



Country Coach Texans

Fall 2014

Highlights from the Mineola Rally

from Jennifer Stallings

October 15th started with beautiful weather at the fabulous Mineola Civic Center as coaches began arriving for our CCT fall rally. We had 22 coaches for this event.

It was a fun, laid back affair and we just spent time getting to know one another, eating and learning to do the waltz. **Terrie Howard, Jennifer Stallings and Pam McCaskill** welcomed all the attendees on Wednesday along with two new-member couples, **Jim and Dona Elder** and **Richard and Janice McKee**. We then had an open bar with **Bobby Howard** and **Jim Payne** bartending, followed by a great dinner of chopped sirloin and berry cobbler for dessert, prepared by the staff at the Mineola Civic Center. They did a great job all weekend! After dinner, **James Stallings** started up the waltz lessons...we all tried our best and by the end of the rally, many folks came by and said they were feeling like they really had it down.

After an hour or so of dancing, **Terrie Howard** brought out the Chinese lanterns and we all grabbed one and went out in the perfect weather and sent them up. Some wrote notes on theirs before sending them into the night sky. It was one of the highlights of the rally.



Lighting of the Chinese lanterns

On Thursday morning we enjoyed breakfast casserole with a wonderful concoction made by **Roberta**, the head cook. It looked like tartar sauce so some did not try it, but in reality, it was a cream cheese blend with fruits and was great on the croissants. After breakfast, we had **Ken Pearce**, the mayor of Mineola, and **Charlotte** who runs the Civic Center, speak to us, followed by the business meeting.

Then, we did things a little differently. All of the ladies stayed at the Civic Center for a ladies luncheon and we had five of our very own lovely models, **Pat Turpin, Laurie Ray, Brenda Payne, Cherie Rang** and **Pam McCaskill**, show us some of the local fashions. We had a great time, and then most of us went to the "Ladybug Jungle" bou-

tique and purchased some cute new outfits.

While the ladies enjoyed their time together, the guys interested in skeet shooting went to the local "Turkey Hill Sportsmans Club" for shooting lessons given by **James Stallings**. Guess all went well, as no one got shot!

That evening at happy hour, the ladies were showing off new clothes while the men talked about how well they shot! Dinner for the evening was a wonderful King Ranch Casserole with Roberta's homemade chips and salsa, followed by a mixed cobbler for dessert. Our entertainment for the night was a local talent, **Dale Cummings**. He sang lots of old songs from the 50's, 60's and 70's and we danced and sang along.

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Mineola Rally cont.

The crew from **National Indoor RV Center** worked on several coaches and their detail team washed most of the coaches during the rally. They also sent a financial contribution. We thank them for all of their hard work and support for our group. **Motorhomes of Texas** sent a coach and a contribution, as did **Texas Custom Coach** and **Xtreme Paint & Graphics**. **Premier RV**

tanks. We had a fun day to enjoy on our own. The dinner for the night was a tasty lasagna with peach cobbler for dessert. Then, we had the best country band, **Monty Tipp and the Mainstreet Band** from Sulfur Springs, TX, play for us for three hours. If you are ever in need of a band, they do a great job. They played old country music and we had lots of dancers on the floor.

On Saturday, we had another awesome country breakfast. Several people went to Tyler for the 81st Tyler Rose Festival and reported they had a great time. Others went to see what people had to sell at the numerous Hwy 80 garage sales, and visited at the shops in town.

That night we had roast beef with potatoes, broccoli cheese, salad and pecan pie -- most delicious. We were then entertained by a DJ from Tyler who played all our



Our lovely models showed off some local fashions during the ladies luncheon

Services donated a certificate for one-hour of diagnostics. **Prevost Dallas** donated a \$600 oil change and our new members, **Richard and Janice McKee** were the lucky winners. We thank them all for their support. Please try to use these vendors who stand behind our group and let them know how much we appreciate them. Their support enables us to have nice rallies.

Friday we awoke to more beautiful fall weather and a wonderful breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, grits, biscuits, gravy and fruit. Some of the men participated in a seminar on cleaning black water

requests. There was some line dancing going on and lots of practice on waltzing.

Charlotte, with the Civic Center, had a box for us to deposit infor-



mation from our local purchases, and then she drew every evening for door prizes. She gave away some really nice gifts and everyone was very appreciative. **Terrie and Bobby Howard, James and Jennifer Stallings, Freddie McNeal, and Geneva and Jerry Keeton** all donated door prizes, which we awarded over three nights. Most attendees ended up with at least two each.

We said our goodbyes Sunday over a continental breakfast.

