



Banner

TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION, OF THE FCRV
Founded as National Campers & Hikers Association



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EVENTS AND MORE

LOCAL CAMPOUTS

July 25-27 Humble Wildcatters at Magnolia Lakes in
Goodrich Texas

July Eat Out with the Penthouse Campers

August 8-10 Fiesta Campers at Hill Country Resort in
Medina Texas

August 22-24 Twin Oaks RV Park, Nacogdoches TX
August Eat Out with the Penthouse Campers

Sept 19-21 Humble Wildcatters at Heartland in
Huntsville Texas

September Eat Out with the Penthouse Campers

September Penthouse Campers in Canton with Good Sam
Rally. Call Weldon for more information.

WHERE IS YOUR CAMPOUT GOING TO BE?

Send your information in so we can list it here!

Don't forget to let your Wagonmaster know
you will be attending.

REGIONAL CAMPOUTS

Retirees Chapter 89

Lake Ridge RV Park

Sept 14-18

Gun Barrel City Texas

FCRV/TSA Fall Campventure

Lazy L RV Park

Nov 27-30

Barry Texas

PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS—AUGUST 2008

By George Cross

FALL CAMPVENTURE

Last month we announced that the Fiesta Campers had made the decision to withdraw from hosting the Fall Campventure. This made it necessary for us to move the Campventure to the Thanksgiving Holliday. Lawrence Phillips will make additional announcements later this year.

CONSTITUTION REVISIONS

The progress of incorporating the Constitution revisions into the document has been progressing slowly since most of the Executive Board attended the five state Campventure in Branson, Missouri and Joan and I have been traveling to several other locations for the past two months. But, we have made progress. The revisions have been made to the Constitution and I have sent it to the Executive Board for their approval. Hopefully, we will be ready to release it by early August. Copies will be sent to each Chapter after it is released.

POLICIES

The release of the new Policies has also been slow. I have finished them and will be sending them to the Executive for their approval by late July. They should be published by late August.

FIVE STATE CAMPVENTURE

The Campventure was held in Branson, Missouri during June 19 through 22. The weather was very nice and temperatures were cool and comfortable. We had professional entertainment two nights. We also enjoyed one catered meal and one potluck supper. There were 60 rigs in the campground with one family staying in a cabin and 15 rigs registered at another campground. Most of us attended several shows while there. After the meeting, several from the rigs from Texas went to Sedalia, Missouri to attend meetings for the 2009 National Campvention planning meeting.

The *Bluebonnet Banner* is published by the Texas State Association of the FCRV, a non-profit organization. The *Bluebonnet Banner* is published 10 times per year and can be found at www.bluebonnetbanner.org and www.bluebonnetbanner.com. The *Bluebonnet Banner* is also on the FCRV.org website under "Newsletters".

Opinions expressed in the *Bluebonnet Banner* are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinion of FCRV or the Texas State Association.



TEXAS TALES

News From Around The State

PENTHOUSE POOP

We had a good turnout for the July Eat Out. Those who were unable to make it were missed. Several families took a trip to Mountain View, Arkansas before going to the Five State Rally in Branson Mo. We all said we needed to make a return trip! The Five State Rally had an excellent turnout. We took in several shows, ate out and visited. After that, a few travelled on to Sedalia, Mo for a chairman's meeting for National Campvention 2009. After that – some of us even went on to Pennsylvania for the National Campvention. We were told there were 410 rigs in attendance.

Our August Eat Out will be at AA China Super Buffet with Doyle and Sandra Jones hosting. Because of the heat, we will not have a July or August campout.

The September Eat Out will be hosted by Larry & Pat Searcy. More information to come on when and where. The September Campout is a combined campout with a Good Sam Rally in Canton Texas. For more information, contact Weldon or Joan at 817-297-3268.

