



Loners on Wheels

Serving single campers and travelers since 1969






LONGHORN LOWDOWN

September 2009

<http://www.longhornlowsnotx.org>

°Upcoming Schedule of Events

<p>October 15-18, 2009</p> 	<p>Murchison, TX- Staway RV ranch - from Dallas take Hwy 175 toward Athens. Exit on the 317 Loop (State 7) and proceed east. Take the Hwy 31 exit NE going thru Murchison & approx 5-6 mi past Murchison. You will need to go past the RV park (on the left) and loop back to entrance if coming thru Murchison. (903) 469.4477</p>	<p>Contact Zola Hilton 817/238-9644 (home) or 817/944-0518(cell) zola_hilton@peoplepc.com 10101 SH 31, E. Murchison, 75778 GPS – N32° 17.678’ W95° 41.3622’</p>
<p>November 19-22, 2009</p> 	<p>Mingus, TX – Cactus Rose RV Park - I-20 approx 65 miles West of Ft. Worth, Exit 370 (Gordon/ Stephenville.) Turn left under bridge. RV Park next to Exxon on So side of I-20. (254) 693.5976.</p>	<p>Contact Zola Hilton 817/238-9644 (home) or 817/944-0518(cell) zola_hilton@peoplepc.com 115 W. I-20, Mingus, TX 76463</p>
<p>December 10-13, 2009</p> 	<p>Lindale, TX - Willow Branch RV Park - From Dallas E on I-20, exit 554 for Willow Branch Rd, cross over I-20 bridge & right at truck stop to north side service road (east) on 2-way for 1.5 mi on service Rd. (903) 882.6244</p>	<p>Contact Zola Hilton 817/238-9644 (home) or 817/944-0518(cell) zola_hilton@peoplepc.com 23560 W. I-20 Lindale, TX 75771</p>

Daily Camping Schedule --Bring a plate, flatware, and cup/glass.

Thursday

4:00 pm Meet & Greet – Bring a drink for yourself and a snack to share.

6:30 pm Supper–eat what you cook–bring or cook your own delicacies–we eat together at 6:30 pm.

Friday

9:00 am Breakfast-Furnished by the club.

11:00 am Meet – games

4:00 pm Meet & Greet

6:30 pm Supper – covered dish

Saturday

9:00 am Breakfast

10:00 am Business Meeting

4:00 pm Meet & Greet

6:30 pm Supper – covered dish

Following Supper – games, visit, campfire, etc.

Sunday - 9:00 am Continental Breakfast – stay/visit

Officers

President:

Fran Grochowski
(903) 849-6608
frankieski@aol.com

Vice President:

David Edgeworth
(817) 523-0488
jaildoc@aol.com

Treasurer:

Penny Caddy
(214) 971-4610
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The Colony, TX 75056
pcaddy@@hotmail.com

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Event & Program Mgr:

John Hubbard (temp)
(214)683-9323
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Publicity & New Contacts:

John Hubbard
(214) 683-9323
showstar1@aol.com

Other:

www.lonersonwheels.com

(Website for National LoW)

Toll-free message 1.866.LOW CLUB

FAX: (575) 546-1350

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lowbunch>

(E-mail message center for Single RVers in USA)

To join: Send e-mail request to:

lonersreply@clas.net

LonghornLoWs@yahoogroups.com

(E-mail message center Longhorn Low members)

To join, send e-mail request to:

Longhornlows-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Texbunch@yahoogroups.com

(E-mail message center for single RVers in TX)

To join, send e-mail request to:

texbunch-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Note: State Fair of Texas – September 25 – October 18, 2009

Check out www.bigtex.com for coupons and information on the combo ticket for DART Rail Service and fair entrance ticket available only at Kroger (\$16.00.) The DART train (Green Line) will drop you at the front gate (sounds safer to me.) Also check out www.dart.org for more DART info. Rail service is available from Fort Worth through TRE that connects to DART.

Colorado Trip

We all had a great time in La Veta, Colorado (8 rigs + 1 guest). La Veta is a small town with loads of character and surrounded by some of the most beautiful landscape in Colorado. In our campground, we had visitors like deer, fox, and a bear. The bear did not come as close as the other animals (thank goodness.) The park management at Circle the Wagons went out of their way to make us feel welcome. Some of the activities we enjoyed were: a raft ride on the Arkansas River, a train ride through the Royal Gorge, a train ride to Fir for a Michael Martin Murphy concert, The Sand Dunes National Park, Bishop Castle, ghost town, historical sites, and July 4th celebrations. We usually had happy hours and dinners together. Casualties were a fuel pump, and a tire fire.

For our next *scheduled* side-trip to the Rio Grande Valley in January, we have approximately 9 reserved and the park says they are presently full. We plan to stay at Albertson RV Ranch on S. Jackson in McAllen (Pharr).

