



Country Coach Texans

Spring 2017

Club Update and Rally Highlights



*From President
David Twilley*

On behalf of our club, I want to thank **Jim and Ginny Passe** and **Jim and Brenda Payne** for hosting our outstanding Spring Rally in Hot Springs. They left no stone uncovered in the area as they kept us busy with great food, drink, entertainment and side trips. If you missed this rally, you missed a good one.

We also need to thank our new members and guests who attended the Spring Rally. Several of the guests are now members of the Club. Welcome.

During our business meeting, we discussed the need to update our By-laws and Standing Rules. Your board is recommending we open membership to new members with a Class A, Class B or Class C diesel motorhome. We currently only allow current or former members to have Class B and C diesels. We also need to change our Standing Rules to reflect December 31ST as the last day for dues for the current year. Each of you will be notified by email of these changes at least 30 days prior to our fall rally in Kerrville and we will vote at the rally.

Also during the Business Meeting, **L B Butts** was elected Alternate National Director. Welcome to our Board! At the

meeting, we also elected a nominating committee for our fall elections for VP, Treasurer and Alternate National Director. The members are **Jurhee Ivy**, **Sue Houle** and **Whit Byers**.

We need to thank all of our Board members for their service to our club. The following is information they have provided from their area of responsibility.

Again, let me thank our rally hosts, sponsors and our officers, as well as, **Sheila and Kevin Ford** (newsletter and website). You all do a great job.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Kerrville.



*From Vice President
Sue Houle*

We have our Fall Rally scheduled for September 27-October 1 at Buckhorn Lake Resort in Kerrville. Hosts will be **Pat Turpin**, **Jurhee Ivy** and **Jerry Clary**. The Spring 2018 Rally will take place at Cajun Palms RV Resort, Breau Bridge, LA, with hosts **Pat Turpin** and **Terrie and Bobby Howard**. **Jerry and Geneva Keeton** will host the Fall 2018 Rally in Bandera, TX, with co-hosts **Kevin and Sheila Ford**. Thanks to all volunteer hosts for stepping up to the plate to keep our rallies planned in advance.



*Pat Turpin
Secretary*

Since my last report, I have updated the Member Directory. Welcome packets and directories were provided to all new members. In October, I sent a letter and certificate to **Nancy Carnes** to acknowledge her election to a Lifetime Honorary Member of our club. The Birthday Calendar has been maintained and the Membership Roster was included in the rally bags. Updates will be emailed after the Spring Rally.

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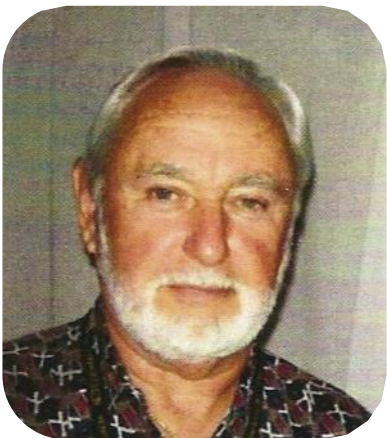
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Club Update and Rally Highlights cont.

Laura Osiecki
Treasurer

Our Club is in great financial shape. After the Spring Rally, we have a bank balance of \$8,611.37. We have collected dues from 46 member units and welcomed several new members, highlighted in the newsletter. Our spring rally had expenses as budgeted.



Rod Reames
National Director

I was unable to attend the last rally. The big issues facing FMCA is continued loss of members and the loss of revenue with increasing expenses per member. The Executive Board of FMCA has recommended that we allow towable RV's to join FMCA. This will be presented to the Governing Board at the July Convention and if passed, will be presented to the membership for voting this fall.

Welcome New Members

Steve & Sharon Johnson
Kerrville, TX



Randy Patrick
Kerrville, TX



Eric & Cindy Rodney
Kerrville, TX



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If you missed it, you missed it... We had a great time in Hot Springs!