Weldon & Joanne Segars

FIESTA CAMPERS

The Fiesta Campers will campout on Aug 8, 9 & 10 at the Hill Country RV Resort and Event Center. It is located at 17740 State Hwy 16 North Medina, Texas 78055 (31.5 miles north of 1604, on Hwy 16, on the right (East) side).

Below is our schedule – don't forget to bring a table service to all meals!

Friday (Aug 8): Arrive at [camp](#) during the day. Hosts (Ken and Chyrl Mullins) will be there about 5:00pm to welcome campers.

7:00 pm Dinner will be Wienie roast (if burn ban has not been lifted, we will grill hot dogs). Hot dogs,

buns and condiments will be provided, bring a side dish (Baked beans, Cole Slaw, macaroni Salad, pie,

etc...), Bring hot dog roasting sticks (if you have one, if not we can share)

Evening Events: Games and socializing in club house
Swimming pool and hot tub available

Saturday (Aug 9): Breakfast 8:00 to 9:00 am Club will be serving Biscuits with Sausage Gravy, coffee, and orange juice. You may bring any other food you wish to share.

Every Saturday - Farmer's Market Located in downtown Medina next to the Art Gallery. Locally grown fruits and vegetables, free range eggs, jams, jellies, salsas, plants, and other local products for sale. 9:00 AM. 830-589-7100 or 830-796-8337.

Optional LUNCH (11:45): We recommend a Local Restaurant in Bandera; OST. 17.1 miles from CG. We will take our 9-passanger van; you are welcome to ride with us. After lunch we will walk and visit a few of the local shops!

Every Saturday - Cowboys on Main - Cowboys on horseback, strolling musicians, storytellers and more on Bandera's Main Street from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Sponsored by the Frontier Times Museum's Living History Project. No Fee.

SUPPER: 6:00 pm POTLUCK

Desserts will be appreciated too.

Evening Events: games and socializing
Swimming pool and hot tub available

Sunday (Aug 10): 8:30 to 9:30 am

Coffee and pastry will be served and any other Breakfast food you wish to share.

Bad news – cost is \$29.00 per night. Cell phone reception is weak.

Ken, Chyrl, Liz & Xander
210-566-4718 (home)
972-207-6377 (Ken Cell)
972-971-2522 (Chyrl Cell)

TEXAS TALES

News From Around The State

Texas Longhorns

Hosted by: **Stanley and Patricia Walls**
(214) 478-6702 or 6703

When: August 8-10th

Where: Whispering Pines RV and Cabin Resort
Room A in the main clubhouse
5583 FM Rd 16E
Tyler, Texas 75076
800-559-3817

Schedule: Friday 6:30 p.m. soup and sandwiches
Saturday 8:00 a.m. breakfast (see below)
Noon lunch on your own
6:00 p.m. roast & fixins'

Saturday Breakfast Menu Assignments:
(If you cannot, please let me know)

- Breakfast meats – Stan and Patricia
- Eggs – Boldens
- Grits – Courns (can't do without Unita's cheese grits!!!!)
- Bread or pancakes – Phillips and Blairs
- Fruit – Pounders
- Juice – Combo

Activities sponsored by Whispering Pines that weekend:
Tropical Paradise Beach Party Weekend. Flip Flop Crafts, Pool Party & Games. Jimmy Buffet Hayride, Beach Ball Volleyball, Coconut Bowling, Pineapple Relay Races, Teen 10 O'clock Night Swim

Your Chapter can be featured here

Send information to

bluebonnetnews@yahoo.com



JUNE CAMPOUT

The June campout was cancelled due to several members not being able to attend.

JULY CAMPOUT

The July campout was in Goodrich at Magnolia Lakes RV Park. There were 4 rigs and several families that while they could not campout out were able to come up and spend the day.

We discussed the schedule for next year – there have been a few changes and Jerry will be updating the website shortly. The information is also listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

AUGUST CAMPOUT

The August campout will be at Twin Oaks RV Park in Nacogdoches Texas. Ricky and Susie Neel will be the Wagonmaster. The Sunday chapel will be at their church. It was decided that we would wear our purple shirts to church and sit as a group.

