



Country Coach Texans

Spring 2013

Boot Scootin' Good Time in Bandera

From rally hosts, Jerry & Geneva Keeton and co-hosts, Richard & Georgiana Bishop and Kevin & Sheila Ford

Once again 45 coaches gathered in Bandera, Texas for a fun time, great food, great music but the best of all -- a wonderful group of people known as the Country Coach Texans.

Registration began on Monday afternoon in the Rally Hall with **Sheila Ford** and **Georgiana Bishop** at the reins. The evening got underway with happy hour and raffle ticket sales followed by dinner of roasted pork loin and entertainment by **Bobby Jordon and the Ridge Creek Band**. A few raffle drawings were awarded.

On Tuesday morning, **Kirk and Cindy Hicks** treated us to a great breakfast which was followed by the business meeting. In the afternoon, **Craig Dorsett of Motorhomes of Texas**, attempted to teach a group of us ladies line dancing - which is always entertaining! Dinner that evening was fajitas and all the trimmings. More raffle prizes were awarded and **Jim and Velma Bobo** hosted the evening's Texas Hold'em Tournament.

Throughout the Rally, **John Thomas with Mobile Lube**, was roaming the RV Park servicing coaches. **Dazzling Detailing** was also running around getting coaches

washed and waxed and **Sheila Ford** was running around taking pictures of all of the activities.



Sonny and Ginny Broome kick up their heels to some great country music.

Wednesday was highlighted by a 124-mile poker run through the Hill Country coordinated by **Nick and Bonnie Caruso**. Once again, they planned a great route for the poker run with stops at six attractions including a lunch stop. Guests, **Mike and Linda Ettl**, took first prize with the best poker hand, 4 deuces. That night we had a great time with the **Camp Cookieville** chuck wagon group from Austin furnishing us with good barbecue and cowboy music.

Thursday was free day to explore the beautiful Texas Hill Country and in the afternoon, during happy hour, we had our

auction. **Joe Smith**, our always entertaining auctioneer, was fabulous. Members, guests and sponsors donated all the auction and raffle items and we had some really nice and unique things. A total of \$6334.74 was raised and all proceeds went to our designated charity - the **Wounded Warriors Program**. The auction was followed by dinner of beef tenderloin before the **The Almost Patsy Cline Band** kicked in for our listening and dancing pleasure. Attendees were asked to wear their best western duds and **Beverly Smith** won the best-dressed "Cowpockette" prize and **Earl Thompson** won best-dressed "Cowpoke".

The Rally wrapped up Friday morning with continental breakfast, as members said their goodbyes until we meet again.

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Bandera Rally cont.

The majority of the Rally meals were catered by **Brick's River Café** in Bandera and we received positive comments from attendees on how good the food was. The weather was a bit on the warm side, but it did not slow down our fun.

We want to extend special thanks to all who contributed so much to make our rally a success – **Kirk and Cindy Hicks, Bill and Sherry Vincent, Jim and Velma Bobo, Nick and Bonnie Caruso, Pam McCaskill, Freddie McNeel, Kathy Fairfield,** and all the others who assisted and helped pick up, pack up and clean up at the end of the Rally.



Rally hosts and co-hosts: (l-r) Richard Bishop, Kevin Ford, Sheila Ford, Geneva Keeton, Georgiana Bishop and Jerry Keeton

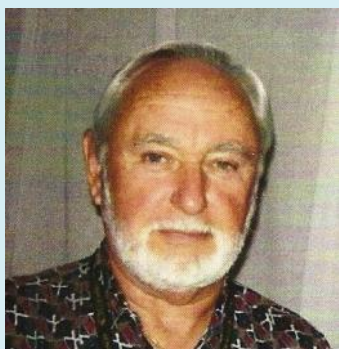


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Bandera Rally cont.



More rally photos on pages 8-11



Rod Reames

The Spring Rally in Bandera was one of the largest we have had in quite some time. Unfortunately, we had several registered coaches that had to cancel as we got closer to the Rally date. Fortunately, however, we had guests from the CCFI Rally, as well as some new members attend, who added to the success of the Rally.

Jerry and Geneva Keeton, assisted by **Richard and Georgiana Bishop** and **Sheila and Kevin Ford**, as well as many others, provided us with extraordinarily good food and outstanding entertainment. **Jim and Velma Bobo** conducted a night of

From the Club President

"Texas Holdem" while **Nick and Bonnie Caruso** coordinated the always fun afternoon "Poker Run". The Charity Auction, whose proceeds went to the "Wounded Warriors", was conducted by our own auctioneer, **Joe Smith**. Along with getting top dollar for the auction items, he also provided his own style of entertainment, which resulted in a top dollar benefit for a worthy cause.

In order to continue having fun rallies of this type, we are going to have to look at our membership which has been steadily declining since Country Coach went out of business. We partially addressed this awhile back with the inclusion of a "grandfather" provision in our by-laws, which allows current and former members of CC Texans to own some

other brand of Class A motorhome. It has become obvious that we must do more to reverse this decline in membership.

A discussion of this potential dilemma was held during the Business Meeting. An Ad-hoc committee consisting of **Nick Caruso, Mike Carnes, Peggie Fink** and **Joe Taylor** volunteered to take this problem under consideration. They are to present their findings, suggestions and recommendations to attract and admit new members at the Fall Rally. All comments regarding this matter will be welcomed and considered and should be sent to any of the committee members.



Joe and Sandra Taylor were recognized for their outstanding service to the Club for 2008-2012 and were presented a plaque of appreciation. Pictured are (l-r) Sandra Taylor, Joe Taylor, Peggie Fink, Treasurer, and current president, Rod Reames.

