

CAMP PETALUMA

The 41st Annual West Coast Military Vehicle Rally & Swap Meet

April 24-29, 2018

(Replaces the Tower Park Venue)

San Francisco/Petaluma KOA
20 Rainsville Road
Petaluma, CA 94952

BASIC TRAINING

This is the continuation of the largest annual MV swap meet and MV gathering west of the Mississippi. It returns to the large KOA campground in Sonoma County. This is the fourth venue for the annual Spring Meet that **started 41 years ago**. It was moved in April 2017 from Tower Park Resort because the new owner combined some campsites to make them larger, and installed many cabins. It is now too small for the big Spring meet but we held the September 2017 Camp Delta there and it was perfect! It returns to Tower Park Resort September 18-23, 2018.

Here are highlights of the Spring 2018 Camp Petaluma event

- ✪ Official event is Tuesday – Sunday but the discounted group rates will be good for “early birds” arriving the prior Sunday
- ✪ No MV registration required
- ✪ No fee for those selling at their campsites. No vending outside of campsites
- ✪ Day use visitors including those with MVs are welcome. Important details below
- ✪ You are welcome to drive your MV in the campground. No steel track grouzers
- ✪ Hotels, restaurants, antique stores and more are a short drive away
- ✪ Those flying into San Francisco or Oakland International Airports can take an airporter bus to Petaluma and catch Uber, Lyft, or taxi to our event
- ✪ See Camping info below for details about that, including dry camping for a low daily fee
- ✪ Four-night minimum stay, any four nights, except in the group dry camping area
- ✪ Last Sunday is pull-out day, not a good show day
- ✪ Communal, outdoor, roofed kitchen in the north area
- ✪ Recreation hall and tent
- ✪ Pool, sauna, hot tub, dog park, wi-fi, fire rings & firewood
- ✪ Washers, dryers, restrooms with showers
- ✪ Trailer and overflow parking for campers in the RV storage yard, north end
- ✪ Scenic beauty abounds here, and there is no more chance of rain than at Lodi

CAMPING

KOA has a wide variety of cabins, RV and tent campsites, and dry camping options. There is a four-night minimum stay – any four nights except for the \$10/night group dry camp area. This was our concession to receive the best rates

Campers and cabin renters in numbered sites will receive four wristbands, which may be kept in your pocket, and vehicle passes.

Campers may leave wristbands at the office on “will call” for friends/family

Group area dry camping info TBA, but note this is a way to get parking inside the event

You must go through our Wagonmistress Jo-Ann to reserve a campsite or cabin. 408-238-8277. She puts you on a list with KOA, then you contact KOA at 707-763-1492 to put a deposit on it ASAP or risk losing it! Just like at Tower Park. You cannot book a site directly from KOA.

If you have a site reserved and are not going to use it but want to keep the reservation for that site for the following year, tell Jo-Ann

Let her know if you want to share a site. Pull-through RV sites are quite long with vehicle access on two sides. KOA has a rate for sharing a site and should be able to place a second picnic table with some notice

DAY VISITORS

2018 details TBA, but in 2017, day visitors paid a \$10 admission per day. Note that this fee was the same as the dry camping fee per person/vehicle in the group area.

Since many of our participants will not use all four of their wristbands or use all of the parking space at their campsite, it may be possible to team up with others. See the interactive campground map on this website to learn which of your friends are camping. Please talk to Jo-Ann about sharing space

Probably non-campers driving in with a MV will not need a parking pass. Check back here for updates

See next section about day visitor parking.

IMPORTANT PARKING INFO!

CAMPERS AND CABIN RENTERS: Most campsites and cabins have paved or gravel vehicle parking areas. Cabins only have one official parking spot. DO NOT park on lawns if soft so that KOA will have to repair it. This may drive up our rates next year. Most campers will get two vehicle passes.

Extras may be available for a fee but check back here for updates.

TRAILER PARKING LOT: The KOA operates a commercial RV storage lot at the north end next to the north Group Camping Area. We have the rights to park there, blocking tenants who are prohibited from accessing their units during our event. Park your car haulers, and extra cars there if you want. Freeing up space in your campsite can allow your buddy to park his extra MV there. Work out a deal! We want to know who has extra MV display space because we will have MV commuters looking for a place to park!

GENERAL VISITOR PARKING AND HEAVY TRAILER UNLOADING, PARKING: We are working with the owner on the visitor parking situation. This is weather dependent, meaning if the turf is soft or not. In any case we will have an offsite parking lot with with shuttles like last time. Check back for updates.

CAMPERS WITH MILITARY VEHICLES: We will have room for all MVs. They should park at campsites unless a space has been assigned by MVCC President Dave Ball or Activities Coordinator John Neuenburg. See contact info below.

Respect all coned or other reserved areas!

NON-CAMPERS WITH MILITARY VEHICLES: Bring it! Try to work with a friend who has space at his campsite (possibly using one of his wristbands and car passes left at the office under your name), or ask us for a spot. An option is to rent a dry camp space in the Group Camp Area for \$10/night so you can park and display your vehicle (and ice chest) when not driving around camp. This area does not have the four-night minimum. Contact Jo-Ann Lesser about this. To learn who has rented which campsite or cabin, see the interactive map that will be on this website after January. If you want MVCC member contact info, we might have it.

IF YOU HAVE EXTRA VEHICLE SPACE IN YOUR CAMPSITE: Please tell John Neuenburg and he will try to put you together with someone who needs room for a MV!
See contact info below

UNIFORMS, WEAPONS, BLANK FIRE

As usual with our Spring and Fall swap meets, individuals are encouraged to wear obsolete uniforms or clothing whenever they want. There is nothing like a live mannequin to show off collectibles and historical representations.

Those wishing to vertically display WW2 Axis or other former enemy-of-the-U.S. militaria must contact John for special instructions.

Live ammunition is not allowed at this event

Firing blanks or pyrotechnics is not allowed. A portion of the center of the campground will be occupied by campers who stay here over the winter while working in the region. They probably won't like the noise.

Live firearms must be rendered "incapable of immediate fire" by leaving key parts off, or zip-tying actions or triggers so they are not operational.

ACTIVITIES

Look for the Activities Schedule on this website in January

CONTACT INFO

KOA: <http://koa.com/campgrounds/san-francisco/> or 707-763-1492

MVCC President Dave Ball: vought@msn.com or 408-805-0065 or cabin #247

MVCC Camp Petaluma Activities Coordinator John Neuenburg: in_garage@hotmail.com
or 415-847-2801

MVCC Camping Wagonmistress Jo-Ann Lesser: mamalesser@yahoo.com or 408-238-8277 or cabin #80