

KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2018

November has arrived, the candy hustlers have completed their task and now it is time to complete ours as well - it is time to prepare the rig for winter. Whether we drain the water; clean the holding tanks; wash and clean; change the oil; maybe fill with fuel, and there might be other tasks needed to be done before putting the baby to sleep for a short time. Some of our members head towards warmer climate for the winter but some of us don't. We just stay and talk about how cold the weather is and maybe grumble a bit.

We have so much to be thankful for that it is not fair to complain about the weather. We can all be thankful that we can still travel, attend camping activities and meet with old and new friends. We are thankful for our veterans as we observe Veterans Day November 12. As we approach Thanksgiving we will again be reminded how thankful we are as families and friends gather.

We are almost completed with the re-chartering of chapters this year. There are only four needing to send their paperwork to Pat. Thanks to those who have completed the process.

We have received some bids on the patch packer trailer. We set a November 15 deadline for submitting bids and that is about up.

The Greater Kansas RV Show in Wichita is January 24-27. As usual we will be taking tickets and manning a table to help inform people about Good Sam. This is an opportunity to gain new members. We will need help with this and if you can volunteer some time to help please let me know.

Articles and adds will soon be due for the Winter edition of the KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWS. Start now working on your submissions for the paper, maybe include you camping schedule for 2019. David has challenged us with how many adds we can sell. Let's see if we can load him up with adds. This really helps with printing and mailing cost of the paper.

I have attached the new list of Areas, ASD's and chapters included within each area. Many of these Areas have an Area Rally each year. I will

include these dates next month as soon as I have confirmed the dates and locations. Plan to attend these Rallies as most normally occur in the spring.

The final State Rally report has been completed, and we were able to exceed expenses enough to pay for many of our normal State expenses. As many know, the attendance was down some but we still had a great time. We again want to thank all who attended the Rally. Without your attendance this event could not happen. Also want to THANK all the Chapters who provided door prizes and cakes for the cake walk.

Some changes have been made within the State Staff. Lana Jones who has been State Secretary for at least eight years is stepping down and Cathy Beverage will be replacing her. Lana will still be on staff with different responsibilities. I want to THANK Lana for her many years of service to the Kansas Good Sams and also want to THANK Cathy for stepping up to serve as State Secretary.

As we approach 2019 we have others who have served several years within the State Staff that wish to step aside and allow others to step-in and carry the ball for a while. They will provide on the job training next year. If you want to help at any level with the Rally please let me know. We can talk about our needs and your interest. Please consider this as an opportunity to serve our organization.

HAVE A GREAT THANKSGIVING

Make Your Journey Count.

Dean & Karen Stewart

KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2018

Fall has arrived and we have had a little rain (?), some snow, frost but we have also had some nice days for camping. Since the last newsletter we have attended the Rallies in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma.

Attendance was down some at all the Rallies. Some may think this may be the new normal or it could be that we as Kansans are not replacing many of our members that have called it quits. This is an area of great concern as we move forward.

The Kansas Rally had a final rig count of 139. I know we can do better if we just reach out and encourage others to attend. We had a great Rally for those who attended. The weather tried to interfere a few times but we were able to work in all our games and other activities. I heard many compliments on our evening entertainments. Darrell and Marie's wedding reception went off without a hitch and they enjoyed greeting all their Good Sam friends in attendance. The Rally pictures are now on the web site for you to enjoy.

As many of you know we our entertaining bids for the Patch Packer's trailer as shelving has been installed within the Historian trailer. This, along with the start of some house cleaning has created enough room to accommodate their supplies. Your Chapter President has the information on the trailer. We will be accepting bids till Nov. 15, 2018.

All Chapter Presidents received an email from David Marlowe pertaining to the Newspaper article promotion for last year. This year we will be promoting the number of ads sold for the paper. So, let's get out and ask anyone if they would like to place an ad in the paper (doesn't have to be RV related). On that note it is TIME to start sending in your articles for the paper. Many of you have your camping schedules for next year, you might want to include those in your article.

I want to thank all the chapters who were represented at the Committee Meeting on Saturday morning at the Rally. We were only two chapters short of having 100% attendance. This is the best representation we have had in years. **Thank You.**

We again will be helping and manning a table to provide information for Good Sam at the Greater Kansas RV Show located in Wichita on January 24-27. If you have any time during these dates that you could help, please let me know.

We are preparing thank you letters for those who donated gifts and donations for the Rally. We were short some game badges that need to be ordered and delivered. After our Rally we just unloaded the Rally materials, washed a few clothes, put a few more things in the fridge and headed to Oklahoma. Want to get some of this finished up before going on our club campout this coming weekend.

