



Texas North Star Sams Area 17 – 2007

November Newsletter

The President's Corner



Del Duerr

Autumn has finally arrived, what is there not to like about this season; trees are wearing their fall colors, pumpkin spice in the air, crisp evenings to take that walk after dinner, craft fairs to shop on weekends, clocks rolled back to give us that extra hour to sleep in, and best of all we celebrate Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving, the time to reflect back and give thanks for the many blessings we have been given.

Our last campout at Caney Cove was a fun time & busy one as we voted for 2008 officers, members shared stories about their trips around the country this past summer and we welcomed several visitors who joined us for the weekend. I can't wait for our November campout at Whispering Pines in East Texas.

I know that 2008 will be a great year for our chapter and I sincerely look forward to serving another year as President of Texas North Star Sams. With everyone's help I know we can plan on having another fantastic camping year! Please send me any ideas you have, remember this is your chapter too!

Greg & I want to thank all of you for all your thoughts & prayers these last few months. A friend recently called this a "bump in life," some days it feels more like a crater-sized pothole!

Have a Safe & Happy Thanksgiving to each of you & your loved ones!

As always, stay safe and I hope we will see everyone soon!

Del Duerr - homemessages@grandecom.net

Cell: 469-767-5201

Home: 214-618-0043



2007 Officers:

Elected

President: Del Duerr
Vice-President: Steve Young
Treasurer: Laura LaTurner
Secretary: Jackie Reid
Wagon Master: Lew Foitek

Appointed

Newsletter Editor: Sherry Moran
Special Projects: Pat Foitek
Sunshine/Chaplain: Tami Patterson
Web Master: Tim Moran

Edited Minutes – October 20, 2007 – Caney Cove

We were called to order by Pres. Del Duerr and the invocation and pledge were given. In attendance were Baileys, Duerrs, Foitek, Helwicks, Jones/Wells, LaTurners, Lutricks, Moellers, Morans, Pattersons, Reids, Safholm and Youngs. Visitors were Ron & Sandi Miles, Tommy Donald, and Patrick & Adrienne Donnell.

Under Old Business was a mini-rally report. There were 6 couples attending and the rally was very profitable with our 50/50 and Gift Basket Raffle.

A group picture was taken following the meeting tonight for updating the website.

New Business consisted of the election of officers after dinner, plus ideas for our 2008 charity donations. We will increase our donation to Dogs For the Deaf and will increase the number of lap robes we make for Cancer Center donation.

Secretary Jackie Reid reported on the distribution of last month's minutes and the updating of the club roster. Tim Moran designed a new attendance ledger to accompany the roster. It was decided to have a Roster Keeper, separate from the Secretary, and Jim Moeller volunteered for the job.

Treasurer Laura LaTurner distributed the Treasurer's Report to all members.

Wagonmaster Lew Foitek reported on future campouts for November and December. (see Calendar). The December campout will be our Christmas Party, hosted this year by the Helwicks. Our campouts are planned through May, 2008.

Special Projects were reported by Pat Foitek. We will now include fabric for lap robes as a part of our club budget. We made 19 robes this year.

Birthdays and Anniversaries were reported by Tami Patterson, our Sunshine Chair.

Webmaster Tim Moran and Newsletter Editor Sherry Moran both asked for more pictures and reports of members' trips.

It was announced that we need to bring our 2008 dues to the November campout. We adjourned in time for dinner.

Past Events

October campout at Caney Cove, near Malakoff. We had a huge turnout for this campout – 11 member rigs, 4 members without their rigs and 4 visitors with rigs. The weather was wonderful and we had a great time enjoying the lake and the woodsy campground.

We brownbagged on Friday night and then played Mexican Train or enjoyed a campfire. Saturday was very laidback; some people explored the area around Caney Cove and others just took things easy. We split our business meeting into two parts, with Officer Elections held after dinner. Once again, we had a fantastic dinner, with lots of good food and fellowship. It was announced that no one was to sit at the same table as their spouse or significant other and this led to much goodnatured fun!

By noon on Sunday, the last of the group reluctantly left Caney Cove – we WILL go back!

November Meet & Greet was held at Don Pablo's Mexican Restaurant at Vista Ridge on Nov. 7. We had at least 18 couples, including several visitors, Ron & Sandy Myles, Adrian & Patrick Donnell, and Linda & Jim Patteson.

Did You Hear Who...?

