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TEXAS PRIDE

April 17-19, 2020
Braunig Lake RV Resort

It's all things Texan – come early and explore the Alamo and surrounding area. Texas Trivia Quiz on Saturday. We'll throw Horseshoes (bring your set), play Chicken Foot (bring your set) and compete in Bean Bag Baseball. Registration form in this newsletter and at TexasW.org.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Texas W,

The 2020 camping season is in full swing. It started in January in Onalaska on Lake Livingston. A big "Thank You" to the Bluebonnet Travelers for helping host. So much fun...

The April meeting is right around the corner, April 17-19th at Braunig Lake RV Resort. The Heart of Texas Winnies are helping to host this one, "Texas Pride" and we hope you can make it. The park is only minutes from San Antonio, so you might want to come early or stay late to take a trip to the River Walk or the Alamo. So many places to see in the area. The registration form is on the TexasW website: https://texasw.org/linkPDFs/registration_april_2020.pdf.

TexasW will travel to the Grand National Rally (GNR) in Forest City, Iowa, July 13-17. The theme this year is "Paradise Calls: A Road to Hawaii". As in the past years, we are planning to have a float in the parade on Saturday, July 11th, so come early and help us decorate on Friday evening. We need donations of candy to throw during the parade. But that's not all, we need help decorating for the Texas Row and grillers for the Texas Row Party. If you have not participated in the events during GNR, it is so much fun and it's a great time to get to know everyone better. If you plan on attending, registration will open in March and be sure to request a preference to be on the Texas Row.

Please feel free to contact me anytime with suggestions and questions.

Email: President@texasw.org or Cell: (281) 799-5627 or Home: (281) 259-5785

Happy Travels,

Debbie Sak

President, Texas W



Schedule for more Texas W Club Fun

Spring Meeting

April 17-19, 2020
Braunig Lake RV Resort
13550 Donop Rd
Elmendorf, TX 78112

Grand National Rally

"Roadtrip to Hawaii"
July 13-17, 2020
Winnebago Rally Grounds
Forest City, Iowa 50436

Fall Rally

October 15-18, 2020
Mitchell Resort & RV Park
2730 FM 2210
Perrin, TX 76486

Winter Meeting

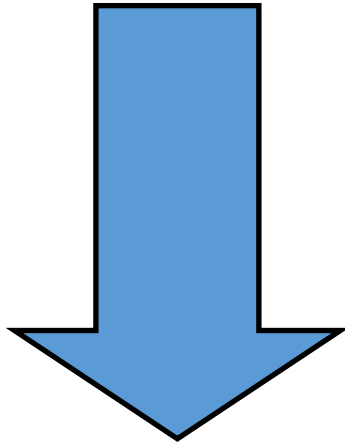
January 21-24, 2021
LAKE ATHENS MARINA & RV PARK
5401 Marina Dr
Athens, TX 75752

Meeting? Rally? DID YOU EVER WONDER??????????

What's the difference between a TexasW Meeting and a TexasW State Rally? Is a Meeting a Rally?

Very confusing! As a way of distinguishing the difference, we have adopted calling the January Winter and April Spring events a "MEETING". Then the big event in October is called the "STATE RALLY".

At the October STATE RALLY, we provide more catered meals, sometimes have vendors, entertainment, a silent auction and lots of door prizes. It typically draws more out of state visitors and our WIT representatives. It's a big blow out....



PRAYING FOR A CHAPLAIN

Do you have a willingness to share an inspirational story/thought with your fellow campers?

Consider volunteering to be our chaplain and lead the Sunday morning devotional at the end of our gatherings.

If you are willing to serve, contact Debbie Sak, president@texasw.org.



NO NEWS IS NOT GOOD NEWS

By Tricia Bradbury

This is OUR newsletter—not MINE!!! I'd love to have a little direction on what you'd like to see.

Feedback is welcome even if it's criticism. All opinions are valued.

NEWS FLASH: I do NOT need to be the lone reporter!! I strongly encourage YOU to submit info for OUR newsletter.