SEPTEMBER CAMPOUT

The September campout will be at Heartland RV Park in Huntsville Texas. Feel free to join us – and bring a friend or two!

Happy Camping!

Dawn Cross

5 STATE RALLY – BRANSON

The 5 State Rally was held in Branson Mo. The turnout was quite nice with several groups from the Texas area. There were 2 nights of entertainment, a pot luck and a catered meal. While in Branson, where you'll find world-class entertainment for the whole family, people took advantage of the entertainment and saw several performers and shows.

NATIONAL CAMPVENTION 2008 – PENNSYLVANIA

Texas was well represented at the National Campvention this year.

Maddie Lawler, TSA Teen Queen was named 2nd Runner Up. She was also in the top 6 of the Talent portion of the pageant with a monologue, "Confessions of a Soap Star. Below is picture of the court. Maddie is 2nd from the left.



Randy T was named the Most Elaborate Pet during the Pet Parade. Randy T is part of the Leith Family.

The Bluebonnet Banner also received a certificate of participant in the Newsletter Category. We received suggestions from the Judges and will incorporate those into the next several issues.

The 2009 Campvention will be held in Sedalia Missouri next year. Check out the information from

Bobby & Charla Yost on how we can help out elsewhere in the newsletter.

TURBANS

By Pam Phillips

The Texas State Association of the FCRV is a giving and caring association. Over the years donations have been made of pull tabs from soft drink cans, blankets to nursing homes and other things.

This year, we would like to make caps/turbans for those who are undergoing cancer treatments and have lost their hair. We ask that each person who attends the Fall Campventure bring soft, knit materials to the campout. We have a pattern and will be sewing them up while we are there. If you know of someone who has undergone treatment or perhaps you have yourself, you know how welcome these turbans will be.

If you would like more information on what we are looking for or would like to suggest a group to donate these to, please contact me at pamphillips@netzero.com

The Texas Retirees Chapter 89 will hold a campout this fall at the Lake Ridge RV Park in Gun Barrel City. The date will be September 14 to 18.

Come join us for a time of fun and fellowship. Remember the Dairy Queen is just across the street and we had lots of fun walker over there and enjoying the good eats and ice cream when we last met at Lake Ridge RV.

For more information, contact Weldon Segars at wjsegars@sbcglobal.net or Catherine Singleton at kates891@embarqmail.com.

National Campvention - 2009

Bobby & Charla Yost, TSA Regional Director

To all State Directors and Team Leaders,

We are still in need of volunteers – both as chairperson and general help. Some chairmanships have been filled – but your help is still needed. We are part of the 4 state regions (Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas and Texas) that are responsible for making the 2009 National Campvention the best it can be.

NATIONAL CAMPVENTION 2009

Our Region is hosting the 2009 National Campvention in Sedalia, Missouri on July 3-9, 2009. We need your help in this endeavor. Several of you have already signed on as Chairperson and we thank you. There are still roles that need to be filled. Below is a list of roles that YOU can help fill.

Adult activities....you will need to plan activities for the Retiree activities Chairman because you will should be geared to the twenty year olds and up. activities to cover all ages. It would be nice to have Co- Chair this job.



the adult center. You will work with share the building. Your activities You can schedule a variety of a younger person and an older one

Building Set Up....make sure the rooms or areas for all the activities are in order. You will be given a request form from each Chairman who needs you help with the time and needs (tables and chairs) of their activities. The Fair Grounds will have the chairs and tables in the areas already, but they may need to be set-up or rearranged.

DAT...Coordinate activities with the National DAT Director. Schedule Seminars of Interest. You may set up a display using local Organizations.

