

Monterey Getaway October 7-12, 2018



California's version of Shangri-La attracted three dozen, plus one, to the 49ers popular annual trip: the "Monterey Getaway."

With its near perfect weather, lush evergreen forests, fine golden sand beaches and hypnotic blue surf, what's not to like about this place. Especially, if you enjoy the great outdoors! And we do. So, once again, we hiked, we biked, we kayaked, we went whale watching, we sailed the Elkhorn Slough on a nature safari and yes, some of us played pickleball, again.

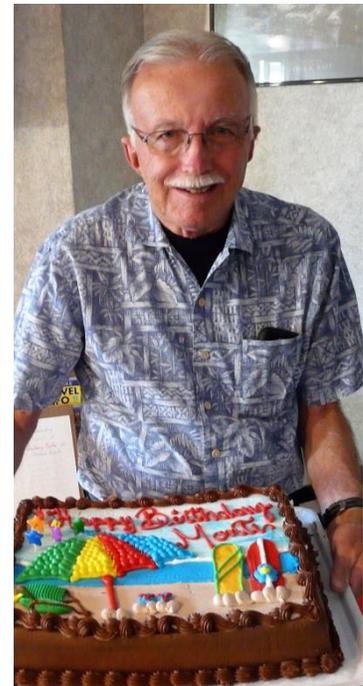
To fuel all of that activity, of course, you've got to eat and drink! And we did plenty of that, too. Here's a day-to-day account of how it went:

Monday- Pete led the biking group through Carmel's ocean vista trails and then on to Pt. Lobos, the crown jewel of California's state parks. The hikers trekked



from Whaler's Cove through scenic woods and ocean-view trails to Piney Woods where both groups gathered for a picnic lunch. That afternoon a group of us drove to a park for a few games of pickleball. We were assisted by Jay, an instructor, who had introduced many of us to the game

last year. That evening at Happy Hour, Monte was surprised with a large, delicious chocolate cake to help him celebrate his 78th birthday. There was more than enough for everybody!



Tuesday- The destination today was the Gallery Café at the Pebble Beach Golf Club on 17-mile Drive. Many biked from the hotel, others started at the gate and still others arrived by car. No matter how they came all enjoyed unparalleled views of the ocean and forests on a mostly, sunny day. That evening, many of us went downtown to the street fair either to eye or buy items ranging from sweaters to sweet potatoes that are on display each Tuesday.

Wednesday- Today 49ers participated in the pleasures of their choice including : hiking, whale watching, cruising on a nature safari on the Elkhorn slough, and kayaking. Here are some of their comments about those activities:

RoxAnn: Ten of us hiked at Molera State Park. The best part was our hike to the beach. We enjoyed some beautiful views and had a wonderful day.

Andrew: We saw a lot of otters and birds. The best part was a mother otter diving for food to feed her baby.



Pat: We saw a lot of whales from our boat and the narration was good. Monte noted they also saw dolphins, sea otters and birds. The water was a little rough, he added, but I enjoyed it.

Wendy: It was a very pleasant day. It would have been better if it were a little sunnier so you could see below the water surface.

Thursday-Wendy led a biking group from the hotel along the coast to Bird Rock. Pete led his group to the Marina along the dunes bike path. Both groups returned for lunch at the London Pub on the wharf. It was the “good-bye “event for those who were departing that afternoon. Those remaining enjoyed a farewell dinner at Lallapalooza Italian Restaurant.

Thanks to Bev for organizing the Happy Hour groups and to each night’s leaders: Don and Claudia, Diane and Carole, Margge and Annmarie, Hilde and Andrew. Thanks, too, to all for bringing the great snacks.

It was another memorable 49er getaway and we hope all who participated enjoyed it as much as we did.

--Carol and Jim--