Newsletter@texasw.org

Triciabrad35@yahoo.com

Or send a text: 713-253-9023



Things to do in & around Elmendorf

Sandy Oaks Olive Orchard

Cactus Land Brewing Company (Adkins)

Seersucker Distillery (San Antonio)

Texas Air Museum (San Antonio)

Natural Bridge Wildlife Ranch (San Antonio)

World's Largest Cowboy Boots—maybe (Northstar Mall, San Antonio)

Giant Stag made of junk ("The Parc at Escondido." I-10 exit 585, Converse)

Big (not giant) Peanut (courthouse lawn, Floresville)

Do you know something fun in the area?? Share it, please!!!



ELMENDORF, TEXAS

Bexar County, Central Texas

29°15'25"N 98°20'0"W

17 miles (27 km) southeast of downtown San Antonio at the juncture of Farm Road 327 and the Southern Pacific Railroad.

197 miles WSW of Houston

89 miles SW of Austin

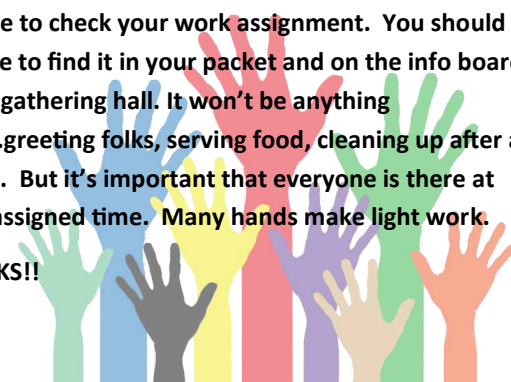
284 miles SSW of Dallas

Population: 1945 Est. (2017)

Rally Reminder.....

Be sure to check your work assignment. You should be able to find it in your packet and on the info board in the gathering hall. It won't be anything hard...greeting folks, serving food, cleaning up after a meal... But it's important that everyone is there at their assigned time. Many hands make light work.

THANKS!!



Lichtsinn RV

10% Discount for WIT Club Members on All Winnebago, Itasca and Winnebago Touring Coach Parts

At Lichtsinn RV we have great partnerships with many members of the [WIT Club](#) (formerly the Winnebago Itasca Travelers' Club) and strengthen that relationship by offering all members a **10% discount* on all retail Winnebago, Itasca and Winnebago Touring Coach RV Parts.**

Since Winnebago Industries does not ship parts direct, we are your best option for having parts shipped directly to you as we are only 1 mile from the Winnebago factory. We ship nationwide and offer same-day shipping on in-stock parts.

Simply call **1-800-343-6255** to place an order or [click here](#) to request a quote online.



**Discount may not be used in conjunction with any other offers. Does not apply to tax or shipping. Valid only on retail Winnebago parts.*

ELMENDORF, TEXAS. Elmendorf is at the junction of the Southern Pacific Railroad and Farm Road 327, some seventeen miles southeast of downtown San Antonio in southeastern Bexar County. The town was established in 1885 and named for Henry Elmendorf, former mayor of San Antonio and promoter of the first brick plant in the vicinity. W. F. Saenger discovered that the clay in the area was suitable for pottery, and that became an important local industry. A post office opened at the community in 1886, and by 1890 Elmendorf had a pottery, a general store, a hotel, and a population of fifty. The settlement grew rapidly after 1900, and by 1914 it had nine general stores, a cotton gin, a hotel, and a population of 300. The community's largest employer for many years was Star Clay Products, a firebrick factory. The population of Elmendorf was consistently reported as 300 until the 1950s. During the 1960s it fell to 200, but later it grew steadily, and in 1990 the town reported 568 residents and eighteen businesses. The population in 2000 was 664. tshaonline.org

When the Eagleford Shale was discovered, Elmendorf saw it's population increase 120% in less than 10 years (2004-2010).

Victor Braunig Lake, formerly known as East Lake, is a reservoir on Calaveras Creek and Chupaderas Creek 17 miles south of Downtown San Antonio, Texas, USA.

