



# Bluebonnet Banner

TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION  
OF THE FCRV  
FOUNDED AS NATIONAL CAMPERS & HIKERS ASSOCIATION



## Upcoming Events

Contact your local chapter for information on monthly camp-outs or eat-outs

Jul 8-15, 2011  
FCRV National Campvention  
Exchange Park, Ladson, SC

Sep 18-22, 2011  
Texas Retiree Chapter 89  
Lake Athens, TX

Nov 20-23, 2011  
Texas Retiree Chapter 89  
Coushatta Recreation Ranch  
Bellville, TX

Nov 23-27, 2011  
TSA Fall Campventure  
Coushatta Recreation Ranch  
Bellville, TX

Mar 13-19, 2012  
FCRV Retiree Rally  
North Florida Fairgrounds  
Tallahassee, FL

Apr 22-26, 2012  
Texas Retiree Rally  
Location TBD

Apr 27-29, 2012  
TSA Spring Campventure  
Location TBD

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## PRESIDENTS PONDERINGS

### SPRING CAMPVENTURE

We are currently at the Spring Campventure in Hillsboro, Texas. Our turn out here has been light with only thirteen rigs. The interest of our TSA members continues to wane and the price of fuel is affecting the attendance. TSA is struggling to survive. But, we are having a good time with lots of activities, games and good food. We will survive the high price for fuel and light attendance. I have taken some time out in the early morning to prepare this publication because our Bluebonnet Banner editor is trying to win first place for publications at the National Rally and needs all the articles she can get. I hope each of our chapters have contributed to the BBB so we can win.

### TSA LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS

This is our year to elect leadership. I have located two TSA members that will serve on the Nominating Committee. The constitution requires a committee of five TSA members in good standing, so if you would like to serve on this committee, please contact me at [tsacamping@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tsacamping@sbcglobal.net). I believe this a continuation of the problem we have had for a long time - which is lack of participation and concern by the TSA membership for our organization. We all want to have the fun of camping, but few want to serve as leadership in any capacity. Unfortunately, this year will complete my two turns allowed by our Constitution, so we need someone to volunteer to be President. The Constitution allows me to continue as President if no one wants the Presidency, but I would like to step down.

### FALL CAMPVENTURE

The Humble Wildcatters are in the process of planning a GREAT Fall Campventure for us. The campout will be held at Coushatta Recreation Ranch near Bellville, Texas. They are planning a western theme of "**Come on Down to the Coushatta Corral**" which will include brisket for the Thanksgiving meal instead of turkey, trail ride, burgers by Howard (hopefully), horse races, and many more fun actives. So, make your plans **NOW** to attend. Plan to bring dish for about 10 people for the Thanksgiving meal to be eaten with the brisket. Also, bring your western clothes and cowboy hat. It is shaping up to be a BLAST of a campout.

### 2010 FCRV CRUISE

After the 2010 National Campvention, FCRV conducted a cruise out of Galveston. TSA sponsored the cruise and received \$10 for each FCRV member that went on the cruse. TSA has received check for \$120 that will be deposited into the TSA general account.

George Cross  
President, TSA

## TSA OFFICER ELECTION

The Texas State Association holds elections every two years. The President of the TSA asked for volunteers and selected a committee of five members and designated a chairman. Each member Chapter may submit a list of nominees for the four elected officers to the Nominating Committee **on or before August 1 of each election year**. The nominating committee shall prepare a ballot containing a slate of nominees, including each nominee submitted by each member Chapter, not later than September 1.

All are volunteer positions. This last election, we only had 2 people run for office. The other 2 positions were filled by appointees of the President with approval by the membership.

The president has also appointed 2 people to be on the Nominating Committee and is looking for additional appointees. If you are interested in being on the Nominating Committee, contact George Cross at [tsacamping@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tsacamping@sbcglobal.net)

If you are interested in running for office, a local chapter in good standing will need to nominate you. To find out more about the office(s) and what duties it entails, contact the Election Committee or one of the current officers.

The offices of the Texas State Association of FCRV/NCHA shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These officers shall be active camping

members in good standing and serve without compensation.

The **President** shall be the Chief Executive officer of the Association, and Chairman of the Board of Directors. The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership, and at meetings of the Board of Directors. The President shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are put into effect. The President shall appoint the Chairman and members of all standing committees. The President shall have the power to appoint a qualified member to fill vacancies arising in standing committees. The President shall have the general powers and duties vested in that office.

The **Vice-President** shall serve in the capacity of the President in the absence of the President. The Vice-President shall have the general powers and duties usually vested in that office. The Vice-President shall be responsible for planning and coordinating any TSA Rally.