Comments from members and guests:

Hi, The camp out was the best ever!! I live in the landing pattern of JRB at Carswell and see lots of planes take off and land. I usually wave at the planes and feel they are "flying over" just for me. Sunday as I turned the corner off Hwy. 199 to go to my house, I looked up to the right and there was the Space Shuttle riding piggy back on a 747 giving me a "Fly Over" to welcome me home. What an awesome sight!!! See 'ya...**Zola**

My heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you. I cannot begin to express my appreciation for the immediate acceptance and generosity exhibited by all! While camping was totally foreign to me, and quite honestly, not something I thought I would EVER enjoy, I must say that this weekend was one I shall never forget. It was truly totally enjoyable; an experience I will always treasure! and yes, I shall return - so long as Penny is willing to put up with me! (I'm not quite ready to make that RV purchase!) Again, my sincere thanks - I'll see you all again! **Jeanne Smith** (guest)

Wow! A good event after a desperately hot summer. Little cloudy at start of Friday and nothing but improvement after that. Great temperatures and breezes and we had a terrific view of the lake. Nice to see Dorothy Wachter -- absent for a couple of years but looking good and has a new rig. Phillip Box was there and helped correct a few electrical problems and provided insight to ongoing travels, etc. We had great food and lots of good conversation -- several jokes and info and updates. Talk about attending Border LoWs rally in October and us at Murchison after that -- should be good attendance.

Early talks about planning a 2-month-long junket Colorado to Montana or something like that for July and August next year -- I'm already hot on the idea. Linda Shields, Karol Cook, Zola Hilton, and Fran Grochowski provided great breakfasts -- as usual great potlucks - taste great and huge quantities - some of us will be eating for days. There is a town on the way to the campground named Hubbard. I don't know if it is linked to John in any way. With the numbers going up and push for more "active" members and oldies returning things can indeed get even better. **Doc**

Update on Phil France:

I called Lee Ann, Phil France's daughter, and find that he was having a doctor appointment 10 days ago; preparing to go, he fell down. After a bit they detected he had fractured a hip -- apparently still in good position, so only a few screws needed for the repair. He is a little "confused" with the pain pills but was apparently mentally pretty OK before the event. They are thinking of letting him go home soon but she has to get the details. I call once a week or so for updates and will pass on info. Hope he uses his traditional stubbornness to progress to a recovery and rejoin the activities. **Doc**

It did my heart well to see so many attending (16) the camp out at Liberty Hills. It was our first time to camp in a Corp of Engineers Park and I don't think it will be our last. There was one suggestion that maybe next time we use the group site, so that those who have a hard time getting around will be closer to the activities. The only complaint was because the gates are locked at 10 PM; it was hard for those who wanted to go out for the evening to get back to their camp sites; but I think we can overcome that. It was great to have so many at the camp out, members who we have not seen in a while and new visitors. We did gain one new member, Benny Collins, from the Huntsville area and Barbara Miranda promised to join in December. Thanks to Phil Box and his blow torch, we were able to have a real wood campfire. As usual the Happy Hour was happy and the meals fantastic. We do have our share of great cooks. Kudos to those who cooked breakfast. They overcame, with great flair, all the obstacles of cooking outdoors and without a club house. It can be done and we did it. The lake was a refreshing break from the afternoon heat on Saturday. Thanks Karol for the inflatable rafts you supplied. With our Saturday meal, we had a surprise birthday party for Jeanne Smith, a guest who traveled in with Penny. There was cake, candles and trimmings, along with Jeanne's decorated wine glass that was kept full from about noon on. For those who missed Liberty Hill, were sorry, but we did miss you. We hope to see y'all at the Border LoWs Rally in Gladewater and most certainly at our camp out in Murchison. Your Prez, **Fran**.

September Campout Notes:

Most of us arrived at the park on Thursday in spite of the forecast of possible showers. Four of us got to the gate at the same time and upon reaching our designated parking spaces and attempting to hook up, the showers came. Fortunately, it was short and setting up resumed. Sunshine and pleasant temperatures ruled for the rest of the weekend. Friday, even more rigs arrived and this was shaping up to be the largest crowd we have had in a while. We took walks and bike rides around to see what the rest of the park had to offer. Since it is a Corp of Engineers Park, our "America the Beautiful" membership cards entitled some of us to half-price rates. This was just one of the reasons we were excited to try this location. The time of year, and the fact we hadn't camped together in a couple of months also made it pretty exciting. Liberty Hill Park has many trees, great roomy spaces with covered tables, and nice views of the lake.

Our dinner on Friday evening was mind-boggling with so many great dishes and desserts. The fact that we were outside didn't hamper our cooking/warming ability or appetites. After dinner we got back to the business of having a real campfire and great conversation. Most of us were parked near the swimming beach so on Saturday, Karol Cook furnished some inflatable's to enjoy the afternoon water. Everyone agreed this was a good place to have campouts for late spring and early fall.

