



Country Coach Texans

Spring 2012

Great Time in Hot Springs

By Joe Taylor, President

What a wonderful venue for our spring rally. Catherine's Landing in Hot Springs Arkansas provided a grand backdrop of trees, lakes, and hills. We want to thank our rally hosts **Kathe and Derrel Letulle** along with co-hosts **Terrie and Bobby Howard, Cindy and Kirk Hicks, Geneva and Jerry Keeton, Pam and Charles McCaskill, Jim Bobo, Freddie & Maurice McNeel, Diane and Jim Woosley and Jennifer and James Stallings** for providing us with a great RV park, good food, fine entertainment (more about this later), lot's of things to do and see, and best of all, time to visit and share good times with all of our Country Coach friends. Our hats are off to the hosts and co-hosts for all the effort and time they spent making this another outstanding Country Coach Texan rally.

We wish to thank our rally sponsors for their generous contributions:

- **National Indoor RV Centers - Eddie Braley & Todd Spring**
- **Texas Custom Coach - Dave Miller**
- **Motor Homes of Texas - David Robertson & Craig Dorsett**
- **Foretravel Motorhomes - Lyle Reed & Paul Tinkle**
- **Camping World**

When you are in need of sales or service, remodeling, accessories etc., remember these sponsors.

The following guests attended: **Kirk and Cindy Hicks, Craig Dorsett, Paul and Carolyn Tinkle, Jim and Ginny Posse.**

We welcome our newest members to the Country Coach Texan family. After spending a few days with our group, **Jim and Ginny**

Posse decided to sign up, citing what a friendly bunch of people to be associated with. They reside in Hot Springs Village.

How proud I am once again of our members generous spirits. Our raffle and auction netted **\$2300.00** for our

designated charity "The Wounded Warrior Program".

Now to elaborate on the entertainment we enjoyed at the rally... Motorhomes of Texas provided an evening's entertainment with the revival of the old Newlywed TV game show. **Craig Dorsett** played MC for the revival of the game he titled "The Oldywed Game".

Twelve couples of "oldyweds" played, answering questions posed by the MC, as to what you know about your spouse. At the conclusion, **Rod Reames** and **Peggie Fink** won and received a Kindle Fire donated by Motorhomes of Texas. On Friday evening, we enjoyed a dinner cruise on the Belle of Hot Springs.

Our next rally will be Oct 8-12 in Branson Mo. Hosts **Lee and Jeanne Zaborowski** have an exciting time planned for us. Information can be found on our web site cctexans.com.

Till we meet again,

Joe



(l-r) Charles & Pam McCaskill, Derrel & Kathe Letulle, Jim Bobo, Geneva & Jerry Keeton and Terrie & Bobby Howard

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Rally Host's Report - Spa City Retreat

April 25-30, 2012

by *Kathe Letulle*

Wagons HO! Twenty-eight coach families traversed the roadways to attend the 2012 Country Coach Texans Spring Rally in the Spa City. They came from North, South, East and West to meet at Catherine's Landing in Hot Springs, Arkansas. With this group the word "FUN" has attained a NEW MEANING! Where else could each attendee receive "Arkansas Hillbilly Thirst Quencher Stemware", wonderful weather, hilarious entertainment, getting-to-know-each-other interaction, and being movie stars?

Registration began on Wednesday at noon, and the FUN was on! The participation in registration was slow so **Geneva** entertained the group with a lesson on how to use the direction application of the I-Phone. As we were in the main area for campground registration requesting our phones give us directions to a restaurant, the staff took pity on us and gave us the directions to the Purple Cow Restaurant. We were just using the restaurant as a point of reference in the lesson - laughing began in earnest. And that was only the beginning!



The outdoor pavilion was our home for the rally. The wind was a bit of trouble at times but was taken

in stride as the weather was on the cool side. Catering was done by Ron at the "Shady Corner Café". And when we say "Home Cooking", that is what we received - each meal satisfied our appetites! Every evening after dinner, a good number of us sat around under the pavilion and just visited and got to know more about each other. This rally was for fun and relaxation - and we did just that! Each day was left open to visit the area on your own. From the conversations each evening, Bathhouse Row got the most attention with the museum and pampering at the still active spas.

Thursday evening was something out of television-land. Many thanks to Motor Homes of Texas for the thrill or embarrassment of a lifetime. Do "us ole" married folk know our spouses? That became very clear when the winners were **Rod Reames** and **Peggy Fink** in the "Oldywed" Game. Some of the questions were downright truthful....how soon do we forget the likes and dislikes of our spouses. Fun was the name of the game and that's what it was!