The **TSA Secretary** shall be responsible for keeping the minutes at all TSA meetings and reading these minutes at any meeting of the TSA when requested to do so by the presiding officer. Distribute copies of all minutes to members of the Executive Board and Bluebonnet Banner editor to be published. Make a record of the roll call and have custody of these records at all times during the tenure of the office, with the understanding that all such records belong to the TSA and must be surrendered to the new TSA Secretary, or to the TSA president upon their resignation of

that office. The Secretary shall file the reports of the Standing Committee Chairpersons and special committees after they are presented and approved. Have a copy of the current TSA Constitution and Bylaws available at all TSA meetings for ready reference. Send out notices of regular and special meetings to the Executive Board and Bluebonnet Banner editor to be published. Receive and record all the membership dues from Chapters and Members-at-Large. Prepare and distribute to all Chapters and Members-at-Large voting material for the TSA election of officers and amendment changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.

The **Treasurer** shall have custody of all funds, securities, and assets of the Association except the Scholarship Fund. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting all dues and keeping full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Association. The Treasurer shall pay current operating expenses which have been approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall be audited yearly. The Treasurer, with the approval of the Executive Board may allow Committee Chairpersons to control funds for their Committee. These Chairpersons must report fund activities to the Board of Directors with a written financial statement to the Treasurer.

If you are interested in running for any of the above offices, you will need to be nominated by your club and the club president will submit your name to the chairman of the Nominating Committee.

## DIXIELAND DREAMS

51<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVERS CAMPVENTION  
FRIDAY, JULY 8 – FRIDAY JULY 15, 2011 – LADSON, SC

The 51st Annual Family Campers & RVers Campvention will be held July 8 – 15, 2011 at Exchange Park in Ladson, South Carolina hosted by the Southeast Region. The theme is 'Dixieland Dreams.' 'Relive the Old South with mint juleps and hoop skirt dreams.' The parade theme is 'FCRV in the Old South.' The site decorating contest theme is 'Antebellum Mansion.' Parade entries and site entries will encourage member imagination and creativity.



The cost is \$225 pre-registration for camping and \$135 for Camp Pass. Hookups will be 30 AMPs and water on level sites. Parking will be hobo by state or province. Pre-registration is a MUST to be parked with your state or province. The Non-FCRV members' pre-registration fee is \$255 camping and \$155 for Camp Pass, but they will receive a one-year FCRV membership. In addition, there will be a Daily Program Pass at \$30 per family for those who want to come in for a day of activity. Pre-registration deadline is June 15, 2011. At-Gate Registration fees are Camping - \$255 for members and \$285 for non-members; Camp Pass fees at the gate will be \$155 for members and \$175 for non-members.

For those of you who are concerned about the South Carolina climate in July, the buildings are air-conditioned. The electricity to power your units will support air-conditioning.

Door Prize chairpersons George & Debbie Walters are asking for your help to bring door prizes to Campvention. The more door prizes that are donated the more door prizes the Campvention will have for those attending. They are asking that you begin gathering them now for next July. Your help will be greatly appreciated.



Also, thinking ahead, monetary donations to the food bank that will be set up at Campvention will purchase 14 pounds of food for every dollar donated. Chapters, as well as individuals, are encouraged to plan ahead to fill the donation jar at the food bank booth. Staple items are also welcomed, but make note that monetary donations allow for the purchase of more food items.

Those of you who like to fish, 'catch & release' is permitted in the lake on the grounds. Swimming is NOT permitted in the lake.

### TSA Officers & Staff

Bobby & Charla Yost, Regional & Acting State Director  
George & Joan Cross, President, Scholarship Director  
Lawrence & Pam Phillips, Vice President, DAT, Sound Equipment  
Joan Cross & George, Texas Retiree Director, Secretary  
Mike Cross, Treasurer  
Paula Green, Chaplain  
Julie Leith, Conservation, Members at Large  
Kim Varner, Teen Director  
Judy Elenburg, Youth Director, Scholarship Director  
Dawn Cross, Bluebonnet Banner Editor

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[pgreen929@aol.com](mailto:pgreen929@aol.com)  
[jljamaica@suddenlink.net](mailto:jljamaica@suddenlink.net)  
[kaybaby67@yahoo.com](mailto:kaybaby67@yahoo.com)  
[jelenburg@verizon.net](mailto:jelenburg@verizon.net)  
[bluebonnetnews@yahoo.com](mailto:bluebonnetnews@yahoo.com)



**Texas State Association of FCRV**

FCRV web site: [www.FCRV.org](http://www.FCRV.org)

FCRV National Office: [FCRVnat@verizon.net](mailto:FCRVnat@verizon.net)

## DIXIELAND DREAMS REGISTRATION FORM

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Member FCRV? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your first Campvention? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St/Prov \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

# of Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Teens \_\_\_\_\_ Youth 9-12 \_\_\_\_\_ Youth 5-8 \_\_\_\_\_ Youth 0-4 \_\_\_\_\_

Attending (TOTAL# OF PEOPLE IN UNIT ) \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Type: Tent \_\_\_ Fold Down Trailer \_\_\_ Trailer \_\_\_ 5th Wheel \_\_\_ Motorhome \_\_\_ #Slides \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Length \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the names and ages of all teens and youth on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this form.

