

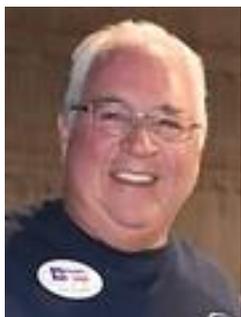


Country Coach Texans

Fall 2022

Another Great Rally in Mineola

*From Club President
David Schnautz*



Hello CCT folks. How about this cool weather? Feels good after such a hot summer. By the looks of the pictures posted, everyone had a wonderful time in Mineola. It seems Mineola is always a hit. I really hate we didn't make it. This working thing is still getting in the way. Hopefully, it won't be long and I can be like most of you. Thanks to our VP **Greg Ricketts** for taking over for me for the business meeting. I hear he and his Corona bottle did a fine job. The minutes from the meeting, including the Officer's reports, are posted on the [website](#).

Appears the activities and especially the live band were a hit. Thanks to all that attended and a special thanks to your rally hosts **Pat Turpin, Sandy and Len Nikolai** and assistants **Danna and David Faerber**.

Have a wonderful Christmas holiday season. Remember the reason for the season! And most of all, be safe in your travels. See you in 2023!



Drone photo by David Faerber



Treasurer Barbara Ricketts, VP Greg Ricketts & Secretary Pat Turpin

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Mineola Rally Report

The second rally in our third decade of CC Texans' existence as a club was held October 17-21, 2022 at the **Mineola Civic Center**, Mineola, TX. We had 17 coaches and two hotel rooms, with 36 people attending. **Pat Turpin** and **Sandy and Len Nikolai** were hosts for this rally, with **Danna and David Faerber** providing back-up support. We were pleased to welcome new members **Don and Beckie Endebrook** and **Don and Jessica Dippel** (who have joined us many times as guests are now members). And guests **Richard and Nancy Brinlee** (friends of the **Bishops**), **Kevin and Donna Cardenas** (friends of the **Hicks** from Colorado), and former members **Jim and Ginny Passe**. Although there was "traditional fall-rally" rain on Sunday and Monday as we were gathering, the rest of the week the



skies were clear and temperatures ranged from 32 degrees in the morning to 85 degrees in the afternoon! This is Texas, right?

This year, the hosts made an "executive decision" that we all had enough reusable bags, so information for participants was provided in presentation folders in place of "rally bags." The folders contained the agenda for the rally; agenda for the General Membership Business Meeting; National Director's FMCA

Governing Board meeting report; updated club roster; list of attendees; and a flyer highlighting the Western Swing Halloween Party happening in Canton after our rally (in case some wanted to have a party-after-the-party). We had seven tables, with table decorations made by **Danna Faerber**, and had a drawing for members to win those and take them home after the rally. Items for the door prizes were contributed by **Pat Turpin, Kathy and Whit Byers**, and **Danna and David Faerber**.

Danna did a great job on wrapping the door prize packages and we drew names to distribute them each evening. Thank you, Danna, for sharing your creativity with us!

We began our festivities Monday afternoon with a CC Texans "traditional" Margarita Happy Hour, with the world-famous **Lonny and Lavada Stevens** margarita recipe. (They were sad they couldn't be here this time and they are definitely missed.) Their recipe is so good!! Our dinner was chicken/beef fajitas with all the "traditional" Mexican sides catered by **The Jalapeno Tree** restaurant in Mineola and served by our rally hosts and member-helpers.

Tuesday morning, we gathered for a delicious breakfast of bacon, eggs, sausage, biscuits, and gravy, served by **Tyler Brown of Fusion in the Woods Catering**. Tyler recently made an agreement with the Civic Center Board of Directors to use the full kitchen and provide the meals we planned on-site. His menu selections were outstanding!

Our General Membership Meeting followed breakfast (minutes for this meeting are posted on the [website](#)). When the meeting adjourned, we were surprised to have our former president and first lady, **Joe and Sandra Taylor** "pop in." They



drove over to reconnect with old friends and it was a joy to see them!