From Rally Hosts, Jim and Ginny Passe and Jim and Brenda Payne

The Spring 2017 Rally was held April 26-30 at **Catherine's Landing RV Park** in Hot Springs, Arkansas. We had 53 people, including nine guests, and 28 coaches at this event. The rally was co-hosted by **Jim and Ginny Passe**, and **Jim and Brenda Payne**. As a team, the hosts were known as the "JP Squares" (JP²). As non-Texans, the Squares custom designed the rally



bags with symbols of Arkansas on one side and Louisiana on the other. The bags contained the usual Chamber of Commerce information, maps, travel guide, list of attendees, small gifts, and pocket size rally agendas. In addition, a small commemorative cooler was provided with each rally bag.

We kicked off the Wednesday evening activities with a complimentary cocktail social sponsored by **Trane A/C**. This was followed by a terrific catered dinner of fish and chicken tenders cooked on-site with all the "fixins" by **Bubba's Fish and Seafood Catering**. D-lish! After dinner we were entertained by **Jackie B and Me**. The musical duet had folks dancing or singing along in no time. Day one, Squares have just begun!

Thursday morning began with a wonderful catered breakfast from **The Daily Dish** with pancakes, scrambled

eggs, bacon, sausage, fresh fruit, and drinks. This was followed by the General Membership meeting (see the minutes on the website), which was followed by a very-action packed day. The men folk loaded into two 15-passenger vans for a drive to Hot Springs Village. Once in the Village, they toured a private collection of antique cars of all varieties and listened to the individual history of each rebuilt car. The collection included a rebuilt GMC front wheel drive motorhome. After a nice lunch overlooking one of the Village lakes, it was back to Hot Springs to tour **Alliance Rubber Company**. Right there in Hot Springs is the largest manufacturer of rubber bands in the world. The tour included a presentation on the history of the family-owned business, a show-and-tell on the rubber material used, where it's from, and how it's blended with other material. This was followed by a very interesting factory floor tour through the manufacturing process. Production is tracked in pounds, not units.

Meanwhile, the ladies were off enjoying their busy day. After the



membership meeting, they traveled through hill and dale to the deep woods studio of **Forest Path Gallery** to see and hear about the making of unique turned wooden vessels and carved specialty items. The artist was



excellent in presenting his unique pieces of art work. Some of the ladies left with examples of his fine work. Then it was back to civilization and a wonderful lunch at **Belle Arti** in downtown Hot Springs, followed by shopping on historic Central Avenue.

Next, the guys and gals met back together at the **Bath House Row Visitors Center** and were treated to a private "behind the scenes" presentation of the history of "*The Springs of Hot Springs*" by the National Park Historian. It was both an entertaining and informative presentation enjoyed by all.

After this, we walked next door to the **Superior Bathhouse Brewery** to first enjoy a cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception sponsored by **Texas Custom Coach and Premier RV of Oregon**, followed by a delicious dinner sponsored by our own **Country Coach Texans** motorcoach club. During dinner, we enjoyed listening to the history of this bathhouse building presented by our restaurant host. Day two, Squares say whew!

Friday was kicked off with another great breakfast from **The Daily Dish** with biscuits/sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, bacon, hash browns, fruit, and drinks. The men were in the vans at 9:00AM sharp for the drive to N. Little Rock to tour a Caterpillar factory.

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Spring Rally cont.

They were warmly greeted and shown to a welcome center where they listened to information on the full line of



motor grader products being built there along with understanding the quality metrics in place to help insure the goal of continuous product improvement. With that being said, it was made clear the most important goal of all is to send all employees home safely to their families after every shift. This facility has been very successful in meeting all their goals, so much so that Caterpillar has announced the moving of medium wheel loader manufacturing to this facility from Illinois. Following this presentation, the men were equipped with headphones and safety glasses and escorted to the shop floor where they were shown every step in the production of Cat's motor grader product line. It was truly interesting for the men to see and understand what it takes to be the world leader in this market segment, and to know this process is replicated in every Cat facility worldwide. Following the tour, the men stopped at a fun diner to enjoy lunch, some even ordered fried bologna sandwiches! Yum.

