



Texas North Star Sams Area 17 – 2006

April Newsletter

The President's Corner



Kathy Helwick

President's Corner

Spring is my favorite time of year. The air seems cleaner. Everything is green and in bloom. Ok, so we didn't have bluebonnets this year, but the trees are all budded out. Spring represents a time of renewal and hope. I don't think it's a coincidence that Easter is in the spring. Life begins again for all of us.

And so, as you enter into spring, take a moment to renew yourself and your spirit. We are all so busy that we sometimes neglect ourselves. There just doesn't seem to be time. I had thought there'd be more time after retirement, and I'm sure there is, but somehow the hours of the day get very full just like they did when I was working.

I challenge each of you to MAKE some time for yourself. Renew! Enjoy a good book or a walk in the woods. Enjoy this beautiful weather. Spend time with someone special. Tell that someone you care about him or her. Figure out what is important to you and do it!

As always, feel free to contact me with questions and/or comments.

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Officers:

President:	Kathy Helwick	Newsletter Editor:	Sherry Moran
Vice-President:	Steve Young	Special Projects:	Pat Foitek
Treasurer:	Jim Bailey	Sunshine/Chaplain:	Sherry Young
Secretary:	Del Duerr	Web Master:	Tim Moran
Wagon Master:	Lew Foitek		

March Meeting:

LOCATION:

Destiny RV Resort – Corinth, Texas

Invocation: Sherry Young

Meeting was brought to order by Kathy Helwick.

ATTENDANCE: Foitek, Helwick, Youngs and Duerr. Morans drove up both evenings

VISITORS: Barbara & Juan Delgado – Assistant State Directors for Area 17

SECRETARY'S REPORT: By Del Duerr

Del read the minutes for January & minutes for February which were prepared by Sherry Moran. Dave Helwick moved to have minutes accepted, Sherry Moran seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

In Jim Bailey's absence, Kathy Helwick reported our balance. Dues for Lloyds were given to Delgados. Moved to be accepted by Steve Young, seconded by Lew Foitek, and accepted by all.

WAGONMASTER REPORT: By Lew Foitek

April campout at Hickory Creek; Lew stated that the Baileys deposit had been returned, he will drive out this weekend to see what the problem is and if we need to cancel? Later in the weekend Lew informed everyone the park had problems only with the particular site the Baileys had reserved. They will be assigned a site outside of the group sites.

June campout will be hosted & destination will be announced by the Duerrs once it has been determined on where to go.

Any changes to campout scheduling for the Fall season will be discussed at a later date before everyone departs for the summer months.

SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT: By Pat Foitek

Lap robes will be made and given to the cancer center once again. Project for collecting toys for the Denton's Children Advocacy Center is still undecided.

SUNSHINE REPORT: Sherry Young. No report.

Birthday card for Sherry Moran (March 23)

WEBMASTER/HISTORIAN REPORT: Tim Moran took 500+ pictures during recent trip to South Texas.

Several pictures were placed throughout the recent newsletter for everyone who didn't make the trip to see and for those who made the trip to reminisce on the great time they had.

Tim asked for everyone's help to keep the website up to date, please keep him posted on any news.

NEWSLETTER: February newsletter prepared and sent out by Sherry Moran. If someone has not received their copy please get in touch with S. Moran.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) 50/50 was held.
- 2) Prospective members – Kathy Helwick informed everyone of her attempts in contacting her list of hopeful newcomers. She will continue to see if they would like to join us. It was suggested that perhaps we should invite newcomers to join us at our Meet, Greet & Eat outings. Sherry & Steve Young are also recruiting a couple who park their rig at the same location as they do, will invite them to our next outing. It was suggested we place business cards at counter here at Destiny RV park or to any newcomer we want to recruit.
- 3) Garage Sale – To be held at the Duerrs. It was agreed to hold it on April 29th from 8:00am to 2:00pm. Tim Moran volunteered to print all signs, Kathy Helwick will purchase poster board and each couple is to bring to April campout - 2 wooden stakes for signs. Del Duerr will look into area newspapers to see if there is a cost to place ads? Volunteers are needed to come early on the day of sale to place signs out throughout area. Del asked everyone to please bring "stuff" over on Friday already priced. Breakfast will be provided.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Next Meet, Greet & Eat – April 5th @ 6:30 pm. Chinese restaurant in Carrollton. Name & Address will be sent out soon.
- 2) Kathy Helwick opened the floor to see how everyone felt about the chapter taking another trip outside of the typical 100 mile radius? Discussion went around the room and everyone agreed. Wagonmaster, Lew Foitek will scout around and report back to everyone