### CAMPVENTION PARKING

Parking will be hobo by State/Province. If you wish to park together, you **MUST All be pre-registered and come in together**. Sites have electric and water, but you may need an extra cord and water hose. Campers who do not pre-register will be parked wherever spaces are available.

### TWO OR MORE FAMILIES ATTENDING CAMPVENTION IN ONE UNIT

Each family in the same unit must complete a separate Registration Form. The additional family must purchase a camp pass. Please indicate the unit owner's name: \_\_\_\_\_

### HANDICAPPED INFORMATION:

TYPE OF HANDICAPPED SITE REQUESTED: Non-mobile person: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile person: \_\_\_\_\_

There will be no handicapped sites available at the gate **TO BE GUARANTEED A HANDICAPPED SITE YOU MUST PREREGISTER!**

CAMP PASS INFORMATION: Families staying off grounds must purchase a Camp Pass and complete a registration form.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION JUNE 15, 2011

### REGISTRATION FEE

Pre-registration fee:

Member: \$225

Non-member: \$255

Camp Pass:

Member: \$135

Non-member: \$155

At the Gate:

Member: \$255

Non-member: \$285

Camp Pass:

Member: \$155

Non-Member: \$175

Daily Program Pass: \$30 per family

Make checks or money orders payable to:

FCRV Campvention 2011. ALL FUNDS MUST BE US CURRENCY.

MAIL TO: Bill and Penny Ramlow, 341 Holly Cove Road #8, Whittier, NC 28789

Questions? Call 813-545-6083 or E-mail pramlow@aol.com

FOR GENERAL CAMPVENTION INFORMATION CALL: Walter or Marilyn Shealy at 803-781-0150.

Note: If you register and are unable to attend for any reason, we will automatically mail you a refund of any prepaid fees less \$25.00

WE WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE FOLLOWING JOBS:

\_\_\_\_\_

## BLOOD DRIVE

Under the DASAT (Disaster and Safety Awareness Training) program, a blood drive is planned for Campvention. BUT, in order to do this, at least 35 must be signed up before the local Red Cross will schedule the time to come. So, we need to try to have that early sign-up before folks get there.

When you make a blood donation, you join a very select group. Currently only 3 out of every 100 people in America donate blood.

From its beginning, the American Red Cross has formed a community of service, of generous, strong and decent people bound by beliefs beyond themselves. The American Red Cross blood donor embodies this principle. Please join us in our mission to maintain a safe and stable blood supply by making your appointment to donate blood today.



### Requirements:

You have to be at least 17 years old to donate and 16 with a parent's consent

Weight requirement is 110 lbs plus

Donors must be healthy

It takes about 30 minutes to donate and for every pint donated, you can provide blood for up to 3 people. Donated red blood cells do not last forever. They have a shelf-life of up to 42 days. A healthy donor may donate every 56 days.

If you want to donate blood, please send your name to Marilyn Rausch at [fcvdat@live.com](mailto:fcvdat@live.com) NOW. Every minute of every day, someone needs blood. That blood can only come from a volunteer donor, a person like you who makes the choice to donate. There is no substitute for your donation. Nothing else can take the place of blood. Be a part of this wonderful project.

## Youth

by Judy Elenburg



Easter weekend. Participating children were Allison and Abigail Stoner, Jaycee Swan and Braxton May. They found buckets of treasure and had a wonderful time!

Children of all ages are always welcome at our Texas Campventures. Bring your children, grandchildren, neices, nephews, friends and neighbors. Activities are planned for children from age 3 to 12. The Long Tall Texans had an Easter Egg Hunt for their youth at Holiday Park, Benbrook Lake over

## Scholarship Committee

By Judy Elenburg

Over the last few years, the TSA Scholarship Fund has supported young people earning degrees from accredited universities and colleges. Tabitha Lindley was the last student to receive her degree, Bachelor in Political Science with a minor in History, from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Madeline Lawler is now our scholarship recipient. She is completing her first year at Texas A&M Corpus Christi. She is majoring in history.

Donations from the TSA Spring Campventure church offering was \$30.00. Donations are always welcome to the Scholarship Fund and will help our students.

## Where Do We Go From Here - Being a Member of the FCRV

Editorial by DS Cross

My husband and I have been members of FCRV (and by extension TSA) since 2006. During this time – we have seen the membership decline, even with the institution of CADET MEMBERSHIPS.

