

Bluebonnet Banner

September 2009
Volume 2, Issue 4



Photo by DS Cross



Upcoming Events

Nov 25-29 TSA Fall
Campventure, Red Oak RV
Park, Hempstead TX

2010
Mar 23-28 National Retiree
Rally, Fair Grounds, Ladsen
SC

May 27-23 Texas Retiree
Rally, Antique Capital RV
Park, Gladewater TX

May 28-31 Texas Director
Fun Campout & Spring
Campventure, Gladewater
TX

Jun 2010 Regional Rally

Jul 2010 National
Campvention

Game of Joker's Wild



T E X A S S T A T E A S S O C I A T I O N O F T H E F C R V
Founded as National Campers & Hikers Association

A Little of This, A Little of That

FALL CAMPVENTURE

The Retirees of Texas, Chapter 89, is hosting the Fall Campventure. It will be held at Red Oak RV Ranch just outside of Hempstead, Texas. The dates are November 25-29, 2009. Please find the registration form in the Blue Bonnet Banner and follow the instructions to register

ELECTIONS

It's time for elections for the TSA. The following people are up for elections – George Cross, President and Mike Cross, Treasurer. We did not have anyone interested in running for Vice President or Secretary this year. If you have not received your ballots, they will be sent to each club soon.

DUES

It is time for dues to be paid for your club. All dues should be paid no later than the October meeting of the club. You will need to show your membership card with the FCRV to maintain your membership in the TSA.

TEEN QUEEN AND KING

The Teen Queen and King contest will be held at the Fall Campventure. If you are interested in running for Teen Queen or King, contact Charla Yost.

LOCAL CHAPTERS

Are you a member of a local chapter of the TSA? Was your chapter at one time a part of TSA and no longer is because they either dropped out or disbanded? If you would like to become a member of the TSA – you can do so by joining as a

Member at Large. For more information on Members at Large, contact Julie Leith. You can also form a new chapter – contact Kenn Green, State Director for more information on Chapters.

FAVORITE CAMPING PLACES?

What is your favorite place to camp? What makes it your favorite place? Drop me a line and I will note it in the next issue of the Banner.

CHAPTER NEWS

We have Chapter news from some of the Chapters. They are faithful in sending notes on what is going on and where they are going. If you would like to have your Chapter news listed, send me an email and I will include it.

*Have fun and
happy camping!
Dawn*

TEXAS TALES

News From Around The State

Humble Wildcatters

Hi Wildcatters,

Our September campout was well attended. We had 7 rigs attending – including a possible new couple. We missed several of our regular folks – due to illness or trips. We had a guest speaker come and talk to us about our RV's and general maintenance/repairs.

In October, we will go to Red Oak RV Ranch in Hempstead Texas. We have an outing planned to go see the roses there. If you plan to attend, let Rick & Susan know.

The Wildcatters will be responsible for the Goodie Walk at the Fall Campventure. This event is always good for a laugh or two – and lots of goodies!

Penthouse Campers

The September campout was at the Canton Civic Center on September 17-20. We joined up with Good Sam's North Texas Mini-Rally.

Penthouse Camper dues are due by November 1. Pay Carolyn Ownsbey at the October Campout or mail them to her. Cost is \$20.00 and for non-members it is \$7.50 (to receive the newsletter).

The October Campout is at Whispering Pines in Tyler. We hope to go see the Gilmer Yamboree on the 17th. The parade is always lots of fun.

The October Eat-out will be at Ginger Brown's Restaurant in Ft Worth. The Ownsbey's will be the host and they look forward to seeing you.

Our November Eat-out hosts will be Jim & Julie Durda. More info to come on where and when!

San Jacinto Texans

Each wagonmaster is to make the campground reservations. The listing is as follows:

October	Coushatta	Wagonmaster is needed
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November	Coushatta	No
Wagonmaster needed		

December	Coushatta	No
Wagonmaster needed		

Lee has given Howard the list of reservation dates our club needs for the rest of the year at Coushatta but so far has not received a confirmation.

Texas Retirees

The Texas Retirees will be the host of the Fall Campventure. We have several things planned that we think you will find fun and interesting. We hope to have a great turn-out – 20+ rigs would be great. To all of the Winter Texans – If you would like to attend, we would love to have you. There is more than enough room at the campgrounds.