At 2pm, we drove to the Wisener Airport in Mineola to tour the **Royal Flying Circus Aviation Museum**. What a treat that was!! **Lupita Wisener** introduced us to the museum holdings, which included the "remnants" of a Jenny aircraft, a Piper Cub, a document signed by Orville Wright, and more aviation history than one could imagine! The airfield contains one of the original light towers that lined a path every 20 miles between Dallas and Atlanta "back in the day" to guide planes delivering mail. (It still lights up.)

For dinner, Tyler served us Grilled Chicken Pesto Alfredo with penne pasta, sundried tomatoes, and garlic mushrooms; garden salad; garlic basil bread; balsamic glazed Italian vegetable medley; and Crème de Cacao Tiramisu. A gourmet treat!

After dinner, the **Faerbers** set up



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Fall Rally cont.



their Corn Hole game in the ball-room, which became the competitive adventure of the evening. (Card Bingo may be part of our past...)

Everyone loved the fact that the holes in the boards lit up making targets easier to see and devised strategies to hit the coveted hole. Prizes were given to winning teams.



Sandy Nikolai created a playlist of music to play from her iPad and remote speaker, which kept us entertained throughout the rally. At one point, **Jim Passe** did (actually, by force) a reprisal of his famous dance to "Running Bear." The Indian maidens (**Geneva Keeton, Sandy Nikolai, Sheila Ford, and Sarah Bishop**)

assisted. We do have fun!

Wednesday was a free day for exploring the area. Several drove over to Kilgore to visit the **East Texas Oil Museum**. Some went over to Grand Saline to tour the salt mine exhibit. A few went to Golden to pick up the renowned sweet potatoes. Shops in Mineola were explored and many purchases made. At 5:30, we car-pooled to Lindale to the **Texas Music City Grill & Smokehouse** for dinner and karaoke.



Who knew we had so many fantastic voices among us? **Pat Key, Jessica Dippel, David Faerber, Jim Passe, Sarah and Richard Bishop**, and the "Fab Nines" (singing "Elvira:" **Richard Bishop, Richard Brinlee, Kevin Cardenas, Kevin Ford, Len Nikolai, Jerry Keeton, Pat Key, Jim Passe and RD Vanderslice**) all took to the stage. Other patrons even got up to dance while our members sang. People actually came up to ask, "what group are you??" The staff told us they had the most fun watching us!



Entertainment for the future!

Thursday we had another free day to explore the area; however, reconnected at 5pm for our happy hour. **Lisa Bryant**, the new manager for the Civic Center (she had been assistant manager and began her new role as manager on the first day of our rally) joined us to explain the relationship between the Mineola City Council and the Civic Center. She drew names from people who had submitted receipts for purchases made in the area and gave gift cards provided by area merchants. Lisa explained that she provides a report to the Mineola City Council to demonstrate the economic impact that RV Rallies have on the community. On this evening, Tyler served us roast pork tenderloin medallions with brandy Dijon cream sauce; sour cream and chive mashed potatoes; green beans with bacon and caramelized onions; dinner rolls; and seasonal berry shortcake with vanilla whipped cream. What a meal!!!



After dinner, we were entertained by **The Western Flyers (Joey McKenzie, Ridge Roberts and Matthew Mefford)** for the evening. They are an amazing, accomplished group of musicians; we were so fortunate to have them play for us.

Friday morning, we served muffins and pastries in the Civic Center. The spring rally is yet to be announced, so we said our goodbyes-for-now and look forward to meeting in the spring!

Another great CC Texans Rally!

Fall Rally cont.



Fall Rally 2022 cont.



Fall Rally 2022 cont.



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Fall Rally 2022 cont.

Thanks to our rally hosts and assistants for putting together another fun rally!



Pat Turpin



Sandy & Len Nikolai



David & Danna Faerber

Welcome New Members



Don & Jessica Dippel
Destrehan, LA



Don & Beckie Endebrook
Montgomery, TX

Special thanks to photo contributors:

Richard Bishop, David Faerber, Karen Loutin, Pat Turpin & Lynn Vanderslice

More photos and a few videos are posted on the [CCTexans website](#)