I want to THANK all who attended the Kansas Rally this year. We hope you found it up to your expectations and will plan to come again. Also, I would like to thank the STAFF for their hard work to provide for all a great time.

Make Your Journey Count

Dean & Karen Stewart

Kansas Directors

KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

August weather was much better for camping, with a little cooler than normal temps, however, the showers from above may have caused some concern. We hope that many of you are getting ready for the RALLY. In case you misplaced your calendar the dates again are October 4 – 7, with early bird parking starting Sunday, September 30 at 1:00 pm. **NOW IS THE TIME TO SEND IN YOUR RALLY RESERVATIONS BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15.** If you haven't been able to camp out this summer because of the weather, this is your opportunity to enjoy a fall outing.

WISH UPON A STAR - We have some great entertainment lined up for you all to enjoy. We have just about everything printed and ready to go. A few reminders for our chapters,

1. The awards ceremony will be held Saturday evening along with the raffles and chapter longevity presentations.
2. We are asking each chapter to donate a **store-bought** cake for the cake walk.
3. In the past many chapters have provided one or more door prizes. If possible please consider doing this again this year.
4. **NEW** - Rig Decorating Contest Friday afternoon. If you have a lighted display let me know. (There will be no costume parade this year).
5. We will still be collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House.
6. Don't forget to send in your reservations for the Rally.
7. Bill Salmon, our State Chaplin, fell a while back and cracked his skull. I do not know if he will be able to attend the Rally yet. If there is anyone that could help us out in this area, I would love to hear from you.
8. We will have a wedding reception on Saturday afternoon. The couple request **NO GIFTS** as they already have two households and two rigs full of stuff.
9. **STATE COMMITTEE MEETING** Saturday 8:15 am. Chapter Presidents please attend. If you can not be there, please send a note with your replacement so they can vote.

10. Please note you can find the rally program on our website, kansasgoodsans.org
11. I have been ask how much the fee is for walk-in, the cost will be \$12.00 per couple or \$6.00 each per day.

My hope for this Rally is to provide an atmosphere of family, fun, adventure, and most of all that you go home knowing that you were glad you came and want to come again. Don't be shy, ask questions if you need to know what is where and when.

I know this is a little early, but Karen and I manage the RV Park during the State Fair and will be there from Aug. 31 to Sept. 17. If you need anything just call me. Please leave a message if I don't answer. I will get back to you. 620-242-7009

Other State Rallys this fall include Missouri and Oklahoma. Missouri is the week prior to ours and Oklahoma follows the Kansas Rally.

I hope to see a lot of Good Sam folks at the Rally.

Make Your Journey Count.

Dean & Karen Stewart

KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2018

When will the dog days of summer end? According to the weather man the temps should be slowly dropping. This morning I woke up to a cooler 65 degrees- a welcome change- although I suspect some warm days are still ahead. July passed with many of us camping in some warm (hot) days, but we made it through. Not much has happened at the Stewart house, just getting some things lined out for the Fall Rally. The Good Sam News has been printed and mailed without a hitch so that is good news. The adds that were sold helped with our expenses so keep up the good work. Start now jotting down all your events and chapter comings and goings and have a head start for the next edition.

Karen and I are headed to Ohio to visit our oldest son and wife that live in Dayton. Hope the drive is clear sailing without any problems. When we get back we'll attend a chapter campout; then a big push to complete all necessary things for the Rally. We will try to find sometime in between all of this to secure door prizes. If you have time to help with this let me know and we will plan ahead. I am happy to announce that the Serendipity Sams have agreed to provide the Sloppy Joe lunch at the Rally this year. Let us support this event. This will be on Thursday and at one time we had a chapter do a lunch on Friday also. If there is a chapter that would like to start this back up let me know soon so I can include it in the program. Don't forget the rig decoration contest.

At this time we have some vendors who will be having seminars, Mary Kay, Essential Oils, Travel Clothing, Sky Med and a Round Table discussion on Newsletters/Newspapers. I hope most of you are filling out your Registration Form to send to Pat. The State Rally is a GREAT place to mix with new people and see old friends. We have a lot of activities for all. I am looking forward to seeing those who have not been to our rallies for a while. So please send in your Registration Form and join us at the Rally. If you need a form, one is located in the back of the Good Sam News or you can also print one off our website, kansasgoodsams.org.