Handicap Director.....Make sure those who are handicapped and need assistance in parking and on-grounds transportation is available. Ensure on-grounds transportation makes stops in the handicap area. Provide info and assistance as needed. You may provide other things if you want to.

Historian.....Coordinate activities with the National Historian Director. Make arrangements for set up of the area to display the scrapbooks.

Insignia.... Responsible for setting up times to sell the patches and pins at Campvention. You will schedule volunteers to help you. A good time to sell products is before the evening program.

Religious Services....Schedule time for service. Post schedule for Jewish and Catholic services in town (we have a phone book to help you). The National Pastor will do the service.



SPC.....Schedule walks and have signup sheets for each walk. You can get a consignment of Vouchers from the National SPC Director.

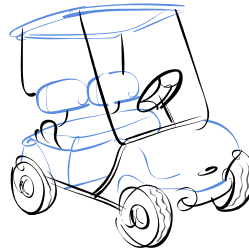
Teen Sports.... Schedule the games, find ball fields, get officials, have water cooler and work with the National Teen Director. The Chamber of Commerce will help find fields and officials. You will turn in an order for the award medals you need. Purchase any missing

equipment (yes you have a budget). Provide sign up sheets at central registration and volunteers at central registration.

Teen Activities.... We want to do this a little different this time. We would like for several people to plan – a hot dog the teens wants. It activities Monday, Tuesday (after the Pageant maybe a teen noise parade), Wednesday (this is the Queens ball and all teens are invited). The need is for Friday, Saturday, Sunday, has a Chairman but you might like to help chaperone. The Pageant has a Chairman also. If you would like to plan for an activity pick a day and let us know.



On Grounds Transportation.....We are planning for people movers. This will make getting used the trams. You would schedule hours. Schedule special transportation as events. Work with the Handicap Lead for



to use multi-seated golf carts volunteers easier than if we volunteers for the open requested by Chairmen of handicap transportation.

Volunteers.... Set up an area to sign up through out Campvention. This could be done in the commercial area near the office. volunteers as they arrive and

ALL OF THESE POSITIONS REQUIRE REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION THROUGH OUT THE PLANNING AND DURING CAMPVENTION.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, contact Bobby and Charla Yost at fcvtx@flash.net or 817-247-3475 or your State Director.

Cheating at Gas Pumps

This has been reported n the Houston area also. A local gas distributing company was accused of "fixing" the calibration and pumping an incorrect amount of gas and were shut down. In this time of high gas prices – we all need to be aware. This was submitted from the Austin area.

This is a true story, so read it carefully. On April 24, 2008, I stopped at a Exxon gas station, located at Balcones Drive and Parkcrest Street , Austin , Texas my truck's gas gauge was on 1/4 of a tank. I use the mid-grade, which was priced at \$3.71 per gallon. When my tank is at this point, it takes somewhere around 14 gallons to fill it up. When the pump showed 14 gallons had been pumped I began to slow it down, then to my surprise it went to 15, then 16. I even looked under my truck to see if it was being spilled. It was not. Then it showed 17 gallons had been pumped. It stopped at almost 18 gallons. This was very strange to me, since my truck has only an 18-gallon tank. I went on my way a little confused, then on the evening news, I heard a report that 1 out of 4 gas stations had calibrated their pumps to show more gas had been pumped than a person actually got.

Here is how to check a pump to see if you are getting the right amount:

Whichever grade you are using, put EXACTLY 10 GALLONS in your tank, then look at the dollar amount, if the dollar amount is not EXACTLY 10 times the price of the fuel you have chosen, then the pumps are not calibrated. In my case as I said the mid-grade was \$3.71 9/10 per gallon, my dollar amount for 10 gallons should have been \$37.19. It doesn't matter where you pump gas, check the 10-gallon price. If you do find a station that is cheating, contact the Texas Department of Agriculture, and direct your comments to Todd Staples, Commissioner (512-463-7476). In other states contact proper authorities.