Calaveras Lake is a reservoir on Calaveras Creek, located 20 miles southeast of Downtown San Antonio, Texas, USA. Wikipedia

FUEL CARD FOR DIESEL PURCHASES

TSD Logistics is offering a discount card for diesel fuel purchases. Texas W member, Mike Ellerbrock, has had good results and shared this link to provide info:

[TDS Logistics fuel card](#)



FINALLY.....a nationwide toll pass

Mike Ellerbrock shared this bit of information that is idea for those who travel far and wide. New RV Toll Pass now allows RVers to conveniently use open road tolling across the country with a single transponder and account. This program just started in October 2019 and sounds great if you travel much in the 35 states that have tolled roads.

Here is the link to a full article:

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/transcore-introduces-rv-toll-pass-with-nationwide-coverage-300946562.html>



JANUARY meeting at Lake Livingston KOA



Group shot— we've gone high tech with a drone shot thanks to Billy Brooks and his piloting skills!! It was like herding cats trying to get everyone to look up at the right time.



Almond Crunch Cookies were a big hit in January! Get the recipe here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pNown528fnOEdN0In8itmwp_LbkpEZ9/view?usp=sharing

(If you have a link problem, report to triciabrad35@yahoo.com)

Newest **members**, Vern & Sharon Koski. Not their usual attire (at least I'm pretty sure).



Pre-rally tour to see the gypsy cob horses at Aunique Horse Ranch in Huntsville

The Gypsy Cob, also known as the Traditional Gypsy cob, Irish Cob, Gypsy Horse or Gypsy Vanner, is a type or breed of domestic horse from the islands Great Britain and Ireland. It is a small, solidly-built horse of cob conformation and is often, but not always, piebald or skewbald; it is particularly associated with Irish Travellers and English Romanichal Travellers of Ireland and Great Britain. There was no stud-book or breed association for horses of this type until 1996. It is now considered a breed and can be registered by the Traditional Gypsy Cob Association (TGCA).

From about 1850 travelling people in the British Isles began to use a distinct type of horse to pull their vardos, the caravans in which they had just begun to live and travel. The colour and look of the breed were refined in the years after the Second World War. Horses of this type were first exported to the United States in 1996.





CHICKENFOOT TOURNAMENT



Chickenfoot tournament
highest and lowest scorers

It was the MANY DAYS OF CHRISTMAS so there were decorations, songs, and gifts



BBT members practice for their Many Days of Christmas song of RV trials and tribulations.