Did I forget Movie Stars? No indeed - for those of you who were unable to attend - you missed the chance to be on U-Tube and current day television. Our group is fortunate indeed to have taken part in the filming of "Resort Destination Hot Springs" by Milton Dailey of Ranch and Resort Television. Watch for the upcoming series on

your local television station or check for dates and times at:

www.RanchandResortTV.com.

Friday morning, the Business Meeting was held. Short, sweet and to the point - status quo. Our guests, **Jim and Ginny Passe**, of Hot Springs Village, AR, enjoyed our company so much, they are our newest members. Welcome!

Friday evening found the attendees on the "Belle of Hot Springs". The paddle wheeler ride on Lake Hamilton was a true experience.



The boat has three decks and the attendees saw the sights from all angles. A history of Hot Springs was narrated as well as points of interest along the lake. Attendees had a dinner choice of chicken or prime rib - both of which were delicious.

Saturday was another free day to see the sights of the surrounding area, but that night was most exciting. The charity for the rally was "Texas Honor Ride - Wounded Warrior Program" at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. The attendees purchased tickets for donated prizes and even got to choose which prizes they wished to chance

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Rally Host's Report cont.

with their tickets. This option was a first and was very well received. There was also an auction for other donated items – Texas Quilt (tears of joy), Wood Carved Eagle (donated by a veteran), Grill Its, University of Texas Fleece Blankets, **Freddie McNeel's** wonderful "Rocks", Wine and Chocolate Basket, Glass YardArt Totem Poles, and many other great items. Ticket sale items ran along the same lines as the auction items – just more! All in all \$2,312 was funded to the Texas Honor Ride – Wounded Warrior Program at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. And least not forget the donation of useable clothing – women's for Potter's Clay and men's to Teen Challenge in the Hot Springs area.

Sunday saw good-byes with promises to meet again....my sincere thanks to all my "HELPERS" without whom this rally would not have been enjoyed. **Jim Bobo, Craig Dorsett, Kirk and Cindy Hicks, Bobby and Terrie Howard, Jerry and Geneva Keeton, Charles and Pam McCaskill, Maurice and Freddie McNeel, Diane and Jim Woosley and James and Jennifer Stallings** plus all who pitched in and volunteered. But no one out worked us all as did **Mr. Jim Bobo** – at 84, he put us all to shame. God Bless him!

We were truly blessed with the participation in this rally. We may have been a smaller group – but **POWERFUL!**

Travel safe and see you at a future rally!

Derrel and Kathe Letulle - Hosts



A Special Thank You

to our dedicated sponsors for making the following contributions to our rally:

Wednesday: **National Indoor Storage** – Dinner contribution
Catherine's Landing – Special site rates

Thursday: **Motor Homes of Texas** – Breakfast contribution
 & Evening Entertainment

Friday: **Foretravel** – Breakfast contribution
Camping World – Dinner contribution

Saturday: **Coachworks, LLC – Texas Custom Coach** –
 Dinner contribution

Sunday: **Foretravel** – Breakfast contribution

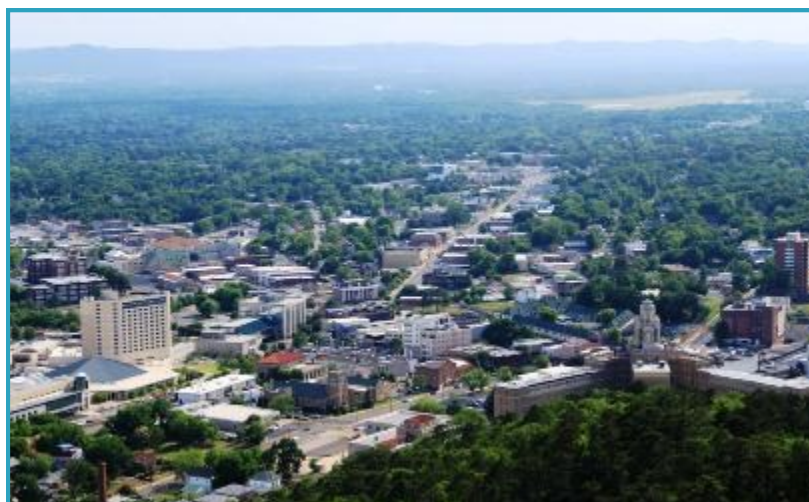
**We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts...
 you truly helped make this rally a success !!**



