awnings and covers, building on what we learned from our other stuff. Now, we make both types of products for a bunch of different teardrop trailers, plus other small travel trailers, too.



Custom Teardrop Cover

**T&T:** Where is your stuff actually manufactured?

**Jeff:** Paha Qué produces awnings, covers and many of the other products that we sell in our Poway, CA facility. Our stuff is made with U.S. made fabrics by folks that live right here in the USA.

**T&T:** I've noticed you're getting into custom covers, custom awnings, and other products for the RV industry. I have seen some custom teardrop trailer covers. What else are you going to see from you guys?



A-Frame Classic Awning

**Jeff:** In January 2011, Paha Qué will open a new division that will be called Paha Qué Custom Shop, Inc., and division of Paha Qué Wilderness, Inc. The Custom Shop will have expanded capabilities to design and manufacture a wide variety of products, made specifically for the small towable camper market. The teardrop trailer cover has become popular. We have made strides into the small travel trailer market with A Liner, T@B, and Chalet trailers also.

**T&T:** Will that division be in Poway also?

**Jeff:** Yes, absolutely!

**T&T:** I know a bunch of people who have Paha Qué products. Some have had little problems. All their concerns were taking care of promptly and courteously. That's a very good thing to hear.



make sure that Paha Qué remains the leading innovator in camping tent and shelter design.

**T&T:** Jeff, thanks for your time! For all of us needing more info on all of the cool stuff going on at Paha Qué visit [www.pahaque.com](http://www.pahaque.com) or call toll-free 888.700.TENT (8368)

**Jeff:** Everything we sell is backed by our lifetime warranty against all defects in materials and workmanship. We have a rep for excellent customer service that's well earned. On top of that, we want to

**\$4995.00** Contact [www.grandamrv.com](http://www.grandamrv.com) or 631-395-3377 for more info.

Located in Mastic Beach, NY 10-15-10



**For Sale:**

**Custom-built**

**traditional teardrop**, 4' x 8'; hatchback for kitchen or storage; 6' sleeping cabin; 3/4" plywood deck with 3/4" formaldehyde-free plywood walls; outside sheeted with aluminum diamond plate, top covering is "paint lock" steel with adjustable roof vent; cabin roof is insulated; constructed with screws and construction adhesive for strength; frame is 2" x 2" box tubing; 15" wheels.



Great for hunting or camping. **\$4,000.00** Call Bob for more info: 505-466-9616 Located in Santa Fe, NM 10-15-10

### Classified Ad Rates:

\$5USD per insertion. Includes one picture, and about as much type as you see here. We just ask that you be reasonable, and don't include the history of the travel trailer in your ad. If you want more pics, we suggest adding a link to an exterior site. Payment must be received via PayPal to [gkurz128@optonline.net](mailto:gkurz128@optonline.net) before the ad runs.

## Classified Ads

**For Sale: Home-built Tiny Teardrop Trailer:** sleeps 2, is insulated in the ceiling, has screened doors and only weighs 275lb; full birch headliner and is water tight; currently pulled by a motorcycle, but has been pulled with a trike and a car. It has been a great little camp/ cargo trailer for us. Asking **\$2,600.00** Serious inquiries only please, call Roger at 559-816-6309 11-16-10



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