I wondered what could be the cause and asked other member and non-members alike what they thought. Reasons varied but the overwhelming response was that FCRV was thought of as a group of retirees who do not like change and it is not something a young family would be encouraged to join. I questioned this and did some research. This is ultimately what I have found:

### FCRV –

Membership cost of \$30.00 per year per family  
Discounts on certain items  
Camping Today magazine (6 online/6 in print)

The information provided about FCRV states:

Known as the "Friendliest People in the World", Family Campers is an organization dedicated to camping fellowships, the preservation of our international heritage, and the strengthening of family bonds through shared activities in the out-of-doors! We are a member owned organization with activities and programs for youth, teens, adults and retirees.

Family Campers also has programs in many areas, including: conservation, wildlife, self-propelled camping (SPC), and disaster awareness training (DAT). There are annual Family Campers & RVers International [Campventions](#), regional campouts, and state/and provincial campouts and many other Family Campers campouts. Family Campers & RVers also enjoy discounts and other benefits.

If you like RVing, fun and fellowship, you will love Family Campers & RVers. Come and join us! If you have any type or brand of RV or tent, you are WELCOME in Family Campers!

FCRV has over 5,000 individual and family members and 311 Cadet members. In Texas we have approximately 250 members and 6 active chapters.

Compared to the next similar type of RVers:

### Good Sam –

Membership cost of \$19.00 per year per family (discounted from regular cost of \$29.95)  
More than 1500 groups (116 in Texas)  
Product Testing  
RV Technical Support  
Highways Magazine (11 issues per year and also available online)  
Discounts on certain items  
Online trip tools

The Texas Good Sam Chapters is the State organization, affiliated with The Good Sam Club, for Recreational Vehicle (RV) enthusiasts. Texas Good Sam Chapters consists of 17 areas comprising a total of 116 local chapters and a state wide area consisting of three chapters.

Recently Good Sam joined with 2 other groups and in doing so now have 1.35 million members. Because of this, they attract an even larger number of people. Within the members, there are retirees, military members, younger adults and those who are just getting involved in RVing. If there is something you are interested in doing – there is probably a group to join.

What does this lead me to believe? That FCRV needs to re-invent themselves. Instead of being a "group of retirees" – we need to market ourselves to families. We need to think about the next generation of campers and RVers. We need to reach out to those who are just showing an interest in camping – and what those interests are. This interest can be varied – Rving for fun, fishing, 4-wheeling, charity.

We need to realize we can't keep doing things "the way they've always been done" – because times have changed and to stay a viable organization, we need to change with them.

In Jack Smye's April article, he mentioned that the name of the group – FCRV – does not convey what and who we are. He also mentioned that he wants to hear from us – the current members – why and what we can do to make it better.

## Where Do We Go From Here

Some of the suggestions I have – in addition to the Cadet membership – are to make us more marketable. A good first step is the new logo – “Come Camp With Us” (is there a patch to reflect this as well?). Another suggestion is to reach out to the RV dealerships in your area and put out information about your group. A third suggestion (and the easiest to do) is to tell your friends about the joy and pleasure you get from RVing – how it is good for the mind and soul – and invite them to come with you. When they do come – make them welcome and show them that their interests are important.

I can state without a doubt, that had I known about FCRV 20 years ago, when my children were young, we would have joined then – not after they were grown and out of the house. My husband and I were one of those who didn't know about FCRV – even though we had family members involved. We thought it was “just a group of retired people who went camping together”.

If we continue in this vein, we will continue to see our membership decline to the point of no return. Where will we be then? Think about what you can do to help increase our membership – don't just say we need to do something - make a suggestion and don't forget tell your friends to come and join you.

### TSA is now on Facebook!



**Texas State Association of FCRV**  
Add pictures from your Chapter Campouts,  
post links to your favorite camping places,  
invite others to enjoy camping!

## State News

Charla Yost, Acting State Director

We have a new banner that is available for camp outs. We will send it to you for use and you will need to return it to us once the campout is done. The new banner reflects more about what FCRV is about – “Come Camp With Us”.



## CARNIVAL CONQUEST 7 DAY CRUISE

Sponsored by the Texas State Association

This is money making project for the Family Campers and RVers Texas State Association, as Ron

and Nancy Heberholz, from Travel Planners, who escorted the group, donated \$10.00 per cabin booked to the Texas State Association. TSA was presented with a check for \$120.00.

Nancy and Ron posted several pictures of the cruise and some of the things that took place on Face Book. It looks like they had a wonderful time and the TSA was glad to be a sponsor.

## TSA Trea\$ury Report

By Mike Cross



The TSA recently paid expenses for the Teen Queen and Runner Up to attend FCRV Nationals in Ladson North Carolina. We were provided a check by Travel Planners who made a donation to TSA for the Cruise that was sponsored by TSA.

If you plan to go to the Fall Campventure, make sure you get your registration forms in soon!





## Chaplain's Corner

*By Paula Green*

Have you ever wondered what it the “proper” way to pray? Have you ever been afraid to pray out loud in a group setting? Below are two different ways to help you in your prayers. These are tools to help you in your approach to God.