The Historic Buckstaff Bath House on Hot Spring's Bathhouse Row



Anthony Chapel at Garvin Gardens



Mountain Tower View

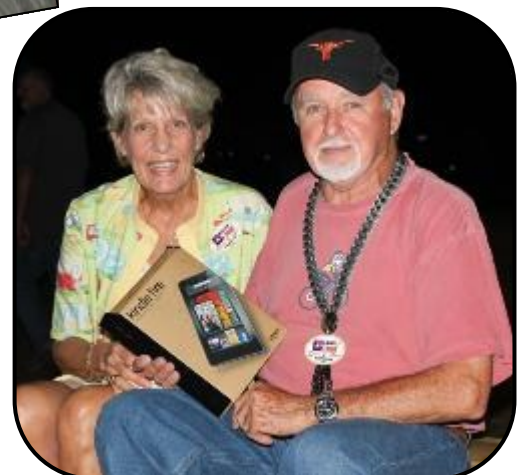


The "Oldywed Game" with M.C. Craig Dorsett of Motorhomes of Texas



*and the winners were...
Peggie Fink & Rod Reames*

*hey wait...
do they qualify ??*





Belle of Hot Springs Dinner Cruise





*Lots of great
raffle & auction
items were
donated*



Jim Bobo was the lucky bidder on Geneva's beautiful quilt



I got it, I got it !!





Sightseeing...



Relaxing...



Playing...



Coach tours...



Great friends...



Visit the "Photos" link at CCTexans.com for more photos from this rally and past rallies.

*Great fun -
See you next time!*

VP's Report



R.D. Vanderslice

The 2013 Rally schedule is still in process. Jerry and Geneva Keeton, along with their band of merry makers are graciously hosting the Spring 2013 Rally in Bandera, Texas at the Skyline RV Park. The Rally will be May 22-26 with rates beginning Monday, May 20 at \$20.00 per coach per day at the park.

The Fall 2013 Rally is still up for grabs with hopes of a North Texas Rally, possibly at the Winstar Casino near Ardmore, Oklahoma or the Choctaw Casino near Durant, Oklahoma. These two sights are just across the state line in Oklahoma and are within an hour drive of the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex. This would be an easy opportunity for someone thinking about hosting or helping with a Rally, but are not sure of what it takes to pull it off. The casinos, having done many of these before, basically do all the work.

There have also been many requests for a Rally in the Houston area. I was recently told that the Jamaica Beach RV Resort on Galveston Island is opening up a whole new section in their park very soon and that this could possibly be a great location for the Fall 2013 Rally. There is plenty to do in Galveston, so Houston-area CCTexans, we need to look into this. Also, there have been a number of people who said that they would help with the Fall Rally, so all we need is someone to head it up and start the process. It's easy!

I can be reached at rdvan@sbcglobal.net or 972-989-1069. Happy trails!

From Our Secretary

It was great to see everyone who attended the Hot Springs rally, but we missed those of you who were unable to attend. Our hosts and co-hosts worked hard to make sure we had a good time with plenty to see and do. Some of the best things about our rallies, however, are being able to visit with friends and getting to know new members and we enjoyed opportunities to do that also.

I am now maintaining the membership roster, so please send me any changes you might have to your address, phone numbers, emails or coach, etc. so I can make the necessary changes. Don't forget to notify FMCA of any changes. Watch your mailbox for updates to the member directory.

We would also remind everyone to let Joe Taylor or me know of any illness or loss of a loved one so we can let them know our club cares about them.

I hope everyone has a great summer and I look forward to seeing you in Branson.



Cherie Rang

**Minutes from our Spring Rally
General Business Meeting are
posted on the website
www.cctexans.com**

Trea\$urer's Report



Peggie Fink

Who knew Arkansas could be so much fun! We had wonderful sponsors, the very best of rally hosts, and an unusual and unique setting in which to gather. Good friends make warm, delightful memories together, and Hot Springs has definitely given Country Coach Texans a golden glow.

The financial statements for CCT are available on the website, but I would like our membership to be aware that we are carrying forward to the next rally a cash balance of about \$9,200. Our membership has frequently talked about using some of this "excess cash" for future rallies. The next rally is to be held in Branson, MO, and promises to be just excellent.

See you in Branson!