*CHRISTMAS
In
JANUARY*

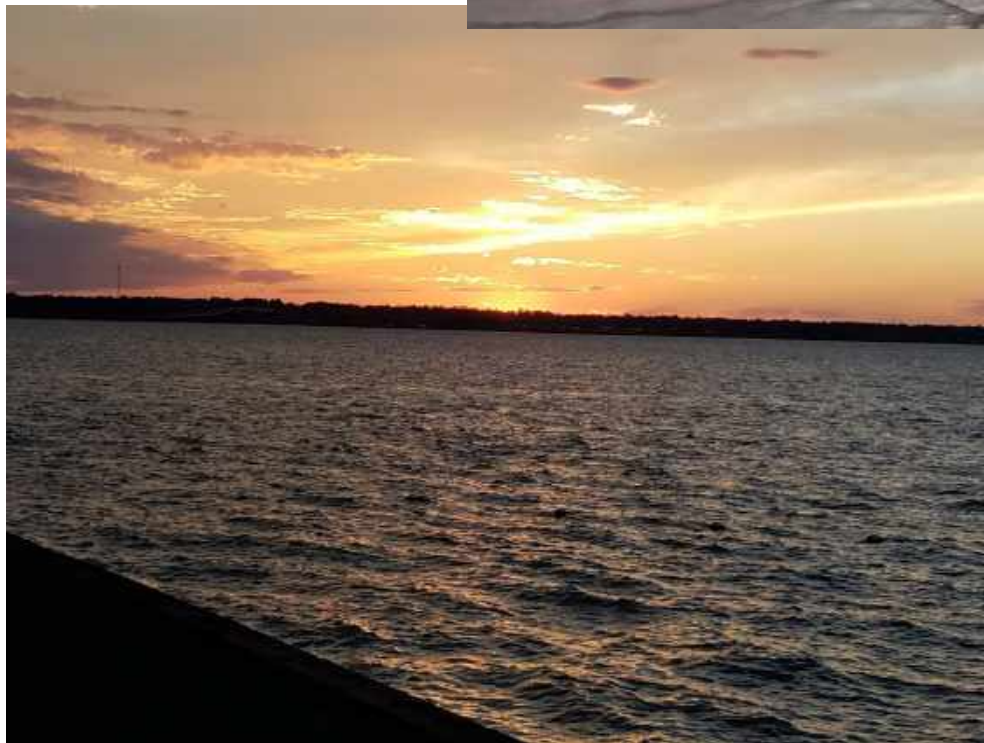


UGLY SWEATER CONTEST

How ugly were the ugly sweaters?

Remarkably!!





We sometimes had to remind ourselves we were in the piney woods of east Texas pretty close to the Big Thicket!!

These scenes might make you want to check to be sure your dive gear is in order for the morning dive!!

We will be close to a lake again for our April meeting near San Antonio:

Spring Meeting

April 17-19, 2020

Braunig Lake RV Resort

13550 Donop Rd

Elmendorf, TX 78112



Some of our Texas W chapters



HEART OF TEXAS WINNIES



NORTEX TRAVELERS



BLUEBONNET TRAVELERS



Several meetings ago, Leann Horn announced that she would like Texas W to highlight the interests and talents of our members. Perhaps you are an artist, quilter, sculptor, collector, or something else (surprise us). We want to showcase your passion. This is the first in what we hope becomes a regular feature in each newsletter.

TEXAS W'S GOT TALENT!

FEATURED: Peggy Smith

WHERE DO YOU LIVE? Plano, TX

TALENT(S)/HOBBIES: Painting oils and acrylic on canvas, painting glasses and rocks, all sorts of crafts, sketching, photography and graphics.

Former: Breeding/Showing black standard poodles (Mohawk Acre Kennels); Breeding/Showing Arabian horses (Pegasus Arabian Farm) in various disciplines; Raising 2 boys; building computers from the motherboard up; jewelry; polymer clay designs, etc.

Jill of all trades, Master of some.

HOW DID YOU GET INTERESTED IN ART? Well, the first time beyond a required school art class, we were on Guam. My husband was in the Navy at the time. When a typhoon came through, he left with the squadron take the planes from the island for safety. I was left there with our 3-month old son, Chris. A Navy yeoman brought us from our one room apartment to a safe concrete bunker on base. Taking care of Chris didn't occupy all my time, so I tried to enjoy the moment. Since we couldn't afford a camera, film or developing solutions, I used paper and pencil. My first "adult" art experience was sketching him as he slept. That was in 1968.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ART? Since 1968.

HAVE YOU HAD ANY FORMAL TRAINING? When the boys were 4 and 5, we returned to the States. I did take a portrait course in oil painting. I enjoyed the learning experience. Time, military moves and lack of funds – meaning that I had to work for more than a survival income – pushed formal art training to a very low priority.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE PROJECT? My favorite project is what I'm working on. I paint rocks, glasses, flowerpots, butler trays, stretched canvas and, frankly, anything that doesn't move. I've warned Ken not to fall asleep in the Lazy-Boy.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU? Recently, I have explored what I consider "quality teachers" on the internet. Some teach oil paint, others acrylic, others just paint rocks. I also follow Dewberry's "One Stroke Methods." If I see a great sunset photo on Facebook, I copy to my phone and may start a canvas later.

When I paint rocks, I look for something that will speak to me. I have found flat rocks with divots in the right places to form the eyes of an owl or a shape that suggests



Above: Lilly White, the RV driving dog (but don't tell her she's a dog) (L) and Peggy Smith, artist extraordinaire (R)



something which I can develop into an animal or landscape.