### *P.R.A.Y.*

**P**raise – Psalms 100:4 says “Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise His name”. Thank God for what He has done.

**R**epent – Psalms 66:18 says “If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened”. Confess your sins and commit to turn from it.

**A**ccess – Psalms 38:9 says “All my longings lie open to your, O Lord; my sighing is not hidden from you.” Tell Him about your needs and frustrations in your life and the lives of those you care about.

**Y**ield – “Show me the way to go for to You, I lift up my soul.” Psalms 143:8. Leave your request there. Trust that He will take care of them in His time and His way.

## *The Lord's Prayer*

*Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed by your name*

Thank Him that you are an adopted child of Go with full access to the Father. Praise Him for the many ways He has revealed Himself

*Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven*

Pray for yourself, your family, your church, the nation and the world

*Give us this day our daily bread*

Pray for spiritual, physical needs. Pray for needs of others.

*Forgive our debts and we have forgiven our debtors*

Confess your sin and forgive others

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil*

Pray for Gods protection – spiritually and physically

*For yours is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever*

Praise God and commit yourself to Him

If you know of someone who is ill or who has passed that is part of the TSA or FCRV, please send the information to Paula Green at [pgreen929@aol.com](mailto:pgreen929@aol.com).

Word Search  
**All About Texas**

H D I A R M A D I L L O E M R T M  
 U D W U Y L I F W Q L S A X E T Q  
 C R H E A T O M A L A V G R Y O L  
 Q S A I Q O D E R A L K K N K J H  
 P R Z T E L L I V S N W O R B R O  
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Alamo  
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 Brownsville  
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 El Paso

friendship  
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 Laredo  
 lonestar  
 longhorn  
 Lubbock  
 mockingbird  
 pecan  
 Texas

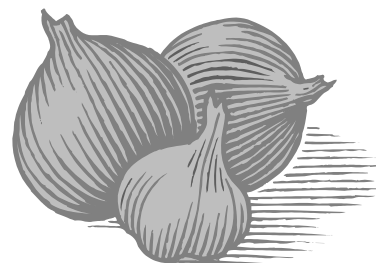
## ONION SHORTCAKE

**Ingredients**

2 large sweet onions – sliced thin  
 8 oz sour cream  
 ¼ tsp salt  
 divided  
 15 oz can cream corn  
 ½ cup milk  
 4 drops (or to taste) – hot red pepper sauce

½ cup margarine  
 ½ tsp dill weed  
 8 oz grated cheddar cheese –

8 ½ oz pkg cornbread mix  
 1 egg – slightly beaten



Sauté onion in margarine. Stir in sour cream, dill, salt and ½ of the grated cheese.  
 In a separate bowl, combine corn, cornbread mix, milk, egg and pepper sauce. Place in buttered baking dish.  
 Spread onion mix over cornbread mix. Top with remaining cheese.  
 Bake at 325 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes  
 Enjoy!



## Texas State Parks Recreational Vehicle (RV) Group Packages

Texas State Parks are rich in natural beauty and cultural history. Texas has 11 eco-regions with a wide variety of landscapes, from lush forests to rugged canyons and mountains. Many State Parks feature spectacular lakes and rivers where you can go boating, fishing and swimming or just enjoy a relaxing float. Other parks offer wonderful trails for hiking, biking, birding and horseback riding. With such a wide variety of natural wonders you can plan a group RV outing to satisfy any taste.

When you stay at a Texas State Park you can always depend on friendly, knowledgeable staff and safe surroundings. And with more than 120 State Parks in Texas, you can take a day trip from your campsite to explore another State Park or State Historic Site in the area!

Texas State Parks also include more than thirty State Historic Sites, each one revealing a fascinating glimpse back in time. Visit a frontier fort, see prehistoric rock art or climb aboard the only surviving U.S. battleship to have fought in both world wars. Many sites also offer tours, special events, re-enactments and living history presentations to bring Texas history alive. If you're staying at a State Park be sure to drop by a nearby Historic site for a visit.

Many of our parks have facilities that are ideal for groups of RVs. During off-peak periods, some of these parks are offering special benefits for RV Groups. Some of these benefits include:

- Day and/or overnight use fees
- Group facility use
- Special programs by park staff
- Reservations available up to 11 months in advance

For more information on RV Group packages contact the Group Reservation Desk at (512) 389-8900 to make your group plans now!

The Central Reservation Center (C.R.C.) is staffed from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday - Friday. The C.R.C. is closed Saturday, Sunday and major holidays.

The [Texas State Parks Pass](#) and the [Parklands Passport or "Bluebonnet Pass"](#) cannot be used to further discount these special promotions.