Thanks to all who helped with set up, clean up, pack up and those who said our prayers for us as we (your hosts) were too shy to speak, but I must say, by the end of the rally,

Bobby Howard was feeling much more confident! I wanted to say a big thank you to **Bobby and Terrie**, who really went all out with the plans, decorations and entertainment; it would not have been a success without all their hard work.

We had a great time, we missed those who were not with us, but it turned out to be a great rally. Until next time!



Jennifer

cont. on page 3

Mineola Rally cont.

Thanks to
our lovely
fashion models



Pam McCaskill



Cherie Rang



Laurie Ray



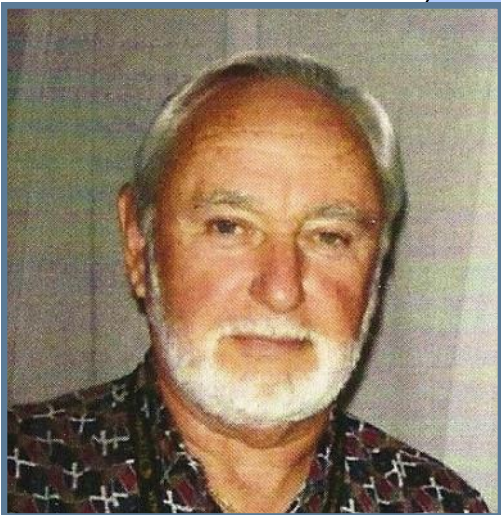
Brenda Payne



Pat Turpin

More rally photos on pages 8-9

From the Club President



Rod Reames

Two couples, who had never previously hosted a rally, presented those attending the CCT Mineola Fall Rally with a unique and fun event. **James and Jennifer Stallings** and **Bobby and Terrie Howard** coordinated dance lessons, Skeet shooting, a ladies luncheon and fashion show and so much more. A highlight was the lighting of Chinese lanterns, which were lit from the bottom and held until the heat caused them to start rising into the night sky. A cool breeze took them to the Northeast and the glow could be seen high in the sky until the fuse burned out. It was spectacular! Our meals, catered by the Mineola Civic Center, were delicious.

Mineola is a delightful town and it's citizens made us feel welcomed as we explored the restaurants and shops. We were happy to have two new member-couples with us at this rally.

At our Business Meeting, **Terry Ray** was voted in as our next President. **Joe Taylor** agreed to take over Terry's final year as VP, and **Jim Payne** elected to remain as National Representative with **Joe Taylor** and me serving as alternates. **Pat Turpin** and **Pam McCaskill** will fulfill the remainder of their terms as Secretary and Treasurer.

The next rally site has been selected and **Terry Ray** will provide details in his VP article.

EDITOR'S NOTE

A special thank you to Jennifer Stallings for taking the rally photos in my absence.

Sheila Ford



Peggy Fink shot this photo of Rod preparing to release his lantern

VP's Report

From Terry Ray

Our next rally is scheduled to begin on April 16th in the Rio Grande Valley. **Pat Turpin**, assisted by my wife, **Laurie**, and I, will serve as rally hosts at the [Llano Grande RV Resort](#) in Mercedes, Texas.

Plan for warm weather when you visit the Valley, where you can enjoy golfing and shopping at the outlet mall, or even visiting the beach at South Padre Island if you don't mind the one hour drive. Because of the distance most of you will travel to get to the southern tip of Texas, you may wish to plan an extended stay in the area.

Feel free to contact me for some ideas of other places to visit in the Valley if you have the time. We hope to see a lot of you there!



Terry Ray



From Our Secretary

Pat Turpin



Since the rally in Spring 2014, I sent thank-you notes to all of our corporate contributors for the Spring Rally in Kerrville.

The Membership Roster has two new member-couples added and a few changes of address. Copies of the latest Roster were distributed via email in October. The Birthday List has been maintained and was also sent to all via email.

The Membership Directory was revised and printed. Everyone was mailed a packet of the updated pages. Extra books were printed to be able to accommodate new members in the short term. The nine new members all received complete books.

Minutes were taken at the Officers' Meeting on October 15th and the General Membership Meeting on October 16th at the Mineola Civic Center. The Membership Meeting minutes are available on the website. Members may request a copy of the Officers' Meeting Minutes, if needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat

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



Trea\$urer's Report

First of all a big thank you to **Terrie, Bobby, Jennifer and James** for a really fun rally in Mineola. They did a great job and came in under budget. Everyone I talked to said they had a really good time.

The financial statements are posted on the [CCT website](#) under "Club News". I am now taking money for 2015 dues. Please make your check payable to CCT for \$25. I will be sending a reminder the first part of January to those of you that I have not heard from reminding you your dues are due by January 31, 2015.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Spring 2015 Rally.

