



Texas North Star Sams Area 17 - 2005

September Newsletter

The President's Corner



Kathy Helwick

For a small group, we sure have put the miles on our rigs this summer! ... I'm guessing our group total will easily be over 25,000 miles by the time we get everyone home. With the current price of gas, that's quite a testimony to our commitment to RVing.

Life is full of tradeoffs. For the most part we've been cool and seen some great sights, but we've missed you. One thing being away from home teaches you is how much your friends mean to you.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in Perrin. We'll be driving there straight from Michigan and plan to arrive on Thursday night.

As always, feel free to contact me with questions and/or comments. I'm still reading my email and answering my cell phone in Michigan and on the road.

Kathy Helwick
Khelwick@msn.com
972-416-6727

Officers:

President: Kathy Helwick
Vice-President: Steve Young
Treasurer: Jim Bailey
Secretary: Sherry Young
Wagon Master: Lew Foitek

Newsletter Editor: Sherry Moran
Special Projects: Pat Foitek
Sunshine/Chaplain: Cheryl MacPherson
Web Master: Tim Moran

June Meeting:



Sherry Young

Good Sam Campout Business Meeting Minutes for June, 2005

Texas North Star Good Sam Minutes
June 17-19, 2005
Destiny RV Park

Attendance:

MacPhersons, Youngs, Baileys, Morans (Moran grandchildren visiting)

TREASURY -

\$5 more than last month.

WAGONMASTER -

Sept 17-19 Perrin, TX

Hospitality Schedule to be setup by S. Moran.

Each rig brings 2 dozen doughnuts, and a gift.

Duties: Meet people, offer coffee, get them to sign up.

Ask Duerrs about ice cream bars for fund raising.....Morans will check with Duerrs.

We have club's door prize from the garage sale.

Can we reserve spaces at Perrin?

October 21 -23 Tres Rios at Glen Rose - Hosted by Foitek.

October 27-30 Samboree at Waco

November 18-20 Whispering Pines at Tyler. Hosted by Duerrs.

SPECIAL PROJESCTS

Pat has \$47 for reversible material for lap robes.

SUNSHINE REPORT (none)

WEBMASTER REPORT (none)

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Jim and Jacque Reid....to Perrin maybe Mark and Chris when we met at Destiny.

CLUB SHIRTS & HATS

fall activity

MEETING ADJOURNED FOR JULY AND AUGUST.

Happenings:

2005 Area 17 Rally – Perrin, Texas

Each rig is to provide 2 dozen cookies, doughnuts, crackers, or whatever for Hospitality. These may be delivered to the kitchen area in building # 4. Please label if they are sugar-free.

Each rig is also to donate a new/slightly used item for the silent auction.

Our chapter has donated tire covers for the doorprize table.

North Star Sams are responsible for Hospitality. This consists of making coffee and setting out the donated cookies, etc. on **Thursday and Friday** mornings from **8AM to 10AM**. PLEASE let me know when you expect to arrive (Wed. night, etc.). I think one or two couples per hour will cover it. If you have a preference for a time, let me know, or I will assign a time. Tim and I will start with the 8 a.m. Thursday time. Maybe we'll meet some new members for our group.

PLEASE see the website (www.ntahc.org/northstarsams) for all the other details, a map, and the registration form. If you have any questions, let me know ASAP.

Here is a smattering of what our members have been up to this summer:

The Baileys

"In June we went to Smithville, Mo (north of KC, for a camp out with my son & his family (6 days). In June we went to England, Scotland, Wales & Ireland for 16 days. In July we went to Steamboat Springs, Colorado to watch our 10 yr old grandson in the baseball world series (10 days). His team came in 9Th out of 44. In August we went to Smithville for a family Reunion (8 days). 125 attended, some from 8 different states. Prior to Labor Day we plan to go to Arkansas to the chuck wagon races (4 days)."

The Duerrs

"Greg and I just made a long weekend trip to Branson and loved the area. We'd like to go back sometime, if anyone wants to go Sherry told us of a fantastic place to stay, Musicland. You can walk to a lot of the places, the park is gated, lots of shade, very well maintained and in a great location. And yes, they give Good Sams a discount. Would be a great place to go as a group. We saw the show, "Broadway," and cruised on the Branson Belle.