## TSA Historical Marker Contest

While you are out driving the State of Texas, I'm sure you have seen the Historical Markers on the side of the road. How many times have you stopped to look at the information? Check out this website for more information on Historical Markers - <http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigns/madhistory.shtml>

Now – for the contest. It is quite simple -



Find a Historical Marker – from any state, stop your car, take a picture of it and send it in to our Face Book page or email it to the Bluebonnet Banner at [bluebonnetnews@yahoo.com](mailto:bluebonnetnews@yahoo.com). Tell where you were and what the marker is regarding. If you are travelling with someone – have them in the picture as well. At the end of the year, we will have a drawing. The person whose name is drawn will win a prize. The more pictures you send, the more chances you have to win. Take the time to stop and read about our great state and others – and a chance to win a prize along the way!

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

### *Miss TSA Texas*

The FCRV National is almost here and I am getting ready to go to South Carolina and do my best to make you proud of me. Mom, Nana and I have found the perfect gown for the Ball but we are still looking for the special Pageant gown and an outfit for the Tea. We will find them soon!

I am most honored to represent you and Texas this year. Most of you have known me all my life and you are like family to me (lots of grandparents). I promise to have fun, work hard and do my best to make you proud of me. Thank you and TSA for your support, both emotional and monetary, y'all are the greatest.

I have my first job at Pizza Inn Express and I have learned a lot from it. Be on time, be nice to customers no matter what, help anywhere needed and that everything in the place has to be cleaned everyday no matter what. So far, so good. I am having a great time. Because of work, I will not be able to attend the Spring Campout. I will miss being there and I am sorry that I can't attend, but I think this is part of growing up and becoming a responsible adult.

For those who cannot go to National, you will be missed. For those of you going have a wonderful and safe trip and I will see you there.

Hayley Varner  
Miss Texas FCRV 2011

### Texas Retirees

Texas had a good attendance at the FCRV National Retiree Rally during March in Canto Texas. The theme was "Boot Scoot to Texas" and Dick and Kathy Buresh were the Rally Coordinators. They worked hard over the last year to ensure a successful Rally. The Texas group and many others worked hard to make sure it went smoothly.

There was an attendance of over 400 people in 200 rigs – with some people staying off grounds. There were 4 couples running for International Retiree King and Queen. The new Retiree King and Queen are Ronald and Jo Horsom of Iowa.

Entertainment was wonderful and varied each night. A check of \$1,324.00 was presented to the Canton Food Bank – along with the food that was brought to the Rally by the FCRV Retirees. In 2010, the Canton Food Bank helped 2,200 families. They gave out 59,000 pounds of food.

\$913.50 was collected to be given to Rayne, LA to help due to the tornado damage and the FCRV Retirees also presented

to the "Children Advocacy Group" and Cresswood Rest Home the blankets that were collected.

The 2012 Retiree Rally will be March 13 -18, with early days of March 9 -12, at North Florida Fairgrounds in Tallahassee Florida. Pre-registration is \$185.00 and at the gate is \$200.00.

The Texas Retiree Rally was held at North Texas Airstream Community (NTAC) in Hillsboro Texas May 22 to 26. We were down in attendance and only had 10 people (7 rigs). While attendance was down, we had fun and those who could not attend, you were missed. The Texas Retiree Rally will move to April in 2012. Look for the date in future issues of the Bluebonnet Banner.

To those who were able to attend, thank you for coming!

Joan Cross  
Texas Retiree Field Director

### DASAT

The first thing that you will note is that our program name is now **DISASTER AND SAFETY AWARENESS AND TRAINING** (or **DASAT**, if you will). Sometimes tweaking a name not only clarifies the nature of the program, but also makes people think about it again.

Some time ago input into how the program can be updated was requested. Some good suggestions were received and have been the basis for the changes that were made.

In the past there were first 18 then 24 different training areas, each with "guidelines" as to what should be done to fulfill the requirements for the training bars. We no longer use bars... and the training areas really did not meet the needs of our membership or the current problems we are likely to encounter.

Under the new structure, there will be four categories:

PREPARING FOR DISASTER  
PREVENTING DISASTER  
PARTICIPATING IN DISASTER RECOVERY  
HEALTH AND WELLNESS

There is a lot that we can do when camping. More information will be coming your way.

Stay Safe When Camping  
Lawrence and Pam Phillips



## Come On Down to the Coushatte Corral!

The Fall 2011 Campventure will be held at the Coushatte Recreation Ranch in Bellville Texas. The theme is Everything Texas – beginning with the Coushatte Corral!

Watch out for the Judge and his Sheriff! (word is they are crooked as can be and can be bought off). Wear your Western Duds!



Check out the horse races!

Play a little dominoes and horseshoes!



And plan to visit the Do Drop Inn for some light refreshments and catching up.

