

TRAMP AND TRAILERING WITH THE HIGGERSONS IN THE 50's and 60's



My parents, Charlie and Esther, were active T&T members. As a child, I tagged along. Because our only vehicle, a sedan, was small, my father built a trailer to carry our camping gear. The trailer looked like a covered wagon. He painted the T&T logo on the backgate. Mom, Esther, made the canvas cover. (Meg later refurbished it).

When camping, everything except the canvas kayak went into the covered wagon: tent poles, Coleman stove, cooking utensils, cots, thick bedding, food, metal ice chest and more. Most important was our large green, floorless, army surplus wall tent. It took up much of the space in the covered wagon. Each spring, the tent and the canvas wagon cover were waterproofed with a 1950's high tech, high performance blend of melted paraffin, boiled linseed oil and turpentine. That tent was bulletproof, never leaked, smelled terrible (inside and out) and was sure hard to fold up!!

The covered wagon was part of my dowry when Meg and I were married. Maybe you'll see it in 2021!!

By Billy Higgeson