



Country Coach Texans

Fall 2016



Mineola Rolls Out Warm East Texas Welcome

*From Pat Turpin,
Rally Host*

Twenty-three Country Coach Texan members (44 people!) gathered at the Mineola Civic Center, in Mineola, TX on October 5, 2016 for our Fall Rally. We once again had reusable shopping bags with Texas themes as rally bags, which were stuffed with tickets for door prizes (three each night), discount coupons and pamphlets from area merchants; butane lighters (to be used to light the Chinese lanterns on Saturday); LED flashlights, courtesy of the **Vanderslices**; documents relative to rally activities and meetings.



would not be renewing membership, the Board members unanimously voted to invite her to stay as an Honorary Life Member of the Club. She and **Mike** contributed so much to the life of this club, we all wanted her to stay! She will join the **Taylors** and **Bobos** in that status of membership.

Formal registration for attendees was held Wednesday afternoon with the rally kicking off at 5pm with our "traditional" margarita happy hour. Before dinner, President **Terry Ray** wel-

We had several evenings of pre-rally get-togethers at the Rally Host/Co-host RV sites, greeting friends as they arrived. The Executive Officers met Wednesday morning to review the status of the rally and discuss club business. Following the Secretary's report that **Nancy Carnes** informed us she

comed everyone and introduced our newest members, **L.B. and Carol Butts**, from Cabot, AR. The kitchen staff at the Civic Center, under the able direction of **Roberta Ferrell**, prepared a delicious Mexican dinner for us with some of the best enchiladas! After dinner, everyone had a great time just visiting and plan-

ning where to go and what to do during the open time on the agenda.

Thursday morning, we were served a traditional scrambled egg breakfast with fresh fruit. After breakfast, everyone gathered for the General Membership Meeting. **Terry Ray** called the meeting to order and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Officers gave their activity reports (complete reports can be found in this newsletter). **Dave Miller of Texas**

Custom Coach in Pipe Creek, TX was acknowledged for his contribution to underwrite rally expenses. We are always so grateful for his support. The full minutes for the General Membership meeting may also be found on the [website](#). Highlights of the meeting were:

The slate of officers for the next two years were presented:

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Fall Rally Highlights cont.

- ◆ President: **David Twilley**
- ◆ Secretary: **Pat Turpin** (3rd term)
- ◆ National Director: **Rod Reames** (he leaves one year unexpired term as Alternate Director)

The nominees were elected by acclamation. **Terry** asked for volunteers to fill **Rod's** unexpired term as Alternate National Director. No one volunteered at the meeting, so efforts will be made to fill that position.

The Rally Schedules for 2017 were presented:

The Spring Rally, hosted by **Jim and Ginny Passe** and **Jim and Brenda Payne** will be April 26-30, at Catherine's Landing in Hot Springs, AR. The "JP²" host team presented a lively "pep rally" to inspire us all to register for this fun rally. Extra emphasis was



made to encourage everyone to reserve a site now in order for the Club to secure the rally sites and pavilion. There was even an agenda to review!!

The Fall Rally, will be hosted by **Pat Turpin**, with **Jerry Clary** and **Jurhee Ivy** as co-hosts, and is set for September 27-October 1 at the Buckhorn Lake RV Resort, in Kerrville, TX.

Thursday night, the suspense was finally over! What did the "Black and White Theme" event mean??? Well, the tables were all decorated with black & white centerpieces (made by **Sheila Ford**) with black sunglasses for each person. Of course, we were all wearing our black and white outfits

(**R.D.** wore a spiffy tuxedo-front T-shirt). Our dinner was delicious, with chicken breast cooked in white wine sauce and homemade chocolate cake for dessert. The "event" was a showing of Roy Orbison's 1987 "Black and White Night" jam session at the Coconut Grove nightclub, which featured folks such as Bruce Springsteen, k.d. lang, Elvis Presley's backup band, and others. What a fun evening!! See photos - page 5.

On Friday, we started the day with a breakfast of egg-sausage casserole (the cook called it "quiche;" however, the guys requested that it be renamed "pie"). Either way, it was scrumptious! During breakfast a rainstorm moved in, which gave us a pretty good soaking. (What's a rally without a good rainstorm?) Fourteen of us signed up to go to the optional noon "paint and sip" activity at Pinot's Palette in Tyler. We carpoled for the drive, starting out in rain, but it cleared up before we reached Tyler. The painting session was fun and we all came home with masterpieces, which were displayed for the rest of the rally for all to admire.