Check out the newsletter for more information on will take place. If you have any questions or suggestions get in touch with Catherine Singleton at kates891@embarqmail.com

**YOUR CLUB NEWS COULD
BE HERE!**

Military Project

The Military Project was a success at the National Campvention. The Texas State Association is spearheading a special project to get needed supplies of personal items to American troops in Iraq who do not have access to a BX where they can buy them. Items sent include soap, razors, shampoo, cream rinse, handy wipes, hand lotion, chap stick, envelopes, paper, pencils, pens, sugar packets, tea bags, coffee in large cans, hard candy, mixed nuts, new greeting cards troops can send back to family, personal care items.

Donations of over \$690 were collected at the '09 Campvention and 337 lbs. of items have been purchased and shipped. Monetary donations for the ongoing project may be sent to David and Rita Blair, 1508 Brookview, Lancaster, TX 75416-9707 (checks payable to Rita Blair). Contact them at 972-227-8616 or ritadave2369@aol.com.

Donating is an important way FCRVers can show our appreciation to our U.S. military personnel.



Yes – it is that time of year. The Texas State Association holds elections every two years. The TSA had the following 4 positions open – President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Of the 4 positions, there were only 2 that had people run for them – President and Treasurer.

The **President** shall be the Chief Executive officer of the Association, and Chairman of the Board of Directors. The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership, and at meetings of the Board of Directors. The President shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are put into effect. The President shall appoint the Chairman and members of all standing committees. The President shall have the power to appoint a qualified member to fill vacancies arising in standing committees. The President shall have the general powers and duties vested in that office.

The **Vice-President** shall serve in the capacity of the President in the absence of the President. The Vice-President shall have the general powers and duties usually vested in that office. The Vice-President shall be responsible for planning and coordinating any TSA Rally.

The **TSA Secretary** shall be responsible for keeping the minutes at all TSA meetings and reading these minutes at any meeting of the TSA when requested to do so by the presiding officer. Distribute copies of all minutes to members of the Executive Board and Bluebonnet Banner editor to be

published. Make a record of the roll call and have custody of these records at all times during the tenure of the office, with the understanding that all such records belong to the TSA and must be surrendered to the new TSA Secretary, or to the TSA president upon their resignation of that office. The Secretary shall file the reports of the Standing Committee Chairpersons and special committees after they are presented and approved. Have a copy of the current TSA Constitution and Bylaws available at all TSA meetings for ready reference. Send out notices of regular and special meetings to the Executive Board and Bluebonnet Banner editor to be published. Receive and record all the membership dues from Chapters and Members-at-Large. Prepare and distribute to all Chapters and Members-at-Large voting material for the TSA election of officers and amendment changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.

The **Treasurer** shall have custody of all funds, securities, and assets of the Association except the Scholarship Fund. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting all dues and keeping full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Association. The Treasurer shall pay current operating expenses

which have been approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall be audited yearly. The Treasurer, with the approval of the Executive Board may allow Committee Chairpersons to control funds for their Committee. These Chairpersons must report fund activities to the Board of Directors with a written financial statement to the Treasurer.

The Nominees are:

President - George Cross
George has been the president for the last 2 years. He and his wife Joan have been involved in the Humble Wildcatters, Texas Retirees and currently serve as TSA President.

Vice President - open

Secretary – open

Treasurer – Mike Cross
Mike has been a member of the FCRV and TSA for 3 years. It has only been in the last year that he has become involved in a more active role for the TSA. He and his wife Dawn are members of the Humble Wildcatter.

You will be receiving your ballots soon. Installation of the new officers will be done at the Fall Campventure in Hempstead Texas.

Winding Roads – by Joe Schmidt

WINDING ROADS® BY JOE SCHMIDT



Hi, Stan. I'm still waiting in that open campsite while you drive the RV around to see if there's a better one. What's taking so long?