- 3) Sherry Young informed the group that revisions should be made to chapter roster; Youngs kitkat was left off previous roster – please add Ms. Kitty as well as newcomer – Shadow (black poodle).

Special Thanks to our Weekend hosts:

Pat and Lew Foitek for the great Mardi Gras theme. Pat went all out with food and table decorations.

HAPPENINGS:

Birthdays in March: Sherry Moran

MEETING ADJOURNED

Moved – Kathy Helwick
Seconded – Steve Young

Wagonmaster

Lew Foitek



April Campout:

April 21, 22, 23 at Hickory Creek, Lake Lewisville, TX

Hosts – Kathy and Dave Helwick

Hickory Creek has lifted the fire ban, so there will be a bonfire on Sat. night if everyone brings a few sticks of wood.

Friday night dinner will be at a local restaurant.

Saturday night the Helwicks will be grilling chicken. Let Kathy know what you will bring. No theme or decorations, can't top Pat, just good food!

Everyone bring stakes for the garage sale + ideas for next year's long trip.

Reminder: Be sure to make your own reservation ASAP by calling 1-800-444-6777 or go to www.reserveusa.com and make your reservation.

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

May Campout:

May 19, 20, 21 at Cedar Mills - Gordonville, TX

Hosts – Sherry and Steve Young

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

June Campout:

JUNE 16th – 18th – Pilot Knoll Park, 218 Orchid Hill Ln., Argyle, Tx. 76226

Phone # 940-455-2228

Each rig must make own reservation by April 17th by either check or by cash. Sites #20, 21, 23, & 24 have been reserved for us by Duerrs.

Directions: from Lewisville – 35E – Main St. – RIGHT on Chinn Chapel Rd. to end of road – go RIGHT – takes you directly into park kiosk.

Happenings:

On March 28, we received news that **Marge Bailey** was in ICU in Weslaco with a high heart rate, low blood pressure and a high temperature. The many tests couldn't pinpoint the cause of her problems. Eventually, it was decided to remove her gall bladder, but things still didn't change. **Jim** kept us all informed throughout the ordeal, and we sent many prayers and thoughts their way. Finally, the diagnosis of Mononucleosis was made and plans were made to air-flight Marge back to Plano as soon as she was strong enough.

They are now back from the Valley! Marge is in ICU at Presbyterian Hospital of Plano. It appears as if the "Mono" diagnosis was not correct, but Jim thinks she is now in the right place and can finally make some progress. She has NOT had a recurrence of cancer and tests are being run to find out what IS the problem. Please keep them in your prayers and thoughts.

Before leaving the Valley, Jim closed up their trailer there and is now back in their home here, and the telephone here is now turned on.

Brian MacPherson's boss is no longer with the company, and Brian has taken over many responsibilities. Somehow he doesn't understand RETIREMENT!

Tim & Sherry Moran just returned from a 4-day trip to an Austin-Healey Roundup in Kerrville. They spent the first day finishing-up the Texas Forts Trail trip that they began in February.

They also spent an afternoon finding the grave of Sherry's gr.-gr.-gr.-grandmother in Desdemona, Tx.

Brownwood has a 1902 Romanesque Revival jail with a castle-like tower which now houses a county museum.



They spent the first night in Brady, Tx. in a SMALL RV park. Brady is on the old Dodge City cattle trail from South Texas, has a great courthouse built in 1910 and is near Texas' geographical center.



Then on to Ft. McKavitt, near Menard, Tx. It has 16 out of 40 buildings which have been reconstructed or rebuilt and is well-worth the trip. Reenactments are held here every year, and you can almost "see" LIFE in the late 1800's as you walk around the Fort.