Friday afternoon, **David Twilley**, our newly elected President, was given his first official duty: **Joe Wright**, Sr. VP of Six-State Rally Association for the South Central Area, and his wife, **Nancy**, surprised us by stopping by to present the Country Coach Texans their 15th Anniversary Certificate from FMCA. David accepted the certificate

for the club members. Our official anniversary is not until November; however, it was very special for them to make the effort to join our rally for this presentation. They joined us for dinner as well



and many had the opportunity to meet and greet them. The night's dinner was Texas brisket, with all the fixin's and homemade peach cobbler. After dinner we were entertained by **The Country Drive Band**, who played a mix of country-western songs for dancing and listening. We had a growing group of line dancers out there!

Saturday morning, breakfast was on our own. There were a number of festival/fairs in the area for us to choose and just enjoy the beautiful day! For our evening meal, we had chicken spaghetti with salad, garlic bread and homemade apple pie for dessert. After dinner, we organized five tables of eight to play four lively rounds of Card Bingo. **David Twilley** was our caller and did an outstanding job keeping us entertained. Prizes were given to the winners; the games became quite competitive.

After the last card game, the Chinese Lanterns that were donated by **Terrie and Bobby Howard** were distributed to everyone. Unfortunately, this batch of lanterns were not as sturdy as those the Howards received the last time we were in Mineola. We had a few occasions of "Hindenburg" flights, which burned up before lifting off; however, we were able to successfully launch at least a dozen and watch them float off into the sky. Launching the



(l-r) Joe Wright, David Twilley, Pat Turpin, Sue Houle and Rod Reames

Fall Rally cont.

lanterns is such a special event and Mineola is the perfect place to do it!

Sunday morning, we had our traditional Continental Breakfast and said our goodbyes.

Special thanks to the staff at the Mineola Civic Center - they are FABULOUS and make hosting a rally there a real joy, and to my co-hosts, **Sheila and Kevin Ford** and **Lynn and R.D. Vanderslice** for all of their help with the planning and organization for the rally, and distribution of door prizes. Their help was invaluable!

Sheila made a special surprise presentation to me (**Pat Turpin**), on behalf of the Club, for working to keep the Club on track for rallies into the future and support for the officers. The gifts were a wooden pen and wine stopper, handcrafted by **Kevin Ford**. Absolutely spectacular pieces of art! The recognition was appreciated - thank you for those gifts!

Pat



Rally host and co-hosts (l-r): Lynn & RD Vanderslice, Pat Turpin, Kevin & Sheila Ford



New member, Carol Butts (right), won a drawing prize presented by Mineola Civic Center staff Terri Valek (center) Roberta Ferrell (left)



It was so terrific to have Pam & Charles McCaskill back with us and Pam looking fantastic!



Fall Rally cont.



Our talented group of artists display their works of art from the Pinot's Palette session.



More photos are posted
on the [CCT website!](#)

Theme Night: "Roy Orbison's Black & White Night"



From Club President Terry Ray

If you missed Mineola, you missed a whole lotta fun!! Thanks to our rally hosts for a wonderful time.

Now comes the time in every president's service to their club that they look most forward to, passing the baton! I certainly have enjoyed the two years that I have served as president. You have selected **David Twilley** to lead in the future, and **Laurie** and I are thrilled to hear it. The special thing about David is that he approached me halfway through my term and indicated that he was concluding his responsibilities to some other clubs and associations that he was involved in. He told me that if the Board wanted him, he would accept the nomination to be the next president. Glory hallelujah, a president loves a volunteer! David and his lovely wife, **Jean**, have been involved in motorhoming for years. He has served our club as a national director and has served a stint on the Board of Country Coach Friends. I think he will provide a depth of experience and stability that we need. My brief stint as president has opened my eyes to the many joys of motor coaches, the camaraderie and technical advice from those that have been there is vital to enjoying our coaches. Without you, I would have never discovered "Happy Camper". Boy what a difference it makes.

As I told those present in Austin the night that David and others nominated me, I was new to motorhoming. I have tried my best to achieve the goals that the Board set out and we now enjoy knowing well in advance where and when our future rallies will be held, thanks in great part to **Pat Turpin**. I can't say enough about the service that she provides to each and everyone in the Club. She simply makes the other officers jobs much easier! I could go on and on but I won't. When you gave me this job I told you that I would do it, but I would be calling on each and every one of you to lend a hand in your special way. Some of you have, some of you have not -- you know who you are. Don't make excuses in the future, do like **David Twilley**, and volunteer! With that in mind I would consider serving as your president sometime in the future...

Happy Travels!
Terry



Terry Ray

President-Elect - David Twilley



Thank each of you for your support and vote of confidence in electing me as your president for the next two years. Our club is in very good shape financially and rallies are planned for next year and we are already looking at venues for 2018. We have a great group of people on our executive board and we will work hard to provide our members with as much fun and fellowship as possible. Speaking of fun, each of us needs to make our plans to attend our spring rally starting April 26th in Hot Springs AR. The **Passes** and the **Paynes** have a great rally planned and we don't want you to miss out on the fun. To close, let me ask each of you to continue to seek out new members for our club. Maybe invite a friend to our next rally as a guest. See you in Hot Springs!