We're going with the Youngs to Lake Palestine for Labor Day weekend. We're going to ride the steam train. It sounds like fun!

We're hopefully planning on a trip to New Mexico for 7/10 days, would like to catch the Balloon Festival that starts on September 30th and runs through October 9, anyone open for going, let me know. I have located a place that has a shuttle to and from the balloon festival everyday, saves you from having to deal with the traffic. Also, gives you access into their VIP area with shade, tables and food area. I'm also looking into Taos & just heard of Cloudcroft, if anyone has any suggestions of places to stay, please let me know."

Greg and Dell also traded their 27' trailer for a new 30' trailer. – ed.

The Foitek

"We left Carrollton on May 17 for Washington, via California. We saw several things in New Mexico and Arizona including Sky City, Zuni Pueblo, Petrified Forest, and London Bridge in Lake Havasu City. We visited Lew's niece in L.A., and then headed up the California coast. We visited several beaches, Hearst Castle, Winchester Mansion, San Francisco, Muir Woods, Point Reyes, several lighthouses, as well as the Redwoods state and National Parks.

We traveled up the scenic coast of Oregon, stopping at the Sea Lion Caves, several state beaches, and many lighthouses. We toured Ft. Clatsop at Lewis and Clark National Park.

We arrived at our destination, Long Beach, Washington, on June 12 (so we could start work at the r.v. park on June 15) Two days after we arrived, we had a tsunami warning! The r.v. park was evacuated, but the warning was soon downgraded because the earthquake off the northern California coast wasn't the type to cause a large tidal wave.

Working at the r.v. park is a lot of fun. We meet people from all over the country, and we are located on the beach - which Lew loves. We've managed to do some traveling around Washington on our days off. We've visited Mt. Rainier, Mt. St. Helens, the Columbia Gorge, the Olympic Peninsula, and several other places.

There are a lot of neat things here on Long Beach Peninsula, including: the Kite Museum, Cranberry Museum, Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, two lighthouses, and many neat restaurants. We have a garlic festival, jazz festival, an International Kite Festival, and a big Rod Run (antique car show)."

The Helwicks

"Dave and Kathy have successfully achieved our 4 goals for the summer:

1. Escape the Texas heat. Even though native Michiganers are complaining that this is one of the hottest summers they can remember, we just smile. There have been maybe 10 days in the mid 90's, and the rest have been in the 80s. Yes, those 10 days were miserable with high humidity, but nothing like Texas summers, and those 10 days were not even consecutive! Sweatshirts are a necessity in this area in the evenings.
2. Earn a little money. We have each worked 24 hrs/wk as Rangers at Waldenwoods Resort, a private-membership campground with 310 campsites, a lake, a pool, planned activities, a golf course, and a lodge where weddings and family reunions are held. We haven't exactly gotten rich, but we figure we made enough money to cover our camping costs and pay for our gas. Ranger duties consist of manning the entry booth and patrolling the grounds in a golf cart. Because we work the 4pm to midnight shift, we also lock up some buildings and enforce quiet time.
3. Sightsee. On many of the 4 days a week that we don't work, we take trips. We've walked and camped on the beaches of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron (Cuddles did not like the sand at all!). We've toured such places as the Newmar factory, the Gerald Ford Museum, the Frederic Meijer Botanic Gardens, the Ford River Rouge Plant, the Michigan State Capitol (same architect as the Texas Capitol), a Holland Windmill, and Greenfield Village. We attended a Balloonfest and the opening ceremonies of a Michigan Samboree. We floated the Rifle River (Whoever invented floats with seats and backs is my hero.). We've driven the campuses of Michigan State University and Notre Dame. We plan to take the long way home and see Traverse City and the Upper Peninsula on the way.
4. Visit family. Daughter Charlyn lives 50 miles away in a western suburb of Detroit. She and her 4 children (ages 6, 4, 2, and 7 months) have been here several times. Playing at the beach at the lake is their favorite activity. They also bring their bikes. Dave bought a bike here and they ride together. Their entire family stayed in one of the cottages here for 3 days."

