Our “Los Gatos Casita” Pole Barn Construction

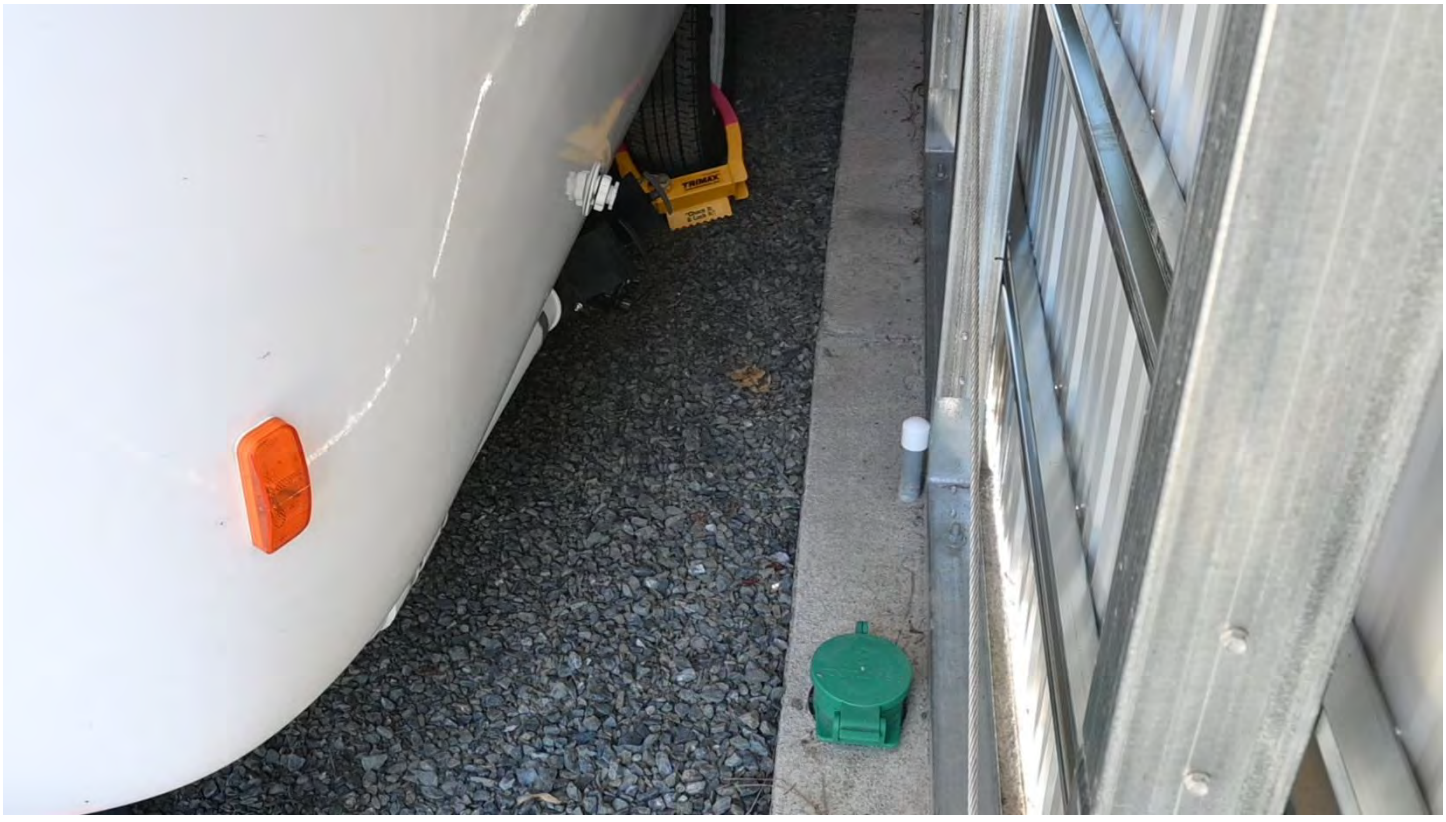
To protect our Casita travel trailer and our **Kubota L3901 Tractor**, we constructed a steel pole barn in the Fall of 2024. It is nice living and having plenty of acreage in a beautiful remote mountain retreat so our Casita trailer is always close at hand and avoid wasting any money storing it someplace distant having questionable security. Our pole barn is 16 feet wide by 20 feet deep by 12 feet high at the ridge of the 3/12 pitch roof. The first phase of our pole barn construction was creating an engineered, level and compacted 3-4” minus rock pad in a previously tree covered area of our property. Then 3/4” minus gravel containing lime was used to cover this rock pad to create a durable, solid and water permeable surface on which to construct the pole barn. This rock pad was left to settle in over the Winter months and the actual pole barn construction was started in March 2025 and completed within a couple months before our hot southern Oregon Summer weather arrived.

We chose a steel pole barn structure for long life and wildfire resistance which is becoming more problematic with man-made global warming. We selected **VersaTube** for our steel pole barn structure which was fastened to our engineered rock pad using a 12 inches wide by 16 inches deep reinforced concrete footing which weighed 10,000 pounds and which was hand poured in sections using 166 60 pound bags of 4000 PSI concrete. We wanted our pole barn to look similar to our other buildings so we used the same **ASC** forest green color steel standing seam roof and a taupe color steel siding. We used marine grade plywood and synthetic roof underlayment below our steel standing seam roof to avoid condensation formation that would then drip down into the pole barn interior. We also wanted our pole barn to be fully sided on three sides so as to fully protect our Casita trailer from the harmful effects of UV sunlight. Many pole barns constructed for RVs only have a roof which only protects the RV from hail, rain and snow. Our southern Oregon Summers often have prolonged periods of triple digits so we left one side of the pole barn open to prevent excessive heat buildup and provide maximum entry accessibility.

We put a 20/30/50A RV electrical pedestal, frost-proof outdoor cold water faucet and dump out system in our pole barn. Our innovative pole barn dump out system enables using our Casita trailer potable and gray tank water for supplemental irrigation of our landscaping in the pole barn area and also enables transfer of the black tank water to our septic system using a 36 gallon **Camco Rhino Tote Tank**. The final touch to make this steel pole barn unique was to use reclaimed, rustic-looking mushroom board on the fully sided gable side to create a home for a barn owl family based on **Steve Simmons Barn Owl Box**. "Wesley the Owl" by **Stacy O'Brien** is a heartwarming book about a young woman biologist and her rescue owl that provides informative insights about owl behavior. The following photos illustrate the construction of our pole barn which was constructed single-handed by Bob like all our other remote southern Oregon homestead buildings.


B3
B4
B5


R2


TRIMAX