A Note from the Chaplain

This has certainly been an unusual summer, with gas prices soaring, temperature hovering around 100 degrees. A good time to stay indoors where it is more comfortable.

We have had one death reported this year. A member of the Weatherford Melon Busters, Tommy Haney passed away June 11, 2008.

As GOD has predestined each one of us, we all have an "expiration date".

Thought for the day.....

From Him who loves me now so well,
What power my soul can sever.
Shall life or death on earth or hell?
No - I am His forever.

Author Stibbins

NOW, YOU THINK ABOUT THAT !!!!

God bless and keep you.

Paula Green
Texas State Chaplin

Tell your neighbors, friends and fellow campers – the Bluebonnet Banner is going to have a link on the TACO (Texas Association of Campground Owners) website <http://www.tacomembers.com>
We will also have a link on our website to them.

We have also been mentioned by a family as they take a 12 state trip. If you get a chance, check out imagehouseusa.com. The Whitcombs have recently begun RV'ing and are keeping a blog of their adventures.

ANOTE FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR

Well, here it is, time for another one these things. Just want to mention a couple of things, and then be gone again. I think last month I mentioned that I needed a list from each chapter showing each elected officer in your chapter. This is very important because some of your chapters have elections at different times during the year. Just after you have your elections, please send me a short note and let me know who they are. There are many times during the year we need to know who the President is, or the Secretary, so we know who to send information or paperwork.

Also, one other little list I need is a copy of your whole year's schedule of camping dates and locations. It may sound like just another list that I want to justify my job, but if you remember, this has a lot to do with the insurance coverage you have during your activities, be it camping or just community service. It has been years since this has happened, but if you ever need it, and I can't prove it on paper, there will be a lot of problems.

All the conversations you hear now are surly about Campvention 2009 in Sedalia, MO. All thinking and planning are headed in this direction now. You might think July 2009 is a long way off, but believe me; time slips away from you when you get to be our age. You will wake up in a couple of weeks and it will be time to go to the Retiree Rally in Arizona. Then in a couple of more weeks, you will wake up and it is time to leave tomorrow for Missouri. You know TEXAS always does the best job of any in the region, but we are going to have to get up and go to beat Missouri in the way they conducted our regional this year in Sedalia. It was great. Well planned, well thought out, a lot of people helping and it went off without a hitch. Yes, I know, they ran out of room at the RV park. But that was not their fault. It was the fault of a whole lot of people not sending in their reservations on time. If they don't know you are coming, they can't make plans to block out some more parking sites. Enough said on that. That is completely off the subject. My point is, if TEXAS is going to make a showing next year like we should, we are going to have to have some help. This is not my association. This is not Charla's association. This is every ones association. It does not make any difference which chapter you belong to, you are still part of TEXAS. There are lots of committees to be filled, so the job gets done. Most of the committee chairman's jobs are filled, but each one of them need more people on their committee to help. They will be in charge of the work, they will do the paper work, but they still need people to help divide up the work a little. There is nothing so strenuous that you can say, I am too old, or too sick, or too beat up that I can't do that. It is as simple as sitting on you fanny and selling patches, or driving a people mover golf cart a couple of hours, or working in the information booth finding out where people are parked, or even if you are handicapped, there are a lot of things you can do to help the handicapped chairman park the other handicapped people, help them in cool water, help them hook up, and the list just keep going on and on. Please talk to one of the district directors, state director, regional director, or someone you know that is on the steering committee. Don't be one of those who go to Sedalia and do all the looking and shopping and talking and not being able to join any of the talking about who is doing what, and how much fun it looks like they are having. Can you imagine how much fun you can have driving a golf cart thru the handicap area and helping people get to the entertainment on time, and helping them not forget to lock their door. If you have never volunteered to work with people, you do not know what a blessing it can be.