Hayride – Cook-out – Pet Parade – Movies

Date: November 23 to 27  
Coushatte Recreation Ranch, Bellville Texas  
Host: Humble Wildcatters



### Coushatte Recreation Ranch History

In 1877 the Nelius Family settled here at Coushatte in Bellville, Texas. They farmed cotton and raised cattle. Horses were used in the fields until 1948. Then in the 1950 Trenckmann Nelius began to raise chickens and eggs. Cattle raising was still practiced, along with farming maize to provide food for the chickens. In 1973, Trenckmann and Margie Nelius started the Coushatte Recreation Ranch with only 24 hookups. Margie named the campground "Coushatte Recreation Ranch" after the Coushatte Indians that thrived on this very land long ago. There is a Indian Mound on the ranch, and many arrow heads have been found there.

<http://www.coushatte.com/> Click on the link to find out more about Coushatte Recreation Ranch

## REGION 2 DIRECTOR

Our Region and by extension, our State, is in dire need of new members and you can help. You know someone from your Church, neighborhood, work or your own family that has an RV. We need you to go to them and invite them to go camping with you and your Chapter. You need to make them feel welcomed and tell them about FCRV. If we fit their needs ask them to join FCRV. We will all benefit from having new members. They bring with them new ideas, fresh faces, and friendships just waiting to be found. Don't wait to be the second one in your state to find a member, be the first. You can be the one to lead FCRV to membership growth. Without all of you we will continue to lose members and fade away. Today is the time, tomorrow is we can turn FCRV into a growing organization.

Remember to use the Cadet Membership coupon and give a free membership to someone you are willing to mentor. When you use the first one you will be sent another. It is a great opportunity to help someone enjoy FCRV.

We hope with the price of fuel going down that you will register and go to the FCRV National Campvention. We will see you there.

Bobby & Charla Yost  
Region 2 Director

# FCRV/TSA FALL CAMPVENTION

## November 23 – 27, 2010

### REGISTRATION FORM

Coushatta Recreation Ranch in Bellville Texas

2812 Nelius Rd Bellville TX 77418  
979-865-5897 979-885-8909



Deadline to pre-register: November 1, 2010  
Pre-registration Fee: \$10.00 (after Nov.1 - \$15.00 will be required)  
Adult Activity Fee: \$5.00 per adult (pay with pre-registration)

For more information contact:  
Joan Cross 281-851-6915  
Katherine Singleton

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Others \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Special needs \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendees: Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Teens \_\_\_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_



Make checks payable to: TSA (mark for TSA Fall campout)

Pre-registration fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Activity fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail To:** Mike Cross  
8 Earls Row  
Conroe TX 77304

Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\* PARKING WILL BE HOBO-IF YOU WANT TO CAMP TOGETHER PLAN TO ARRIVE TOGETHER \*\*\***

# Teen King & Queen Pageant Pre-Teen Prince and Princess Pageant



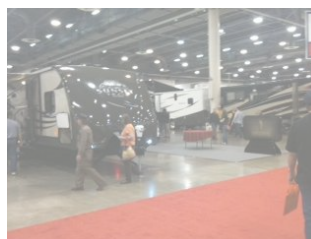
*The pageant will be held on Thanksgiving Weekend. It is open to all FCRV 2010 Texas members living in Texas or those who affiliate with Texas. Pre-teen Prince and Princess Contestants must be 7 through 12 years old. King and Queen Contestants must be 13 through 19 years. You must be a Teen on the day of the National Pageant. Through the years we have watched the young members who enter this Pageant grow up and become successful adults. They may not get the title but they learn much from the experience. Public speaking, confidence, new friends and much more can be learned by the experience. Our hope is that you, as a contestant, will enjoy the fun and excitement. For more information please call 817-247-3475, or E-mail [charlayost@aol.com](mailto:charlayost@aol.com), or write to Charla Yost, 191 Carleton Blvd, Springtown, Texas 76082*

## Texas Pre-Teen and Teen Pageant

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parents' Names \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parents' Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teen Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
 School Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
 Talent \_\_\_\_\_ Will you need a sound system? \_\_\_\_\_

## Show Time!

We went to the Houston RV Show at Reliant Arena in changed over the years. We saw everything from small single behind a car (yes – A CAR!) to drivables dollars. There were Toy Haulers, party and the driveables – busses and



February. RVing sure has person RVs that you can pull that were over 1.5 million patios, 5<sup>th</sup> Wheels, bumper pull everything else.

We had the chance to talk to several dealers and gave them things that we do and don't like, things that do and don't work. When you visit an RV Show, seek out those that will listen to what those who RV find works and doesn't work.

### Upcoming RV Shows

**San Antonio August 12-15, 2011**

Texas RV Association Annual Convention

**Dallas September 15-18, 2011**

Dallas Market Hall



**Houston February 8-12, 2012**  
Reliant Center

## CADET MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM AND YOU

Recently, each FCRV member was sent a letter explaining a new program for FCRV. It is the Cadet member Program. The Trustees have decided to implement the Cadet Member Program as suggested by Wilson Forbes, the Corresponding Secretary. This program will allow you to select a prospective member and present them with a one year free membership to FCRV. This can be done as often as you need to do this. As soon as you send in your first Cadet Registration, the office will send another certificate so you can repeat the process. This has the potential of doubling the membership in a short time. There are two important things to consider as you give this membership away.