David



Welcome New Members

L.B. and Carol Butts
Cabot, Arkansas

VP's Report

From Sue Houle



I want to thank **Terry Ray** for always showing up for our business meetings and I didn't have to dust off the Roberts Rule of Order. Our chapter has run smoothly this year and had two great rallies. The year, 2017, has our spring rally plans going strong and the fall rally is scheduled (**Pat Turpin** knows how to get things done). There are some rumors that 2018 plans are stirring in the pot. Stay tuned for more information and consider volunteering to host/co-host a rally or serve in a future position on the Board. The Club's success is driven by volunteerism!

We have a new president, **David Twilley**, and I am looking forward to working with him. Let's try to build our membership up and keep having fun.

Sue





From Our Secretary & Treasurer Pat Turpin

Secretary Report:

Since last report, **Nancy Carnes, Janice Gould, and Joe and Beverly Smith** have notified me that they will not be returning members. The Membership Roster includes them, as they have paid dues through 2016. Please let me know any changes in your club information (including those of you who have new coaches that should be listed in the formal club Directory). Copies of the latest Roster have been distributed. The Birthday Calendar has been maintained.

Pam McCaskill is well and was with us at the Fall Rally.

I worked with **Sheila and Kevin Ford** and **Lynn and RD Vanderslice** to plan and organize the Fall Rally at the Mineola Civic Center. We hope everyone enjoyed the event as much as we enjoyed planning it!

Although I promised to do Directory updates prior to this meeting, that task has been put on hold. Our newest members still need their initial Directories. Revisions will be done and new books will be available early in 2017.

Treasurer Report:

Laura Osiecki was elected Treasurer to fulfil **Pam McCaskill's** unexpired term at the Spring Rally; however, she and I have not had the opportunity to connect to transfer records. **Laura and Paul** were unable to attend the Fall Rally due to family commitments on the east coast, so I have continued as your interim Treasurer.

The Spring Rally at Winstar posted a deficit of \$1,934.41. The Board had approved to underwrite \$1,000 from the treasury prior to the rally. Our goal was to keep the registration fees within the \$250/coach goal set by the Board several years ago. The Fall 2015 Rally posted a profit of \$875.75, so the treasury was not severely affected following the Winstar Rally.

The Club remains in good financial condition. As of October 5, 2016, we have net income of \$3,049.73, with total current assets of \$14,626.63. Rally expenses will impact the current assets; however, we expect assets to be close to \$9,000 after the Mineola rally expenses are paid.



National Director's FMCA Update

Greetings to all! I hope everyone has had a fun summer. A few things of interest concerning the Governing Board meeting in West Springfield, Mass, this past August:

- ◆ Effective October 1, 2016, dues were increased \$10.00 for family membership. Therefore, first year dues will be \$60.00 and renewals will be \$50.00 per year. The last increase was in 2010 and, as you can understand, expenses have increased substantially. When you renew, you should receive a new card with important information on the back including the phone number for FMC Assist, which is the emergency assist program included in your annual dues. You can also sign up for automatic dues renewal with a credit card.
- ◆ The Executive Board, with the approval of the Governing Board, voted to amend the Articles of Incorporation to make them as broad as possible to avoid restrictive constraint on FMCA's mission. A detailed explanation, as well as a ballot, are included in the October issue of the FMC magazine. Please look this over, fill out your ballot, and mail to the address listed on the ballot before December 31, 2016.

FMCA has sponsored a new social network program called RVillage. You can connect with friends, members with like interests, and members located in your area. Go to RVillage.com and sign up.

Future Rallies:

- ◆ **FMCA Spring Rally** Chandler, AZ
March 7-10, 2017
- ◆ **Winter Rally** Indianapolis, IN
Winter of 2017
- ◆ **Six-State** Texarkana, AR
October 26-29, 2017



Finally, as this is my last report, I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as National Director. I especially want to thank the Board for all of the support it has given me. It has truly been a pleasure and you are in great hands with **Rod Reames** as my successor.

Travel safely and I look forward to seeing you in HOT SPRINGS!!!!

Jim Payne

**Make Plans Now for the Spring Rally
April 26-30, 2017**



**Our hosts, the "JP²" team,
Jim & Ginny Passe and Jim & Brenda Payne,
have a great rally planned with
fun activities, tours & entertainment
([click here for tentative agenda](#))**

**Make your RV site reservations now:
[Catherine's Landing](#): 501-262-2550
Tell them you are with the
Country Coach Texans Rally
to get our rally rate**

**More details to be announced
as the date gets closer.**

**Photo credits: Catherine's Landing,
an RVC Outdoor Destination**