If you have not checked out the Blue Bonnet Banner web site, you have missed a lot of information. If you would like to add to the info already on the site, you can send it to: bluebonnetnews@yahoo.com. If you want to catch up on what is happening in the state go to: bluebonnetbanner.com. What else can I say about a wonderful piece of work.....

See you across the next bridge
Kenn Green
Texas State Director

TSA State Constitution

Revisions have been made and reviewed as voted on by the members of the Texas State Association of FCRV. Copies have been sent to each Chapter in Texas. You can also see it at www.bluebonnetbanner.org.

FCRV/TSA FALL CAMPVENTURE

NOVEMBER 27-30, 2008

REGISTRATION

Lazy L RV Park Barry TX

12401 W. Hwy 31 Barry, Texas 75102

Phone 903-673-2523

The Fall FCRV/TSA Campventure will be held during Thanksgiving week at the Lazy L in Barry Texas (near Corsicana). Lawrence Phillips is in the planning stages for this event. There is a registration form in the Banner and more information will be forthcoming. If you would like more information or would like to offer your assistance to Lawrence, contact him at pamphillips@netzero.com.

Where Do You Like To Camp?

By Dawn Cross

I put the word out that I would like to hear from you and where you like to camp. I received an update from John and Krystal Bourassa and they indicated that like the Padre Palm's in Corpus Christi. Mike and I stayed at a sister campground this summer – Colonia Del Rey – for a week. The campground was nice and clean. They had sites for 30, 50 and 100 amps.

There were some trees for shade, a washateria and are about 3 miles from the bridge to Padre Island. You might want to check them out at <http://www.ccrvresorts.com>.

I also heard from Bob & Carolyn Owensby. They had just returned from Mountain View, Arkansas and it is a great place! The Best Kept Secret in Arkansas! Here is what they had to say - Lots of RV parking, bed and breakfasts and cabins and a really laid-back atmosphere. The town has a great park downtown with covered shelters with benches and chairs. Musicians, both local and visitors go there every night to jam. There were 2 or 3 groups every night and the music was great. The people were all so friendly. The scenery was beautiful and the temperature was much cooler than Texas. We loved it and wish we had not had to come home so soon. I would heartily recommend it to anyone. We plan to go back as soon as possible!

Let me hear from you – where have you been?

SNOWBIRDS!

Yes, it's getting to be that time of year. We will see a migration of the Snowbird to Texas and surrounding states.

Do you know anyone who is a winter Texan? Have you invited them to a campout recently?

Help make our northern friends feel welcome – that Texas really is “The Friendship State”. Invite them to your next eat out, camp out or get together. Let them know we have a newsletter and will be happy to forward it to them. Make sure they know that even though they aren't here year round (and with the heat we've had this summer – who can blame them!) – we are glad they are here now and would like to get to know them better.

FCRV/TSA FALL CAMPVENTURE

NOVEMBER 27-30, 2008

REGISTRATION

Lazy L RV Park Barry TX

12401 W. Hwy 31 Barry, Texas 75102

Phone 903-673-2523

Deadline to pre-register: November 10, 2008.

Pre-registration Fee: \$5.00 (after November 10 - \$10.00)

Adult Activity Fee - \$2.50 per activity (pay with pre-registration)

CAMPING FEE: \$17.00 per day payable on arrival

For more information, contact: Lawrence & Pam Phillips

10294 Sleepy Hollow Rd.

Terrell, TX 75161

Phone 214-668-4825 Email pamphillips@netzero.com

Name _____

Spouse _____

Others _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Chapter Name _____ Number _____

Special Needs _____

Attendees: Adults _____ Teens _____ Youth _____

Make checks payable to TSA

Pre-registration fee \$ _____

Activity fee \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Check number _____

Mail To: Rita Blair
1508 Brookview Dr.
Lancaster, Texas 75146-9707

PARKING WILL BE HOBO IF YOU WANT TO CAMP TOGETHER PLAN TO ARRIVE TOGETHER

Paid check number _____ date _____