Meanwhile, back in Hot Springs, the ladies were having a great time of their own. They started with a drive to **Fox Pass Pottery** where they were given a full demonstration on "throwing" a bowl on the potter's wheel, as well as, an example of a hand built piece. They toured the glazing room and kiln area.

This business has been located in this rustic and tranquil setting for 44 years. They are famous throughout the country for their pottery. They said pieces with flaws are taken out back and used for target practice, rather than have their name on less than perfect products. From the amount of items the ladies bought in the showroom, it would seem they enjoyed the visit.

From there the ladies traveled to **The Grand Lagniappe Shoppe**, a boutique clothing, gift shop and tea room, to enjoy a lovely lunch while being treated to a style show. The models were fun and friendly. After



lunch there was plenty of time for shopping in this unique eclectic boutique.

After relaxing for a short time back at the RV park, it was time to crank up the complementary cocktail reception again sponsored by **Trane A/C**.

Bubba is back! This time for our dinner, he prepared pulled pork and carved bar-b-que brisket right in front of us and served it with baked beans, potato salad, corn, rolls/buns, dessert, and drinks. Holy buckets, it was good! And that feedback was coming from a bunch of Texans! High praise indeed.

We had the pleasure of being entertained by the **No Refund Band** to wrap up the day. They had our style of music figured out and had us on the dance floor fast and having fun. As the final song of the night, the band had us standing and singing along LOUDLY to

Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the USA". What a night, what a day! Day three, Squares feeling free!

Saturday started with yet another wonderful breakfast from **The Daily Dish** of huge cinnamon rolls, bacon, sausage and egg wraps with salsa, fruit, and drinks.

The Squares planned this as an open day so the rally guests could do the things in Hot Springs that were of interest to them. Some rode bikes, some went zip lining, some took a long nap.

If you were at the 2016 Fall Rally in Mineola, you may remember someone rapping "A dinner and a show and a bus to take us there, get on board now or

you'll be square". Sure enough, after a short cocktail social in the late afternoon, a charter bus showed up to take us to **Murray's Dinner Playhouse** in Little Rock. A large cooler of refreshments was loaded on board the bus and off we went. The show at the dinner theater was called "*Smoky Joe's Café*" and was the longest running musical on Broadway. The Squares worked the bus crowd on the way to Little Rock by playing guessing games with

the well-known lyrics to some of these songs (Why's everybody always pickin' on me?). We enjoyed a good meal and a fast-paced rendition of many very familiar songs we could sing along with - a lot of fun, laughs, and entertainment.

The **Squares** again worked the



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Spring Rally cont.

crowd on the way home with another rap song composed by the soon to be world famous lyricist, **Brenda Payne:**

Hey there gang, we're glad that you came. If you hadn't come, it wouldna been the same.

We did some fun things, we hope you think so. But for the JP Squares... it's time to go.

So take home the memories, and think of all we've done. Remember each event, as we face the setting sun.

As we think ahead, of being again with y'all, we'll see you at Buckhorn, as we gather in the fall.

Thank you everyone for coming to the JP Squared Rally!!!

Day four, the Squares are no more!

Sunday morning we gathered for a farewell continental breakfast and hugged each other as friends do when they are to be separated for a while. We had a ball in Hot Springs. We'll see all y'all at Buckhorn!

JP²



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



Remember to utilize the Country Coach Texans Facebook page to learn about or inform other members of “unofficial” get-togethers, we’re calling “no-rally rallies”. We had a great group gathering at Stella Mare RV Resort in Galveston in February. See the website for more details regarding the Facebook page and the Galveston photos.



Mark your calendar for the Fall Rally

September 27—October 1, 2017

Buckhorn Lake Resort in Kerrville

Our hosts will be:

Pat Turpin, Jurhee Ivy and Jerry Clary



More details to be announced
as the date gets closer.