

2016 OKLAHOMA STAMPEDE RALLY

Whether you recalled the five Oklahoma Land Runs, the rescued wild mustangs pastured in Oklahoma or the thundering hooves of racing horses, the **OKLAHOMA STAMPEDE** Rally offered excitement and something for everyone attending the **South Central Area Rally in Shawnee in September, 2016** at the Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center. Registrants from 30 states and Canada participated.

Full hookups were available for all 334 coaches attending. **McClain's RV SuperStores and Leisure Time RV** displayed 28 **new coaches** and several participants drove off in new coaches. Nearly 30 **exhibitors** shared their wares with eager shoppers. You could choose from **48 Seminars** and 1,200 attended the wide variety of seminars with topics ranging from caravanning to Alaska, Engine and Tire Performance, Storm Chasing to the FMCA President's Forum. A number of **Craft Projects** were also completed by talented participants. The **Pet Course** is always enjoyed by participants and on lookers.

Several coach owners arranged for repair work and appointments for upgrades while attending.

NEW EVENTS

The **CVS Flu Shot** Clinic was a First Time Event and many took advantage of the shots at no cost to Medicare recipients and enjoyed the discount card provided also by CVS. Another healthy new endeavor was the **DOGZ on TOUR by FMCA Energized**. Health conscious owners eagerly joined the pet caravan walking their dogs each morning.

Chapter Day on Tuesday kicked off an emphasis on the fellowship, enjoyment and importance of each FMCA chapter with individual chapter events that evening. The **Chapter Fair** spurred interest in joining a chapter, and quite a number joined chapters. Chapters were recognizable by those proudly wearing their chapter colors or clothing.

The **Ladies' Handcrafted Jewelry and Craft Sale** was a wonderful opportunity to purchase gifts made by rally participants. Beautiful and unique jewelry, beading, jeweled dishes and utensils brought a glimmer to your eye.

ENTERTAINMENT

Comedian Lee Marvin Adams opened the rally with his Southern wit and a humorous look at parenting, growing up and more as he brought great laughs from all. Tulsa renowned **saxophonist, Grady Nichols**, and his group played a variety of styles and brought huge applause. Not to be outdone were the Arkansas sisters, **Pamela G and Jackie B**, who brought enormous energy, talent and fun to the closing night.

Patti Beth Anderson from Grove, OK via Branson, MO, presented "A Pattern of a Woman's Life" during the **Ladies Luncheon**. Her humor and sharing was a wonderful mix.

The **Quilt Social** with demonstrations by local quilt shop owner, Mary Ellen Johnson of Wonder Arc, offered insight into preparing the Easy Angle and Simple Pineapple patterns.

CHAPTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The **Frustrated Maestros** chapter provided music at each breakfast. The **Coaches for Christ** chapter sponsored the Devotions, and the **Roamin' Catholics** sponsored Mass.

In addition, **six chapters provided the "Volunteer Workers"** to assist the Six State Officers and Cadre Volunteers who organize and produce the rally. Great thanks to all. Chapters working were **High Plains, The Outlaws, Ozark Prairie Schooners, Roamin' Catholics, Rolling Thunder of Texoma, and Southwinders**. All volunteers were recognized on Wednesday evening.

FMCA National Vice President, South Central Area and Six-State Rally Association President, Rod Sartwell, along with **Six-State Rally Association Senior Vice President and Rally Master, Joe Wright**, recognized all the contributions of all those volunteering and thanked all those attending and helping to make the rally a success.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Fred Kennedy, former Six-State Association President and FMCA National Vice President, South Central Area, was recognized with a **Letter of Appreciation** which proclaimed Fred Kennedy Day from **FMCA President Charlie Adcock**. Fred was acknowledged for his contributions and for "making a difference and touching hearts with his sunny outlook"--- in addition to his contribution to the **Ice Cream Socials**.

Doris Lyons was the lucky recipient of an **Adventure Caravan trip voucher** for \$4595, which can be used to attend the Rose Parade, Balloon Festival or several Mega Rallies.

Several companies were recognized for providing additional monetary support for specific events during the rally. Those included **RVillage, Pilot/Flying J, RV FOG DR, CVS Pharmacy, Lowe's, Leisure Time RV, and McClain's RV SuperStores**.

CHARITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Many thanks to all the quilters who donated quilts. **98 quilts** were collected. All chapters are encouraged to contribute additional quilts next year. They can be lap blankets or children's or for veterans. The quilts were donated to **local charities: Project Gabriel in Pottawatomie County and to Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans**.

50/50 donations were presented to the **Choctaw Nation Veterans**. **\$1275 was donated**. Special appreciation to the Exhibitors and the Heart of Oklahoma Expo who also donated to the Veterans. Five lucky winners also shared the donations.

PATRIOTIC DAY

It wouldn't be a South Central Rally without a Patriotic Day, which began by musical tributes from the Frustrated Maestros. Many rally participants wore red, white and blue to celebrate. The Closing Ceremony began with a color guard from the veterans at the rally. **Master of Ceremony, George Archer**, opened with a patriotic photo array and sang our National Anthem and then honored each service branch with their music while asking the veterans to stand to be recognized.

CHANGE FOR 2017

For the rally in **2017, anyone who would like to volunteer, please indicate that on your registration form**. Chapters will not be called on to volunteer as a group, and there will not be any payment to

chapters for members volunteering at Texarkana. Many have expressed an interest in volunteering before but it was not their chapter's turn in the rotation. So, as a trial, **all volunteers will be accepted.** Be sure to indicate that you want to volunteer on your registration form.

DATES FOR NEXT TWO RALLIES, 2017 and 2018

Texarkana, AR is the site of the **2017 rally** to be held on **October 25-28, 2017** at the **Four States Fair Grounds.**

Shawnee, OK is the site of the **2018 rally** to be held on **September 19-22, 2018** at the **Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center.**

Mark your calendars now. Hope to see you there.