One, be selective on who you give this to. Second, be willing to mentor these new members.

**The success of this program depends on your mentoring the new member and seeing they renew their membership at the end of their free year.**

**FCRV – Cadet Program Registration**                      **FCRV member mail completed registration to address below:**  
Family Campers & RVers - 4804 Transit Rd, Bldg 2 - Depew, NY 14043

**FCRV Membership cards will mailed to current FCRV member to present to the new Cadet Member.**

**Cadet Member Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spouse:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Family consists of:**        \_\_\_\_\_ **Adults**        \_\_\_\_\_ **Children**        \_\_\_\_\_ **Retired Adults**

**CADET MEMBER'S SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_

**FCRV Member First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Member #** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FCRV Member's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cards and welcome materials will be sent to FCRV member to present to new Cadet member.**

"The Gift of Camping"    Cadet Membership Program -----Procedures and Policies

Every paid regular member of FCRV will receive one Cadet Membership packet that includes a certificate for a free one year membership in FCRV to be given to a camping friend or individual.

### CADET MEMBER SIGN UP PROCEDURES:

1. When the FCRV member receives the Cadet Membership packet they will award the free membership certificate to a camping family or individual. The new member should mirror the qualities of character desired in FCRV members.
2. The FCRV member will present the Cadet Membership certificate and ask the new family to provide the information requested and sign the Cadet registration form.
3. The FCRV member will complete the balance of the registration form, sign and mail it to the National Office at FCRV Headquarters, 4804 Transit Rd, Bldg. 2, Depew, NY 14043.
4. When the National Office receives the registration they will process the membership and mail a FCRV Membership card and welcome letter to the FCRV member. The FCRV member will present the membership card and welcome letter to the Cadet member.
5. When the FCRV member receives the Cadet Membership card and welcome letter from the National Office, they will also receive another Cadet membership packet with another certificate that they may award to another camping family.

## Summer Health Dangers



When the temperature soars and humidity rises, it's time to take precautions to avoid dangerous health consequences such as heat exhaustion, heat stroke and overexposure to the sun. With heat exhaustion and stroke, the most susceptible among us are [seniors](#), [children](#), and [people with chronic illnesses](#). However, everyone is at risk. The early symptoms of heat exhaustion can sneak up on us. Some people feel a bit lightheaded and weak and might have a touch of nausea. The serious problems develop when symptoms are ignored and additional fluids are not taken right away. The primary cause of heat exhaustion is dehydration and a loss of electrolytes such as sodium. Generally, try to stay well-hydrated and take in extra salt (for those of you who can use salt). Drink even though you don't feel like it - you can't count on your thirst mechanism to prompt you. Here are the major symptoms of [heat exhaustion and heat stroke](#) and some safety tips to help you cope with health emergencies during the dog days of summer.

### Symptoms of heat exhaustion include:

- Body temperature usually normal or only slightly elevated.
- Dry mouth.
- Fatigue, weakness.
- Dizziness.
- Headache.
- Nausea, sometimes vomiting.
- Weak and rapid pulse.
- Sweating.
- Cool, clammy, pale skin.

*NOTE: Symptoms take time to develop - sometimes several hours after dehydration occurs.*

### Treatments for heat exhaustion:

- Get out of the sun and into a cool place.
- Drink more fluids (electrolyte sports drinks may help), but don't drink too fast or you could become nauseous.
- Eat salty snacks.
- Rest.
- Loosen clothing.

*Be aware that heat stroke can come after heat exhaustion, but it can also develop quickly and independently if one's core body temperature rises too high.*

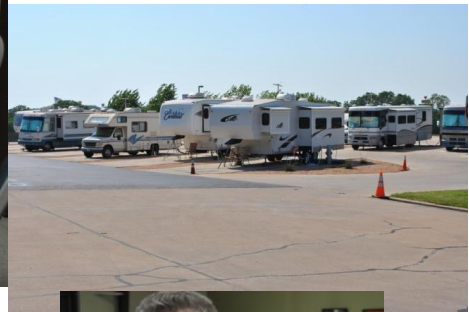
### Symptoms of heat stroke include:

- Very high body temperature (103 degrees or higher).
- Hot, dry, red skin.
- No sweating.
- Disorientation, hallucinations, delirium
- Rapid breathing and fast pulse, then slow breathing and weak pulse.
- Convulsions.
- Loss of consciousness.

*NOTE: Symptoms can come on quickly.*

Heat stroke can occur within 10 - 15 minutes of the first symptoms. If treatment is not given immediately, permanent damage can occur to internal organs.

# 2011 Spring Campventure



**Come Join us at the Fall Campventure - Fun, Friends, Games and More!**