Sponsor Appreciation

Special thanks to the following sponsors who made contributions to the Rally. Your support is greatly appreciated.

- ◆ Coachworks, LLC – Texas Custom Coach
- ◆ Motorhomes of Texas
- ◆ National Indoor RV Centers
- ◆ Camping World
- ◆ Foretravel
- ◆ Skymed
- ◆ State Farm Insurance - Atlases
- ◆ Paul Newman's Dazzling Detailing - Donation of RV wash for raffle
- ◆ Kirk & Cindy Hicks - Breakfast donation

VP's Report

When Country Coach Texans get together, good things tend to happen. And when the **Keetons, Bishops** and **Fords** host a rally, you know it will be special. Bandera and the Texas Hill Country in May are hard to beat. Thank you **Jerry and Geneva Keeton, Richard and Georgiana Bishop**, and **Kevin and Sheila Ford** for hosting the Spring Rally. With the help of **Kirk and Cindy Hicks**, and **Maurice and Freddie McNeel**, the Spring Rally was a huge success. Also, with **Joe Smith** as the ever popular auctioneer on our fund raiser for the Wounded Warriors, **Nick and Bonnie Caruso** putting together the poker run, and **Jim and Velma Bobo** heading up the poker tournament, there were lots of activities for everyone to enjoy. A big thank you to all of our volunteers.

As the TV infomercials all say, "but wait, there is more" -- get ready for the Fall Rally to be held at **La Hacienda RV Resort** at Lake Travis near Austin. **Pat Turpin**, along with **Len and Sandy Nikolai**, will be hosting this rally October 2-6. More details will follow, so mark your calendars and get ready for more CC Texan fun and fellowship.



R.D. Vanderslice

From Our Secretary



Pat Turpin

Following election to this position at the Fall Rally in Branson, MO, I immediately had the opportunity to engage with FMCA officials for procedures required to report incidents during rallies. One of our members fell, breaking an arm, which required medical attention. Appropriate forms were completed and followup with our member to ensure her well-being. Since the Rally, I sent

two get well cards, and two sympathy cards to members.

In early spring, I was asked to distribute a survey to members regarding preferences for rallies. Thankfully, my predecessors kept excellent records and I was able to revise the survey distributed in 2006 and distribute it via email to all members. Although the response rate wasn't overwhelming (24 out of 55), I think we have some indication of member preferences, which should be useful to planners of future rallies.

Thank all of you who have responded to my requests for updated information, photos, and survey responses. It takes all of us to make this club great!

Respectfully submitted,

Pat



Minutes from the Spring Rally General Business Meeting are posted on the website

www.cctexans.com

Trea\$urer's Report



Peggie Fink

WOW - it was a fantastic rally!! Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time, the food was the best, the entertainment amazing and fun, and the weather even cooperated.

All of you - pat yourselves on the back, because together we raised a total of \$6,334.74 for the Wounded Warriors project. **Joe Smith** got everyone into the giving spirit and a good time was had by all, to the benefit of our injured Veterans returning home.

The financial statements have been posted on the website, along with a comparative statement showing income and expenses for the past six rallies. The Bandera rally expenditures exceeded the amount of funds taken in, however this was planned for and our cash balance is down to a manageable \$6,923.54, which is right where we need to be.

Many thanks to our six sponsors: **Foretravel, Texas Custom Coaches, National Indoor RV Centers, Motorhomes of Texas, SkyMed and Camping World.** Without you, we couldn't have first-class quality rallies. I urge all of our members to frequent our sponsors and be sure to thank them for their sponsorship.

If you have any questions about the financial statements, please email me. We look forward to seeing you this Fall at Lake Travis.

Peggie

FMCA Update

Hello to all and thanks for the opportunity to serve as your FMCA national director. Dave Twilley has done an exceptional job previously, and it will be hard to follow him.

FMCA is alive and well. Currently we have approximately 88,000 members. Financially we still struggle, but with some conservative management decisions, the 2013 budget shows a modest surplus. If you have not done so, please get your dues in.

Several things of interest: As mentioned previously, the old med-ex evacuation and repatriation program, which was included in your membership fee, has been dropped as a free benefit and replaced by the FMCA Assist program. The cost is \$85 for single member and \$105 for family membership.

The FMC magazine is now available in digital format. It can be viewed on the iPad, Android devices and other tablets, as well as, smartphones and computers. Each edition is identical to the print edition, but also contains some interactive features. Check it out at www.fmc magazine.com/digital

FMCA'S 88th Family Reunion is being held in Gillette, Wyoming, June 19-22 and is expected to be a great event as it is the 50 year celebration. Many events are planned with over 150 vendors represented, as well as over 100 educational seminars and displays. The entertainment includes The Buckingham's (one of the top rock 'n' roll bands from the late 1960s) and Marty Stuart (5-time Grammy winning country music star).

- The 40th Six-State Area rally will be held September 11-14 in Sedalia, Missouri.
- The 89th Family Reunion will be in Perry, GA March 17-20, 2014

If you need any information on any of the above, give me a call.



Jim Payne
National Director

Welcome New Members



Whit & Kathy Byers
Lake Kiowa, TX



Roger & Kathy King
Mont Belvieu



Thomas & Mary Jean Lantz
Kilgore, TX



Terry & Lorie Neubaum
Magnolia, TX

More Rally Photos



Enjoying the stops along the way
during the Poker Run



Bandera Rally cont.







Our winners
for
best-dressed
Cowpoke &
Cowpockette



More photos are posted on the CCT website, www.CCTexans.com.

**Mark your calendar for the Fall Rally
October 2-6, 2013
La Hacienda RV Resort
Austin, Texas near Lake Travis**



Complete details to be announced as the date gets closer