Pam



Pam McCaskill



Jim Payne

Greetings to all and I trust everyone has had a fun summer. A couple of things of interest concerning FMCA.

First of all, we just completed the annual Six-State rally in Shreveport, LA. We had 400+ coaches in attendance (plus show coaches) and over 30 vendors. Many of our CCT members were in attendance. Add to your schedule the 2015 Six-State rally to be held next October in Conroe, Texas.

The 90th Family reunion was held in Redmond, Oregon, this past August. The governing board met and the following are some of the actions voted

National Director's FMCA Update

on and approved. Effective Oct. 1, 2014, the FMCA Assist program was reinstated as part of your dues. This is the program that gives emergency evacuation and repatriation coverage. It also includes RV return, return of minor children, pet return and concierge service should you need it. Check out the latest edition of the FMCA magazine for all the details. Previously, you had to pay extra for this service, but now it is included in your dues. The FMCA mail forwarding service has been changed and is now outsourced to a firm in Sioux Falls, SD. Finances remain strong with revenues slightly under budget, but expenses well under producing an operating profit of \$275,000.00 for the current year. Our investment account is currently producing returns above benchmarks and contains about nine million dollars. Current membership as of May 31, 2014, is 76,397.

There will be two FMCA national conventions in 2015:

- ♦ **The 91st Family Reunion**
Pomona, California
March 26-29
- ♦ **The 92nd Family Reunion**
Madison, WI
July 29-August 1

Future Rallies:

Winter 2016 - Perry, GA
Summer 2016 - Syracuse, NY

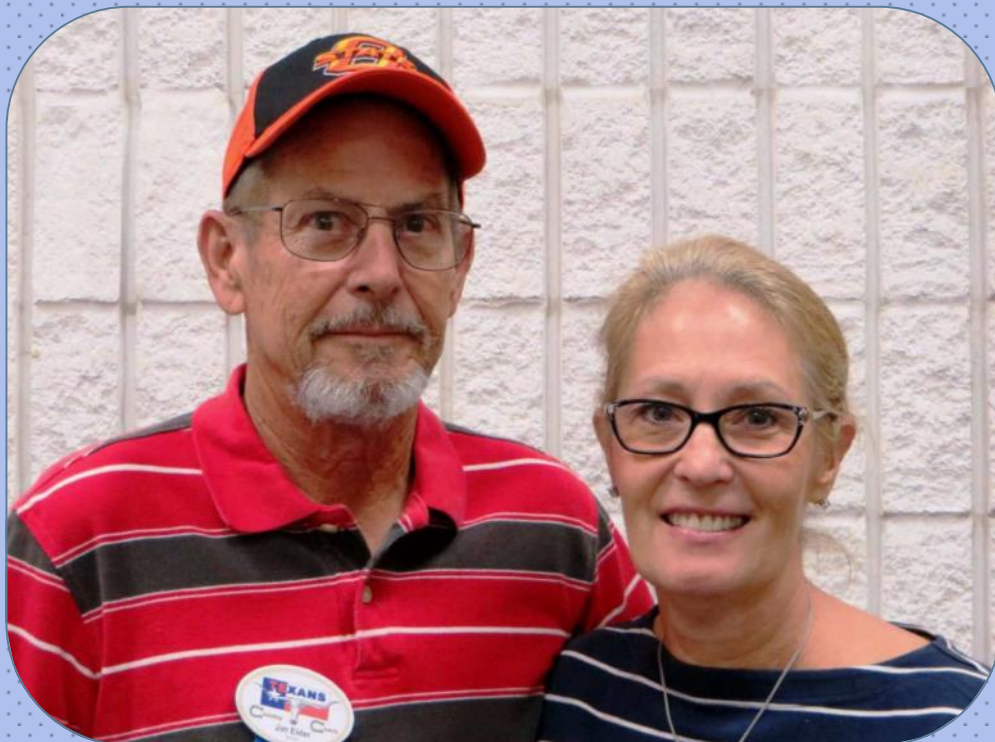
Please remember to check the monthly FMCA magazine for a list of benefits, interesting articles and rallies.

Safe travels to all.

Jim

Welcome New Members

Jim & Dona Elder
Terrell, Texas



Richard & Janice McKee
Flower Mound, Texas

Mineola Rally cont.



Mineola Rally cont.



More photos are available on
the Club website:
www.cctexans.com



James & Jennifer Stallings

*Thanks to our
hosts for
coordinating a
great rally!*



Bobbie & Terrie Howard