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1) Leaving shortly to see new grandbaby | a) Darryl Patterson |
| 2) Had new grandbaby at M & G | b) the Youngs |
| 3) Will host November campout | c) the Runters |
| 4) Wore club shirt | d) the Reids |
| 5) Now has 150 ft. of coaxial cable | e) 18 |
| 6) Is going to rv "full-time" | f) the Lutricks |
| 7) Brought new couple to M & G | g) Herb Ford |
| 8) Number of rigs represented at M & G | h) the Moellers |
| 9) Has a new "towed" | i) the LaTurners |

Pat Foitek reported that the Denton Co. Childrens' Advocacy Center doesn't need stuffed animals at this time – Lewisville High School had a huge collection drive for them. She gave everyone a "Wish List" of supplies and other items the Center needs and we will gather a basket of things to donate. Choose from the following items and bring them to the November campout.

Suggested Items to Bring for the Childrens' Advocacy Center

Supplies/Therapy Items

Children's board games	Wet Ones
Toy dishes	Hot Wheels cars
Journals	AA batteries
Facial tissues	10 x 10 drop cloths (or larger)
Diapers (all sizes)	Baby formula
Baby bottles	Sipee cups
Disposable training pants	

Art Therapy supplies:

Jewelry-making materials, beads	Elastic thread
Construction/manila paper	Glue
Water paints	PlayDoh/modeling clay
Washable markers	Coloring books (boys/girls)
Crayons	Children's scissors
Legos	Craft kits
Small flower pots (pottery)	

Office Equipment/Supplies

New blank DVD-R's *	DVD jewel cases*
Liquid paper	Copier paper*
File folders (regular/hanging)	Post-It notes
Transparencies	Laminating film sleeves

Snack items:

Small bottled waters	Box drinks (juices)
Peanut butter crackers	Animal/Gold fish crackers
Non-perishable snack items	Microwave popcorn

Member's Trips

From Jerry and Mary Sue:

Our (late) summer RV adventure took us to several states. We spent our first night in Nebraska and then on to South Dakota first stop - the Badlands. This was the also the first place we used our National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands pass on the trip – if you are eligible for this, don't leave home without it. Driving in from Rapid City where we were camped, we wondered if those Badlands were ever going to start, as we were going across the "Grasslands" National Park.....then all of a sudden, it was just there. It is a rugged and desolate area, but quite scenic due to how different it is. We took the loop drive through the very large park, and then headed back to Rapid City.



Late that afternoon, we headed out to Chief Crazy Horse Memorial, which though not near finished, is already amazing. We got there in late evening to attend the laser show. The work on this has been in progress since 1949, mostly by members of the sculptor's family. Back then, Korczak Ziolkowski was asked by a group of Sioux Chiefs to take on the project. The family takes no government assistance, rather the project is funded by private grants and donations. To give you a reference as to the size of the memorial, the four faces of Mount Rushmore would fit on one side of the Chief's face. The Chief's face is pretty well done, and the top of his arm, which is pointing to his lands, the Black Hills. The inscription on the mountain will be "My land is where my dead lie buried." Pretty solemn and thought provoking. The Chief will be riding a magnificent white stallion, and the laser show gave a great picture of how it will look when done.



Our next stop, and this was an entire day trip, was Mount Rushmore National Memorial, which is also sometimes called the Shrine of Democracy. On the walk in, there are pillars with a state noted on each side – Jerry promptly found the one for his home state. I think we saw / heard every nationality there. It is an obvious must see for foreign tour groups, and visitors from all other countries. We did the film, the walk and the tour of the sculptor/painter's (Gutzon Borglum) studio and just soaked in the information.



Our next outing was up to Spearfish Canyon, which took us through Sturgis (a mega for a kazillion motorcyclists) and Deadwood. This drive was very different from the rest of our trip, so I am including a picture, even though it is not a well known place.



We left the next morning, and drove through Custer State Park. It is beautiful, but not RV friendly. There are many short low tunnels, so the road we could take was limited pretty much to one, and there was really no place to park and get out for awhile. We were headed to Denver, so we consoled ourselves that we were headed to new and different sights. We camped on the west side of Denver at the perfect RV park. My friend from grade, junior and high school (Carolyn) lived on that side of Denver, and we teamed up with Carolyn (with me in picture below) and her husband for a tour of the area, which included a drive out to the Red Rock Amphitheater and the Genesee Park area. We learned that even though these parks are outside of Denver and past other suburbs, the land for them was bought many years ago by the city of Denver, so they are owned by the city. The first picture was taken at Red Roc, the second at one of the outlooks at Genesee Park.



We all lunched outdoors downtown at a charming little place on the river, did a little more touring, and dined with them at their home that evening. The boys (Mick and Max) had their first boarding experience at Camp Bow Wow, which we highly recommend to anyone who needs this while in Denver. This is a story in itself, if you are interested, e-mail or ask Mary Sue about it.