DO YOU HAVE A PARTICULAR TIME WHEN YOU WORK ON YOUR PROJECTS? I usually paint on days when I don't go to yoga and fitness classes. And sometimes, after those morning classes. Right now, I'm working on wine bottles for table decorations for GNR with a "Paradise" theme with LED lights inside.

Once a month, the Activity Director here at "The Ol' Folks Home" (our affectionate name for our community) has an evening "Paint and Sip" session. Also, there is a twice-a-month acrylics class that offers new projects.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE CONSIDERING TAKING UP ART? Never say never.

AND, don't say I can't do art because "I can't even draw a straight line with a ruler." You may not become an artist-of-note, but a true artist makes something out of nothing – even crooked lines. Don't give up, keep trying and bring out the hidden artist in you.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? I'm so looking forward to having class sessions at the next Texas W Rally so I can share what I do and enjoy your company. My idea of a class is to smile, enjoy and give it the "ol' College try."

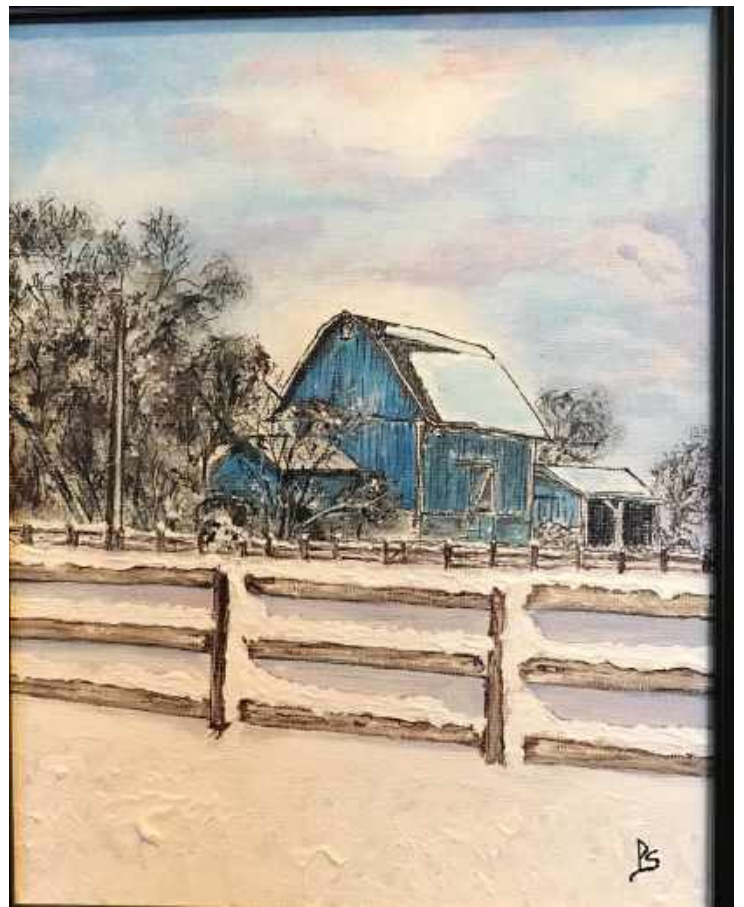
Art is in the eye of the beholder. Come and make something.

TEXAS W'S GOT TALENT!

A Sampling of Peggy's art



See more on the next page!!



Featured artist:

Peggy Smith



Texas W Club General Meeting Minutes

Onalaska, TX

January 19, 2020

President Debbie Sak called the meeting to order at 10 AM. She led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and to the Texas Flag. After the opening prayer, Debbie welcomed guests and invited the Secretary to call the roll of chapters.

Alamo Winnies	# Rigs not sure	# Rigs at Meeting 1
Bluebonnet Travelers	# Rigs 32	# Rigs at Meeting 14 + 2 Honorary
Heart of Texas	# Rigs not sure	# Rigs at Meeting 2 1/2
Nor-Tex Travelers	# Rigs 21	# Rigs at Meeting 7 1/2
Rambling Rose	# Rigs not sure	# Rigs at Meeting 0

[Red River Wranglers has now been disbanded and the charter returned to WIT]

Veterans attending (16) were acknowledged and thanked for their service.