Peggie

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to our Country Coach Texans family.



Larry & Shannon Maresh
Deanville, TX

Jim & Ginny Passe
Hot Springs Village, AR



Jan Gould
Full-Timer
Livingston, TX

George & Teresa James
Fredericksburg, TX

FMCA Update



David Twilley
National Director

The financial health of FMCA, while showing some improvement, is still in guarded condition. Operating losses for the first quarter of 2012 was \$144,887. When our investment gain was added back we were able to show a profit of \$111,521.

During the first quarter, we had a net loss of 2395 members. The big issue to be presented to the Governing Board in August is whether to allow towable unit families to join FMCA as associate members.

The summer Reunion will be held August 27-30 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The 2013 Reunion will be held June 19-22 at the CAM-PLEX in Gillette Wyoming.

Safe travels to all,
David



from Bobby & Terrie Howard

Our son, Benjamin Green, is serving in the US Army at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He was due to redeploy to Afghanistan, however was excused because he has a baby due in August. For this, we are very thankful.

Several of you asked at the rally if we knew of soldiers in which you could send letters or care packages to. We asked our son, and he has provided the address below for one of the soldiers in his platoon.

The name he provided, CPL Everett Bruce, is one of a 12-man team performing a very dangerous mission training the Afghan National Army. It would greatly boost their morale to receive mail and care packages (junk food, etc.) for home. CPL Bruce will share any mail and packages received with the other members of his team.

Everett Bruce
Team Spartan (5th CSSK/2/201 ANA)
TF Lethal Warrior
Fob Joyce
APO AE 09310

Thank you so much. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us: roberthoward9202@yahoo.com

An Important Reminder...

Recent incidents have once again brought up the subject of CO-PILOT training. We owe it to each other to take the time to show your CO-PILOT how to HOOK-UP and UN-HOOK your tow vehicle. It would also be in your best interest to allow your CO-PILOT, who does not already drive the coach, the opportunity to practice driving, and to feel comfortable moving the coach in an emergency situation.

These two critical items might seem unimportant; however, if the situation arises where you are not able to perform these duties, and help is not readily available, knowing your CO-PILOT is trained can reduce the pressure on both of you.



Joe Taylor

Make your plans now to attend the Fall Rally



October 8-12, 2012 at America's Best Campground (ABC), Branson, Missouri
Now is the Time to make your plans to attend this

COUNTRY COACH TEXANS RALLY!

- 🎵 October is a busy time in Branson, we have reserved 40 sites and space is limited beyond that, watch for the Registration form!
- 🎵 You can reserve your camp site now. Our Rally site is America's Best Campground (<http://abc-branson.com/>). Call 800-671-4399 to register for the 4 Rally nights - Monday the 8th through Thursday the 11th. The site fee is \$29. This fee is also available for early bird and after the rally stays. We suggest you come in on Sunday. All sites are full hook-ups. Since 2003, Good Sam Club members have voted ABC the "Most RV-Friendly Good Sam Park" in the U.S. & Canada. ABC is "City Close - Country Quiet" at its convenient and scenic setting, just a short distance northwest of historic downtown Branson.
- 🎵 Meals and beverages will include 3 full and 1 continental breakfast, 4 dinners including The Great American Cookout, and 4 social hours.
- 🎵 There will be nightly entertainment especially for us at ABC, with plans for a Ozark Hillbilly Party, with costumes, music, dancing; a Wild West Show; and our own DJ/Karaoke music master including rally slides. All in all a lot of singing dancing and fun.
- 🎵 Early October is a great time to be in Branson. The Fall weather is mild, with temperatures in the 70s during the day and 50s at night. Branson will be hopping, with folks who travel in the fall, making their way to this live music capital.
- 🎵 Our Rally will be structured similar to recent Country Coach Texans rallies - great catered food, lots of social time before & after meals, entertainment, lots of dancing and laughs.
- 🎵 The daily schedule will allow you to attend up to 2 shows a day of your choice (show tickets not included in the Rally fee). You have 160 to pick from!
- 🎵 Other area attractions include, for example, cruises on Table Rock Lake or shopping galore at Branson Landing with the Bass Pro Shop and over 100 specialty stores and restaurants.

Questions? Contact Lee and Jeanne Zaborowski
Lee and Jeanne Zaborowski, leozbrowski@gmail.com
Derrel and Kathé Letulle (Co-hosts)
Carlton and Pat Sheffield (Co-hosts)