WWW.JOESTOONS.COM

Texas Members Updates

Please keep the following Texas members in your thoughts and prayers:

Jeannine Coleman
Dave & Rita Blair
Vernon Hahn
Bill Click,
Carl Benton,
Delia Nonenmacher,
Toby Wood who is Alta's sister,
Marie Pearce
Tommy Jean Elliott's little grandson

*The Bluebonnet
Banner took 3rd Place
at the National
Campvention for
Newsletters. This
was our 2nd submission.
Last year the Banner
received Honorable
Mention.*

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.bluebonnetbanner.com

TSA Officers & Staff

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George & Joan Cross, President, Texas Retiree Director,
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jljamaica2@suddenlink.net
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jelenburg@verizon.net
Mike & Dawn Cross, Bluebonnet Banner Editors
bluebonnetnews@yahoo.com

Things to do in Hempstead or nearby

Civil War Weekend

Nov 22-23 - in spite of the name Civil War Weekend at historic Liendo Plantation is a wonderful learning experience and an opportunity to see living history. [Check out the videos](#) to see what's in store for you. Civil War Weekend is a fun-filled family event that stresses history as you literally step back into time. Come see civil war battle reenactments, live folk music, traditional blacksmith, and much more. To get all the details, [visit their web site](#).

Frazier's Ornamental Concrete

Frazier's is one of Texas' best known resources for home and garden décor and commercial site furnishings. For over half a century, Frazier's is the place to connect with the traditional, the unique, and the hard to find elements that home owners and trade professionals seek to obtain.

Situated in Hempstead (right at the entrance to the Bluebonnet Trail at the intersection of Hwy. 290 and Hwy. 6), Frazier's unique blend of unsurpassed selection, on-hand (and by special order), establishes itself as a delightful destination for homeowners, trade professionals, and scores of curious tour bus participants annually. Visitors truly appreciate and enjoy the natural setting (no asphalt) in which our products are displayed and experience a very pleasant and relaxing shopping setting.

COME AND EXPERIENCE how just walking into Frazier's can lift your spirit and, perhaps, change your life for the better.

TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION FALL CAMPVENTURE NOVEMBER 25 – 29

The Texas State Association Fall Campventure is coming up. The Texas Retirees will be the host and have planned lots of things for us to do. Below is a list of things that will take place. Make plans now to come on down and enjoy the fun and festivities.

Thanksgiving Dinner. Bring the side dishes for a wonderful pot luck!

“Souper” Saturday Supper – everyone bring their favorite soup to share

DAT Program – Officers from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department and the Montgomery County Fire Marshalls office will present a program on RV Safety

Wii Bowling Tournament – Form your team now. What kind of wild and crazy name can you come up with? Teams will consist of 4 members. High Score wins and prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams. There will also be individual Wii Bowling Tournament. Cost - \$5.00 per team or \$1.25 for an individual. Times will be set for practice and the tournament. Calling all YOUTH – this would be a great time to beat your parents! Get your Team together now.

Tea Cup Auction – Bring that something you have to auction. Please new or gently used items only.

Goodie Walk – We would like to have baked goodies, homemade goodies, canned drinks, etc for the Goodie Walk

Coffee Mug Exchange – This is new this year. Bring an extra coffee mug you have at the house (no need to purchase something!). We will set all mugs on a table and during the Welcome Hospitality; you can pick up your new mug. We will have hot chocolate, coffee and tea.

Installation of New Officers

Selection of the New Teen Queen and King – contact Charla Yost for information

SPC – walk that mile (or senior mile)

Visit with friends – old and new. Check out some of the nearby area – see sidebar for some ideas

And even more! Get your reservation in as soon as possible – so the planners can get a headcount of who will be there!

A NOTE FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR

Kenn Green

It is sure good to be back from Missouri. It is a lot hotter here than it was up there. And it rained more also. No really, it was hot up there also. It was a great Campvention, many, many great people worked hard to pull this one off, and without a doubt, it was a SUCCESS. Thanks to all the people who worked long hours, and two or three different jobs to get it done. Charla kept jumping on people, and sending e-mails out, and on and on until she got her wish. Over 500 rigs. She had 550 registered, and had 43 no shows for a total on the grounds of 507. You should have been a part of this one, because you will not get the chance to work a Region II Campvention again until July of 2016. What a shame.....