Officer Reports

Secretary:

Minutes of Oct 19, 2019 General Meeting were previously circulated by email and were approved

Treasurer:

Our treasurer reports that the TX W Executive Board in Oct 2019 approved more benefits to members attending meetings and rallies in order to bring down the excessively high balance in the club checking account. We've seen some, with more to look forward to.

Therefore, the Oct 2019 Rally financial results show a sought-after deficit of (\$2,055). This was achieved by giving every member attending one free night of camping and increasing the budget for rally door prizes.

April Meeting Budget was shared with the membership, having already been approved in the Executive Board Meeting. Rates will be \$125 for 2 people, 1 rig and \$100 for one person, one rig, plus the usual \$10 late fee for registrations after April 1, 2020.

About \$1,000 was raised at the Oct Rally for our charity the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.

Treasurer reported that TX W financial records had been audited by Carol Roberts and Bob Mote. Their conclusion was that the cash basis method accounting records maintained by your treasurer accurately represent the financial activity of the club for the 2018/2019 fiscal year.

His report was approved and all questions were referred to the Treasurer at a later time.

First V P:

Report on upcoming 2020 Meetings and the State Rally

April 15-17, 2020 (Lake Braunig in Elmendorf) to be hosted by HOT with much excitement about the Mission Tour

GNR July 13-17, 2020 – there will be a meeting at 3 pm today to begin planning. All are invited to come to share ideas, whether or not you intend to attend in July.

Oct 14-18, 2020 (Mitchell RV in Perrin) to be hosted by Nor-Tex. The anticipation of the exciting Cowboy Stories and Miniature Golf challenges has many very intrigued.

January 2021 has not yet been firmed up – possibly will be at Rayford Crossing

Continued on next page

Second VP:

Introduction of new members attending this rally: the Registers (Don and Crystal) and the Koskies (Vern and Sharon). Both couples have joined BBT.

A recap was given of the number of cards sent for member birthdays, anniversaries and illnesses.

Old Business:

A reminder was given to everyone that after our upcoming State Rally in Perrin there will be quite a few traveling to the Louisiana State Rally in Raine, LA and that all are invited to join in the caravan to what promises to be a wonderful experience!

New Business: Tom Bickers offered to give TX W his nearly new wireless PA system and the offer was gratefully accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 by Pres Debbie Sak after a motion by Ann Caywood, seconded by Carolyn Roberts.

San Antonio Highlights

ALAMO - 300 Alamo Plaza, admission is free, with a guide \$15.00/person. Parking nearby at River City Mall Parking, parking \$10.00 to \$20.00/day.

SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

Mission Concepcion - 807 Mission Rd - parking available

Mission San Jose - 701 Pyron - parking available

Mission San Juan - 9101 Graf Rd - parking available

Mission Espada/Espada Aqueducts - 10040 Espada - parking

JAPANESE TEA GARDEN - 3853 N St Mary's Street - parking free - there is a small cafe on site.

BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM - 210 W Market St - Riverbend parking garage across from museum. Admission - adults \$10.00, Seniors \$8.00, retired military \$5.00

BUCKHORN SALOON AND MUSEUM - 318 E Houston - cafe serves lunch only - Parking garages within walking distance.

EL MERCADO/HISTORIC MARKET SQUARE - 514 W Commerce - parking available around square.

WITTE MUSEUM - 3801 Broadway St - free parking - Seniors \$13.00, adults \$14.00.

SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL GARDENS - 555 Funston Place - admission \$12.00.

SAN ANTONIO ZOO - 3903 N St. Mary's Street - parking available - admission \$15.99

PEARL BREWERY/PEARL FARMERS MARKET

Brewery - 303 Pearl Pkwy.

