



Texas North Star Sams Area 17 - 2005

January Newsletter

The President's Corner

The New Year is a time for reflection. Looking back on the first three years of Texas North Star Sams, I thank Brian MacPherson for all his efforts in getting the club Organized and stable. I hear tales of many people coming and going during that period, but we now have a group of six couples who have proven their commitment to the club with continued attendance and participation. Also, the club has charted its course under Brian's leadership, writing and adopting Standard Operating Procedures.

But New Year is a time for looking forward as well. With our small, but dedicated, core group and the roadmap contained in the SOPs, we now look ahead to growing the Texas North Star Sams by finding additional campers who share our values and interests. As your new president, I have set a goal of raising our membership to 10 rigs. We also want to continue our commitment of supporting Outreach activities in the community, and of course, enjoying each other's company at campouts.

Please know that you can contact me at any time at the email and phone number listed below. I welcome your comments and suggestions. Happy New Year, everyone!

Kathy Helwick
Khelwick@msn.com
972-416-6727

New Officers:

President: Kathy Helwick
Vice-President: Steve Young
Treasurer: Jim Bailey
Secretary: Sherry Young
Wagon Master: Lew Foitek

Newsletter Editor: Sherry Moran
Special Projects: Pat Foitek
Sunshine/Chaplain: Cheryl MacPherson
Web Master: Tim Moran

Happenings:

December turned out to be busy, even without our monthly campout. The Foitek, the MacPherson, the Helwicks, the Baileys and Sherry Young took our wagon of stuffed animals to the Pediatric Unit at Lewisville Hospital where they were greeted warmly. Then, the fleece blankets we made were taken to the Cancer Center in Carrollton, by the Helwicks, the Foitek, and the Baileys. These will keep patients warm while undergoing treatments. Again, our work was greatly appreciated.

Sherry and Steve Young hosted our Christmas party at their beautifully-decorated home in Flower Mound. Everyone brought a covered dish and we ate, and ate, and ate! Those attending were the Youngs, of course, Pat & Lew Foitek, Marge & Jim Bailey, Kathy & Dave Helwick, Cheryl & Brian MacPherson, Sherry & Tim Moran, and Jerry Jones. Our guests were prospective members, Del & Greg Duerr.

Most of us are taking it easy at the beginning of the year, but we do have some members traveling. Pat & Lew Foitek are going on a Good Sam Charity Cruise going from New Orleans to Jamaica, the Grand Caymans and Cozumel from Jan. 7-18.

Tim & Sherry Moran are going (without the RV) to California for his mother's 93rd birthday, and will be gone about two weeks.

January Meeting:

We will meet at the Golden Corral restaurant in Lewisville, at I-35 and Main Street at 6:30p.m. on Jan. 6. Along with the greeting and eating, we'll have a business meeting to discuss future events. Pat Foitek has some ideas for Special Projects. Everyone try to be there!

February Meeting:

The first campout of 2005 is to be Feb. 18-20 at Destiny RV Park in Corinth. The hosts will be Pat & Lew Foitek and details will be in the next newsletter.

Happy Birthday!

Sherry Young – January 31

From the Editor: Please send any news you want included in the newsletter, before the last week of the month to Sherry Moran, sjmoran@ticnet.com

The Texas North Star Sams Club now has a WEB SITE !

Tim Moran has created a Internet forum in which we can show prospective members and the rest of the world WHO we are and WHAT we do. Our web site is piggy-backed on the web server that Tim created and maintains for the North Texas Austin Healey Club. The NTAHC pays the bill, so there will be NO COST to the Texas North Star Sams.

The Internet address for our web site is **www.ntahc.org/northstarsams**

When you get there, you will find rows of boxes at the bottom of the page.

Clicking on the text in these boxes will take you to one or more web pages of information about our club or its members. This is probably a good time to point out that I am VERY cognizant and respectful of individual privacy issues. I will NOT post personal information about you that you do not approve of.

Upcoming Events – This will be a complete schedule, with printable maps, of all CLUB and other future events for the year. If you know of ANY events that others might be interested in knowing about, let Tim know.

Past Events – This will be links to pages of pictures and descriptions of past events.

Camping Tips – This is the place to share Tips about Camping and/or RVing that you have picked up along the way or maybe learned the “hard” way.

Member’s Rig Photo Gallery – This will be the place where we can tell others about our rigs.

Member’s Trips – Here we will post “Trip Reports” (text and photos) about the trips taken by our members

Good Sam Regalia and Other Stuff – Here we can show items that the Club (patches, vests, etc.) or members have for sale.

Texas North Star Sam’s Newsletter – This will be a downloadable library of past Monthly Newsletters in the Microsoft Word format.

Links to Other Clubs – Self Explanatory

Etcetera – Stuff that doesn’t fit anywhere else.

Texas North Star Sams Officers – Here is a list of the Club Officers. Clicking on “Email” will initiate an Email message to them.

History of the TNSS – Here will be a brief history of our Club

Membership Information – This is the place where people will be able to acquire information about joining our Good Sam group.

OBVIOUSLY, Tim will need YOUR help and your input for several of these categories. Maybe not quite so obvious is that this is NOT Tim Moran’s web site. Tim will do all of the formatting and uploading, but he VERY MUCH wants this web site to be about and represent YOU and OUR CLUB !

If you'd like to change or eliminate any of the above categories or add any that Tim didn't think of, PLEASE let him know.

We hope that you enjoy the Club web site and find it useful and informative.