The next day we headed out to Southern Utah, which we now have re-named "The Land of Many Canyons!) Our first stop was at a campground north of Moab. The next morning found us at the entrance of Arches National Park, which is all it portends in pictures. We took lots of these (pictures) including Balanced Rock, the North (2nd pix below) and South Windows, and the Delicate Arch. This is another day trip, lots of stops and walking.



The town of Moab is quite interesting also. Had to make a stop there at a computer techie shop, only took two stops to find the help we needed. There are lots of shops, restaurants, and places to sign up for 4 wheel drive, river rafting, etc., trips. Had a grocery with a yummy bakery, too, so we definitely stocked up there!

We had heard that the Canyonlands National Park was the best kept secret in Utah, and we both agree. It's quite a drive off the main road to get there (still a very good 2 lane road), but definitely worth the trip. The vistas are truly awesome! We ventured out to several "edges" where we sat and again, just soaked up the scenery. The overlooks kept beckoning, and we stopped many times to get better looks at pull outs off the road. Mesa Arch at Island in the Sky is the turn around for the road we were on. We didn't get to the Needles, but truly enjoyed our venture into this wilderness of rock. We are both amazed that we had not heard of this park before we were planning this trip.



This next one is my favorite picture that I took this trip – it is in Canyonlands.....



On to the land of many movies – Monument Valley! This was actually in Northern Arizona, and we parked our RV at the Goulding's Lodge where we ate lunch. We then took a tour bus (I guess it could be called that) through the Navajo Tribal Park where the famous rock formations such as El Capitan and Elephant Butte are located. It was an open air trip, definitely, on a pretty warm afternoon, but still an adventure. We visited a traditional Navajo dwelling where we saw original woven art, blankets, etc. and visited with a lovely Navajo person who does this. Only two stops on the tour, but still saw so many terrific rock formations. And, the gift shop back at the lodge was my favorite place for souvenirs on this trip.



Wagonmaster



Lew Foitek

November Campout:

November 16, 17, 18
Whispering Pines RV Park
Lindale, TX

If you're interested in making a beaded bracelet like Marena Bailey wore to the last campout, Pat will bring supplies to Whispering Pines.

**As always, See www.ntahc.org/northstarsams
"Upcoming Events" for more details and a map**

December Christmas Party:

The **CHRISTMAS PARTY** will be a pitch-in dinner at the Country Place Clubhouse (2727 Country Place Dr, Carrollton 75006) on Sunday, **December 2**, starting at 4:30 p.m.

The Helwicks are hosting and will serve ham. PLEASE let Kathy know what dish you'll be bringing.

The clubhouse has a full kitchen (stove, refrigerator, microwave, etc), but there are no utensils or pots and pans, so bring everything you need for your dish.

In addition to your food, bring a wrapped Christmas tree ornament for our gift exchange... one per rig.

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Results of Election of Officers for 2008

President: Del Duerr
Vice-President: Steve Young
Secretary: Mary Sue Wells

Treasurer: Laura LaTurner
WagonMaster: Darryl Patterson

From the Editor:



Sherry Moran
sjmoran@ticnet.com

Please send any news you'd like included in the newsletter to me before the last week of the month.

Please see www.ntahc.org/northstarsams for a complete calendar of Up Coming Events, pictures from Past Events, Profiles of our Members, a list of our Officers, a display of our governing procedures, Past Newsletters, the History of the TNSS, and MUCH more.

Answers to "Did You Hear?"

1) D 2) F 3) H 4) G 5) A 6) C 7) B 8) E 9) I

The Parting Shot

In a zoo in California, a mother tiger gave birth to a rare set of triplet tiger cubs. Unfortunately, due to complications in the pregnancy, the cubs were born prematurely and due to their tiny size, they died shortly after birth.

The mother tiger after recovering from the delivery, suddenly started to decline in health, although physically she was fine. The veterinarians felt that the loss of her litter had caused the tigress to fall into a depression. The doctors decided that if the tigress could surrogate another mother's cubs, perhaps she would improve.

After checking with many other zoos across the country, the depressing news was that there were no tiger cubs of the right age to introduce to the mourning mother. The veterinarians decided to try something that had never been tried in a zoo environment. Sometimes a mother of one species will take on the care of a different species. The only orphans that could be found quickly, were a litter of weanling pigs. The zoo keepers and vets wrapped the piglets in tiger skin and placed the babies around the mother tiger. ***Would they become cubs or pork chops?***

Take a look...you won't believe your eyes!!