Farmers Market - 312 Pearl Pkwy - Sat & Sun only

SAN ANTONIO MUSEUM OF ART - 200 W Jones Ave - Free parking across the street - Seniors \$17.00, Military \$12.00

RESTAURANTS

2M SMOKEHOUSE - 2731 SW White Rd.- 210-885-9352- open Thurs - Sunday, 11:00AM to 4:00 (or sold out)

RANGE - 125 Houston - 210-227-4455

NOLA BRUNCH & BEIGNETS - Tues. - Sun - 111 King Ct - 210-320-1572

MAGNOLIA PANCAKE HAUS - # 1 606 Embassy Oaks, 210-496-0828

#2. 10333 Huebner Rd. , 210-496-0828

GUENTHER HOUSE - 205 E Geunther St. - 210-227-1061

IN CASE YOU ARE PLANNING TO GO TO THE GRAND NATIONAL RALLY...

Texas W TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

The actual GNR schedule has not yet been published, so the following is based on the past schedule and subject to change a little.

GNR Registration opens March 16, 2020. Sign up for the Texas Row if you can.

Some of the registrants are shooting for meeting up around July 6th – 7th in Clear Lake IA:

Oakwood RV Park
5419 240th St.
Clear Lake, Iowa
(641) 357-4019

Move to GNR grounds on July 10th. Gates usually open at noon.

GNR Dates are July 13 – 17.

Decorate float for Puckerbrush Parade on July 10 around 4:30pm.

Puckerbrush Parade on July 11, 10:00am.

Texas Get Together – under tent on Tuesday, July 14th, 5:00pm.

Start decorating for Row Competition – July 15th.

Finish decorating for Row Competition – before 11am. Come and participate in the competition dressed in your gear.

Cook food for Row Parties – July 16th afternoon.

Row Party – July 16th, 5:00pm.

Friday, July 17th, 7:00pm, find out the winners.



WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU BEEN??

Sharing is a GOOD Thing!!

By Tricia Bradbury

Have you found an especially good RV park or attraction in your travels? Some of us don't yet get to travel extensively and would sure like tips to make sure we don't miss something really good when we are traveling through an area. You don't have to write a dissertation (unless you really want to). Just send the facts—name and location of the place a something about why you liked it so much. I'll re-search to get details and share them in future newsletters.

Weird is good, too. Largest ball of string, I'm looking for you. Already visited largest ball of twine.

Send your travel jewels to newsletter@texasw.org.



Sometimes it's the wide open roads in the great southwest.

Other times it takes 8 hours to drive from Ponchatoula LA to Beaumont TX.



I was so excited when I checked the NEWSLETTER@TEXASW.ORG mailbox recently and saw some messages, but, alas, they were all spam.

Please send something for our next newsletter!!



WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU BEEN??



Perhaps you have a travel goal...

Leann Horn seems to be on a quest to visit every Buccee's!!!

**Your photo and trip tips
could be here!!**

Send info to
newsletter@texasw.org

Please submit something!!!!



TX W Spring Meeting

"TEXAS PRIDE"
Braunig Lake RV Resort
13550 Donop Road
Elmendorf, Texas 78112
April 17-19, 2020

Names of all registrants _____ WIT # _____

Address _____ City, State, ZIP _____

Daytime Phone _____ Email _____ ☐ Member / ☐ Visitor

Rig Length: _____ Slides _____ Power: ☐ 30 amp ☐ 50 amp Handicap? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____ ☐ No Rig (staying offsite)

Friday night, 4/17 and Saturday night, 4/18 Camping and Meals:

Register by April 1, 2020:

1 rig / 2 people \$125.00 \$_____

1 rig / 1 person \$100.00 \$_____

Register after April 1, 2020:

1 rig / 2 people \$135.00 \$_____

1 rig / 1 person \$110.00 \$_____

Each Extra Person \$26.00 \$_____

Pre & Post Meeting Camping (\$35 each addl. night) \$_____

2020 Texas W Dues (\$20 if not previously paid) \$_____

Total amount enclosed for meeting \$_____

Please make checks payable to Texas W Club and mail it, along with this completed form,
to Tim Sak, TX W Treasurer, PO Box 16, Magnolia, TX 77353-0016

Note:

Texas W member annual dues for fiscal year 2020 were payable October 1, 2019. Meeting attendees must be WIT Club members in good standing, or Winnebago product owners who are guests of a current WIT Club member