The Morans

"While not taking any extended trips this summer, we have continued to burn our share of the nation's fuel supply.

In mid-June, we drove our RV, pulling the Austin Healey in an enclosed trailer, to Winston-Salem, NC, spending two weeks on the road to attend a week-long National Austin Healey Club convention. Along the way, we did "See Rock City" and did some family history for Sherry in Franklin, Tenn. and Greenville, South Carolina. We traveled in To see the happenings at the convention, follow this link -

<http://www.ntahc.org/pastevents/2005/Conclave2005/Conclave2005.htm>

After the convention, we spent a delightful day at a lake north of Atlanta, visiting with a friend that Tim had not seen since 1967.

Less than a week after we arrived home from NC, we climbed in the Suburban and drove to Southern California for a couple of weeks to visit Tim's mother (age 93). Our daughter, son-in-law, and the twins flew to SoCal to be there with us. They rode home to Texas with us.

On the trip home along I-10, as we neared El Paso, TX, the "Burb's" A/C went out and we drove the last 700 miles home to Dallas in 94-98 degree temperatures with all the windows down. We don't remember 98 degrees being QUITE that hot when we were kids!

As soon as we got home, we put the Suburban in the shop to have the A/C fixed!

Three days after our return from SoCal, we drove to Kansas City in Sherry's Mustang convertible for the birthday celebration of a lifelong friend and Tim's mid-1960's roommate and his wife.

Two days after we got home from KC, we climbed back into the (now cool) Suburban and headed south to Georgetown, TX, to spend a week with Sherry's mother and to celebrate her 82nd birthday.

The day after we got back from Georgetown, we got word one of Tim's VERY close friends from early high school had passed away from lung cancer. So it was back into the Mustang convertible and back up to Kansas City for the funeral.

Well, that's about it for this summer... In 8 weeks, we traveled nearly from coast to coast and from mid-America almost to Mexico. We drove over 8,000 miles in four different vehicles (including the Healey). We are ready to stay home for a while.... We hope it happens."

The MacPhersons

We've heard that the Macs sold their house in Lewisville and hit the road! They spent two days visiting the Helwicks in Michigan and were headed to Nova Scotia after visiting some of Brian's family in other parts of Canada.

The Youngs

We hear the Youngs spent much of the summer going back and forth to West Texas after the death of Steve's father. Our sympathies to them.

They also have a trip planned to Lake Palestine for Labor Day, where they'll ride the Texas State Railroad. Watch out for flying cinders!

Wagonmaster



Lew Foitek

September Mini-Rally

September 15, 16, 17, 18 – Mitchell RV Resort, Perrin, TX

Hosts – Bob and Jann Sanders

**See www.ntahc.org/northstarsams –
"Upcoming Events" for more details and a map**

October Campout:

October 21, 22, 23 - Trios Rios Destiny RV Resort, Glen Rose, TX

Hosts – Jim and Marge Bailey

Reminder: RSVP to Jim Bailey by October 17

**See www.ntahc.org/northstarsams –
"Upcoming Events" for more details and a map**

October Samboree:

October 27, 28, 29, 30 - H.O.T.Fairgrounds, Waco, TX

**See www.ntahc.org/northstarsams –
"Upcoming Events" for more details and a map**

Congratulations!

Marge and Jim Bailey will celebrate their 48th wedding anniversary on August 31.

Pat and Lew Foitek celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary on July 27.

Happy Birthday!



Lew Foitek
Sept. 27

Subject: Dogs & Dogology:

Don't accept your dogs admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful – Ann Landers

We give dogs time we can spare, space we can spare, and love we can spare. And in return, dogs give us their all. It's the best deal man has ever made. – M. Acklam

Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like never bathed a dog – Franklin Jones

Ever consider what our dogs must think of us? We come back from the grocery store with the most amazing haul – chicken, pork, half a cow. They must think we're the greatest hunters on earth! – Anne Tyler

If you think dogs can't count, try putting 3 dog biscuits in your pocket and then giving Fido only 2 of them – Phil Pastoret

From the Editor:



Sherry Moran

Please send any news you'd like included in the newsletter to me before the last week of the month.

sjmoran@ticnet.com