September Minutes – Liberty Hills Park, Navarro Mills State Park, 9/19/09

Campout attendees: Members: Penny Caddy, Marilyn Campbell, Benny Collins (new member), Karol Cook, Janice Corona, Doc Edgeworth, Fran Grochowski, Zola Hilton, John Johns, Linda Shields, Jean Staton, Dorothy Wachter, and Bill Woods. We welcomed **visitors**, Phillip Box, Barbara Miranda, Betty (from Border LoWs), and Jeanne Smith.

Fran opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and thanked everyone for coming to try this park. The website is up and running. Some projects are still under construction. She suggested listing the website address in the newsletter heading under the title. All chapter members' email addresses will be listed on the chapter link on the national website.

Zola asked everyone interested in a trip to southern Arkansas in October between the Border LoWs rally and our scheduled campout in Murchison to call or email her. The park for the Border rally in Gladewater is Antique Capital RV Park. The correct number to call is (903) 845.7378 for reservations. The dates are October 6-11th with our Murchison c/o to follow on October 15 -18th.

The nomination committee for the 2010 officers was announced: Karol Cook, John Johns, and Bill Wood. The committee will submit names for nominees for the next campout. Fran suggested more c/o attendees submit input to the editor for newsletters.

Treasurer Report

The only money spent this month was to reimburse Zola for the \$25.00 deposit to the RV park in Thackerville. Fran will need to submit receipts to be reimbursed for the website charge.

Old Business:

Reminder: The LoWs National Rally in Goshen, September 30th thru October 4, 2009, at Elkhart Fairgrounds, Goshen, IN. Phone: 727-724-8122 or 727-686-0161.

Fran motioned that the meeting be adjourned at 10:15 a.m. Doc seconded the motion and it was approved.

Remaining 2009 campout sites:

October – Murchison - Staway RV Ranch

November – Mingus – CACTUS ROSE RV PARK

December – Lindale, Texas – willow branch rv park ** Change in original schedule**

Please remember to notify Zola Hilton as early as possible, by e-mail at zola_hilton@peoplepc.com or call (817) 944-0518 (cell) or (817) 238-9644 (home) if you are planning to attend a campout. Some of these campgrounds are somewhat full and the earlier we know the maximum number of sites we need, the better chance of getting them. Also, we usually need to take 10-12 sites in order to get a meeting room/kitchen. Please check the last newsletter for the current location before leaving for a campout since there are changes occasionally.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



David "Doc" Edgeworth

Vice President

Longhorn LoWs Chapter

Member for more than 10 years

I was born and raised in Southern Ontario Canada, mostly about 15 miles from Niagara Falls. Last schooling was the University of Toronto ending with an MD. I married during medical school training. After graduation, medical internship was in Riverside California. I wanted exposure to more of the world. First active medical practice was in Ontario - did general practice but liked OB and averaged a little over 100 deliveries a year.

After 6 years, the Vietnam war being concluded, the family and I went to Texas - after all "that's where the money is".

Practice and family-raising went well but marriage lost good future and opted for divorce in 1983. But I do have 4 successful children and never sure of how many grandkids. Conclusion of active medical practice was as the medical director of the Tarrant County jail -- a job I always enjoyed -- challenge of dealing with the maneuvering of the inmates and setting up the processes to save the county a lot of money. I retired -- and shortly took up RVing -- full time for several years.

A few side lights, I have a private pilot license -- not current/recent activities though. Enjoy occasional fishing junket. Maintain a physical fitness program -- not world-class but better than most people my age. I became a US citizen on January 21, 2004!!!

I have been in all US states except Hawaii, a few visits to parts of Europe and a few years ago a big junket through China--MOST impressive and would like to go again.

Doc has been in Longhorn LoWs over 10 years now -- has served several officer positions, is a frequent participant, and works at improving his deviled eggs.

I enjoyed this year's group junket to Palo Duro Canyon and on to Colorado and have decided this could have high priorities in the future - especially escaping the BRUTAL Texas summer heat.

LoWs is a GOOD thing -- I keep my eye on the opposite sex but it's hard to find those that might consider me acceptable -- so conversation, camaraderie, food, and friends are a big thing.

David Edgeworth



Campout Courtesy (all the time)

For those thinking of attending a campout or event **PLEASE** let the Wagon Master or contact person know you plan to attend. It is difficult to plan food and activities or arrange discounts when you have no idea how many may show up. **DON'T** let this discourage you from attending if you decide at the last minute but try to give the Wagon Master a courtesy call.

Many of today's parks offer park model cabins for those that want to visit before joining. Everyone please invite your RV friends to join our club.

Please pay Wagon Master after chapter meeting for campout fees (unless other rules apply).

Newsletter prepared by:
Marilyn Campbell

(pictures follow on the next page)



Group



Penny & Jeanne (Birthday Girl)



Janice, Dorothy, Zola, Bill, Karol



Penny, Jeanne, Karol, John, Zola, Marilyn, Barbara, Phillip, Linda



Phillip & Betty



Penny, Linda, Benny, Janice, Jeanne