

LONE STAR SCOUTS

JUNE 2006

BOONE RV PARK - LAMPASAS, TX

With threats of a storm we headed north on Hwy 281 towards Lampasas. About halfway the clouds erupted with a torrential downpour making it difficult to see the highway for awhile. However, as we neared Boone RV Park the blue skies began to appear through the clouds bringing visions of a fun-filled weekend.

Our esteemed Wagonmaster, Kathy Gabriel, was just ahead of us preparing to direct traffic and steer members toward sites that would become home for the next few days.

Don and Wanda Clary led the pack of arrivals as they had been at the park since Tuesday camping out under the huge White Oak trees. It was a great campsite where Wanda could prop up her leg in comfort. Recovering from recent knee surgery, this was the best place to be and soon became a gathering place for most of our members... The majority of our group arrived on Thursday were the Cooks, Carlisle, Gabriel, Wolfe, Arnoldy, Bowen, Collins, Biggs, Stephens, Webb, Harrelsons and Brattens.

The good news that brightened the weekend for everyone had come on Thursday as Kathy kept in touch with Carlton all day via cell phone for reports on his father, Carl Kreger and the progress of Barbara Shadrock who was having bypass surgery. Carl was doing well, and before the end of the day Barbara was up and walking. Our prayers for these 2 dear friends had been answered.

With the silver lining on what had been dark clouds, most of our group gathered to cook our evening meal under the large shade tree. Don Clary fired up the barbeque grill which the members shared. Several took their food to the club house where they enjoyed the coziness of the two large and very comfortable rooms. Owner of Boone RV Park, Carolyn Brown, had provided a luscious fruit basket along with a Welcome Note to the Lone Star Scouts.

Following this delicious home-cooked meal we divided into two groups for games. One game table was playing "Texas Hold 'Em" and the other was playing "13" Kathy Gabriel was the Big Winner of "13".

Our lovely park hostess, Carolyn Brown, visited us on Friday as we relaxed again under the "Big Tree". She said she would make arrangements for two tours Saturday if we were interested.....IF we were interested!! Have you ever seen the Lone Star Scouts

when they weren't rarin' to go??!! The tours are to the Bradley Farm which is a goat farm and to the Pillar Bluff Vineyards. We could hardly wait.

During the day on Friday some of the group visited downtown Lampasas and checked out the antique shops. There was not enough time to go to all of them so that means we will have to make a return trip.

Jumping right in with the group were our newest members, Pat and Steve Webb. They ended up purchasing the Arnoldy's used trailer from Marshall's. Pat suggested we have "Happy Hour" in the afternoon with snacks and visitation before going out to dinner Friday evening. This was a great idea as it gave us time to visit. When Carlton arrived he was welcomed with open arms and the group headed to town for dinner.

Saturday morning our excitement had not diminished as we caravanned to Bradley Farms. What an experience! Dave Bradley was very informative about the different species of goats and the purpose of each of them. The Nubian and Alpine goats provide the milk for drinking and making goat cheeses. Dave often referred to his wife, Lou, as the person with the most knowledge about the goats. It would be difficult to say she was more knowledgeable but she certainly kept us entertained with all the facts she had. She had one of the goats in the milking room where several members had the opportunity to show their expertise in milking a goat. For their talents each was awarded a Blue ribbon. In the kitchen we had the opportunity to taste the goat milk and two of the cheeses. All were delicious. Our only disappointment was when we learned a group who visited a couple of days before us had purchased all the available milk and cheese. The Bradley's do not sell these products in stores. Once again, this means we shall have to make a return trip.

It was time to move onward and as the day was getting warm it was a treat to go into the 60 degree controlled room that housed the oak kegs containing the various prize winning wines at the Pillar Bluff Vineyards. Although this is one of the smaller Texas vineyards, it is, also, one of the best. The samples were generous as well as the information concerning the growing habits of the various grapes. Several members purchased bottles of wine and other mementos home with them.

Back at Boone Park we spent a leisurely afternoon until time for group photos. Again our gracious hostess, Carolyn Brown, stepped in to take several photos of the group. This was followed by the main event---the "pot-luck" dinner provided by the best cooks anywhere.

Carlton presided over the business meeting that followed. It is time once again to elect officers and volunteers for this committee were Robert Bratten, Dewey Carlisle and Dalia Harrelson. The host fee has been changed to \$30 for 10 rigs and \$3 for every rig after that to help the cost for the rise in prices, it was also decided that the Host couple can choose whatever they would want for the Breakfast on Sunday morning. Also voted was that the executive committee will be choosing a month to have a Potluck Brunch in place of the Potluck Dinner and which month Marshall's Traveland will cater a meal for the club. The meeting adjourned and games followed.

Our weekend Hosts, Janell and Joe Wolfe greeted everyone Sunday morning with smiling faces, hot coffee, orange juice, freshly made cinnamon rolls and doughnuts, juicy cantaloupe, sliced apples and Janell's famous Banana Bread m-m-m-m good! What a wonderful send-off.

Birthday Cards were handed out to Joe Wolfe, Tom Arnoldy, Patricia Webb and Nona Bratten. Not present was Bob Hardy. For Anniversaries, cards were given to the Gabriels and Biggs. Not present were Rodens, Bayless, Hardy and Updikes.

"Till we meet again" in August, have a wonderful and safe summer. Several of our members are going to International; others are going to Ruidoso, New Mexico. Many other destinations are planned but it will be fun to get together once again and share our adventures.

Blessings on those who have been ill. May their recovery be swift.

Edith Collins