This is going to be kind of jumbled up this time, because I am going to write it down as they fall off my desk. And the second one is, a note from Bill and Cleo Hollyhead saying they are relocating to Mesquite, TX. They will be moving to Christian Care Center at 1010 Wiggins Parkway in Mesquite, 75150-9974. Their phone number will be 214-972-686-3086 (that is too many numbers) will I guess I don't know what it is. They are moving because their house needed some additional help, and they needed additional medical help. They say they would be happy to receive a call or letter from some of their old RV buddies. So make their day sometime.

The Member Section of FCRV website is now passworded. There were some people who were getting e-mails and spam that said it was picked up on FCRV Website. If you are in the habit of going to the FCRV website, and wish to continue to do so, give me a call or e-mail and I will give it to you. I am sorry that I can't put it in this newsletter, but for security reasons I can't. I will have to verify that you are a current member of FCRV, then I will pass you the user name and password. Isn't the electronic age wonderful. HA

We now have a new "FCRV Today". Remember the little newspaper we used to get, well it is gone. Thats good. Because in its place they have made a newspaper that is now tri-folded. That makes it the size of most information handouts. It seems to be a quality piece of work. If your chapter wishes to use them, let me know and I will get them to you. The more copies of this brochure we can get

into the hands of our members, the greater the opportunity of reaching potential new members.

I just received the printout from National stating the number of members in each state or providence. In going over this report I find that Texas is number 9 in number of members out of 54 states and Providences. This is kind of dishearting. Since 2001 when I started to keep up with stuff like this, we have lost down to 177 members. In 2001 we only needed 3 members to break the 300 mark. Shows you how much we work on trying to get new members. And they don't have to be new members. Get some of the ones back that you lost for one reason or another. I think you will find it is more fun to go camping with 20 or 25 rigs and it is with 4 or 5. A lot of our chapters only have a few members, and it is difficult to get a meeting place with this kind of numbers. Have you ever tried to have a chapter meeting outside in the rain, or a potluck???? No fun No fun.

Kenn & Paula Green
Texas State Director

Upcoming Dates

2009

Nov 25-29 State Fall Campventure at Red Oak RV Park in Hempsted, TX. This will be over the Thanksgiving weekend
Dec 24-Jan 2 Everybody After Christmas Relax and Do Nothing Campout. We are wore out & need some time off.

2010

Feb ??? Conservation Campout at Inks Lake State Park. We blew it this year, so let's make it up to the Rangers this year.

Mar 17-20 YARS (Same as above) Rally at Ocean Lakes Campground in Myrtle Beach, SC. Everyone has heard of Myrtle Beach, you need to be some of the few who have been there.

Mar 23-28 National Retiree Rally in Ladsen, SC.

May 23-27 State Retiree Rally at Antique Capital RV Park in Gladewater, TX. We went here in 2009 and it was GREAT.

May 28-31 State Directors Fun Campout & TSA Spring Campventure at Antique Capital RV Park in Gladewater, TX.
Due to the National Retiree Rally and when Easter Falls – the State Retiree Rally, State Director's Fun Campout and State Spring Campvention will all be held during the week of Memorial Day

Jun ??? Region II Campout in Kansas

Jul 9 - 16 National Campvention at Berring Springs, MI. How often do you get a chance to see Niagara Falls?

Nov 24-28 State Fall Thanksgiving Campout

FCRV/TSA FALL CAMPVENTURE

NOVEMBER 25-29, 2009

RED OAK RANCH RV PARK
52715 HWY. 290 HEMPSTEAD, TEXAS
PHONE 979-826-6339

Deadline to pre-register: November 9, 2009
Registration Fee: \$10.00
after Nov. 9 - \$15.00 will be required
Adult Activity Fee: \$5.00 per adult (pay with pre-registration)
CAMPING FEE: \$18.00 per day

For more information contact: Catherine Singleton
Phone: 512-398-5803 e-mail: kates891@embarqmail.com

Name_____

Spouse_____

Others_____

Address_____ City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Telephone_____ Email: _____

Chapter Name_____ Number_____

Special Needs_____

Attendees: Adults_____ Teens_____ Youth_____

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



Make checks payable to Barbara Green

Registration fee \$_____

Activity fee \$_____

Date Paid: _____

TOTAL \$_____

Check Number _____

Mail To: Barbara Green
820 W. Live Oak
Lockhart, Texas 78644-2544