Here Sherry is sitting on yet-to-be reconstructed ruins of the Commanding Officers quarters at Ft. Mc Kavett.



They passed through Fredericksburg and headed on to Kerrville. The Roundup was held at the Inn of the Hills Resort and Tim and Sherry stayed at the Take It Easy RV Park just 2 blocks from the hotel and very close to downtown. Very nice park – try them sometime. There were some 70 Austin-Healeys in attendance. A driving rally took drivers and cars on a two-hour trip around Kerrville. Kerrville is very "artsy" and many people are moving there. The former Tx. State Park is now run by the City of Kerrville and the RV sites are still excellent.



On the way back to Dallas, they went back through Fredericksburg and stopped at Wildseed Farm to buy plants. Wildseed Farm had most of the bluebonnets they saw on the trip. The whole area, just like the rest of Texas, has suffered from a SEVERE lack of rain; even Marble Falls was lacking in wildflowers this year.

Past Events

March Campout

March 17-18-19 saw the Texas North Star Sams campout at the Destiny RV Park. Pat and Lew Foitek hosted with a Mardi Gras theme.

Del & Greg Duerr, Kathy & Dave Helwick, Pat & Lew Foitek, Sherry & Steve Young, were joined by Barbara & Juan Delgado (Area 17 Directors). Having other commitments for the weekend, Tim & Sherry Moran attended for the Saturday only.

The group spent part of their weekend working on lap robes to be donated to the Cancer Center.



Tim, Sherry, Del, Sherry, Lew, Barbara, Pat



Kathy, Barbara, Sherry

March Meet and Eat

Our March Meet 'N Eat was held at China King Buffet in Carrollton. We had a GREAT time! We were in the Party Room and were joined by prospective members Jim and Jackie Reid and Don Powers (Sandra was ill). This time, we decided to have a Women's Table and a Men's Table for a change.



Dell, Jackie Reid, Kathy, Sherry, Pat, Sherry



Steve, Jim Reid, Dave, Tim, Lew, Don Powers, Greg

Happy Birthday !



Carrell LLOYD – April 14



Tim Moran – April 23

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

2006 NORTH STAR CAMPOUT SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY – Anyone planning on making So. Texas, trip needs to make their own reservations directly with Judy the RV park mgr. @ 956-464-8000. Please note she will not take any reservations prior to 1st week in February. By then she will know what will be available. Touch base with Jim Bailey so they will know who all is going down.

MARCH 17th – 19th - (hosted by Lou & Pat Foitek) Destiny RV in Corinth
Sites will be \$20.00 per nite.

APRIL 21st – 23rd - (hosted by Dave & Kathy Helwick) Hickory Creek, Lewisville Lake – Each rig must make their own reservation as soon as possible by calling 877-444-6777 or go to www.reserveusa.com. We will be on sites #106 thru 125, mention this when making reservations.

MAY 19th – 21st - (hosted by Steve & Sherry Young) Cedar Mills, Lake Texoma in Gordonville

JUNE 16th – 18th - (hosted by Greg & Del Duerr) Pilot Knoll Park, 218 Orchid Hill Ln., Argyle, Tx. Phone # 940-455-2228 – this fronts on Lake Lewisville, almost across from Hickory Creek. Everyone going must call and let them know that the reservations are currently in the Duerr's name and have the reservation changed over. **Payment must be made no later than April 17th** either by check or by driving there and paying in person by check or cash. (they don't have a website). Sites reserved are #20, 21, 23, & 24. The Duerrs are in #22. Cost per night is \$18.00 or if anyone has a "Gold Pass" it will be \$9.00 per night.

Directions to park – Lewisville I-35E – Main Street – RIGHT on Chinn Chapel Road to end of road – go RIGHT, takes you directly into park kiosk

JULY & AUGUST – No campouts scheduled

SEPTEMBER – Mini Rally in Canton

OCTOBER – (Host- Open) American RV Park, Corsicana

NOVEMBER – (Host Open) Whispering Pines, Tyler, Texas

DECEMBER – (Host Open) Christmas Party