Make Your Journey Count

Dean & Karen Stewart

KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER JULY 2018

INDEPENDENCE, that is what we cherish in the USA. Our fore fathers battled and died for this cause. Today we need to be reminded of those who still fight and die for this same independence that we have today.

Last month Karen & I were on the road some. First we attended the Nebraska Rally in Hastings and by my count we had at least 14-15 rigs attend from Kansas. It was great to see them and enjoyed the company. We left Nebraska and headed to St. Louis for a chapter outing. It was a good trip although somewhat hot. I have one ironic story. As we were getting ready to leave, the truck would not start. Well I put it in neutral and pushed it out in the drive and backed the motorhome up to it to hook-up. With that accomplished we were on our way home. When we arrived home, I unhooked the truck and decided to try to start it again and lo and behold it started as if nothing was wrong. The next day it was off to the dealership to check out the problem. Three days later no results and no issues found so off I go. A few days later it happened again and this time it was discovered some antitheft device was acting up again. This would be the third time for this to be replaced and hopefully the last. Third time is the charm?

As I write this the Kansas Good Sam News is at the printer. Hopefully printed this week for delivery very soon. Please, if you do not receive yours before the end of the month let us know so we can check on why.

So far, this summer has been somewhat hot so hopefully everyone is finding some good old shade trees or a cool spot for your campouts.

Most of the plans for the Fall Rally are complete at this time, but there always seems to be a few last minute things to do. I am calling for great fall weather and for all a great time. We have six chapters who will be receiving longevity awards this fall.

Fort Larned Sams - 20 years

Smoky Valley Sams - 20 years

Pony Express - 25 years

Mid-Kansas Sams - 35 years

Ark Valley Sams - 40 years

Neosho Valley Sams - 40 years

It is a great to know that so many chapters in our state continue although we know there are many Good Sam Members that do not belong to a chapter or the state. Hopefully we can pick up the pace and encourage more to join.

Next month I will talk about the events, seminars, and other activities that will be included in the Fall Rally. I am looking for some extra help in some areas. If you would like to help with the Rally let me know as we can always use an extra hand.

I do appreciate those of you who send me your chapter meeting minutes. It is good to know what you are doing and where you go. Thank You.

Be sure and read the Kansas Good Sam News, soon to hit your mail box. This issue has a lot of information within. Also check out the advertisers and when you see them thank them and support them. David works very hard to put together this publication. Thank you, David.

Make Your Journey Count

Dean & Karen Stewart

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KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018

Good day to all. As I sit down to compose this monthly letter for all our members I find myself trying not to confuse this letter with what I am writing for the bi-annual newspaper. Hopefully this will not happen, but if it does you will need to read the KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWS to find out. Memorial Day is upon us and once again we reflect on those who have come before us. Also take a moment to say Thank You to those who have defended our homeland to keep freedom alive.

I would like to THANK the ASD's on their District Rallys. Karen and I attended each one and I must say they all did a great job in planning and the attendance was good. Those ASD's that had Spring Rallys are: Larry Cody, District 4; Kathryn Fox, District 5; Carmie Berndt, District 9; Darrell Genereux, District 3 and Ann Tennant, District 1 & 2. Districts 1, 2, & 3 combined this year for their Rally. When you see these ASD's please thank them for the work they put into planning these area Rallys.

June will be a busy month. First the GOOD SAM NEWS. We need your articles and pictures now so David can finish the layout; if you have sold ads, we need this also. The paper is an ongoing piece of communication with all our Kansas members so the ads, articles and pictures are always welcome.

Karen and I will be attending the Nebraska Rally. We plan to arrive there on Wednesday. After the Rally we will head to St. Louis for a week, camping with our club then head home to prepare for the June 23 Staff and State Committee meetings. I hope to see as many Chapter Presidents that can attend. If you can not attend, see if you can send an alternate with a note that they will be voting for the chapter. We will stay Friday night at the State Fair campground and will leave after the Committee meeting on Saturday.

The Kansas State Rally is forthcoming so plan ahead. Check the KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWS for what is going on at the Fall Rally.

Make Your Journey Count,

Dean & Karen Stewart

STAFF MEETING JUNE 23, 10:00 AM- COMMITTEE MEETING JUNE 23 1:30 PM HUTCHINSON, KS FAIR GROUNDS – EAST END OF 4H CENTENNIAL HALL

KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER APRIL-MAY

This finds Karen and I in Texarkana attending the Arkansas RV Rally. We have also attended the Texas and Louisiana's RV Rally's. We left home on March 21, first day of spring. It was a nice day but just a few days later, the news from home sounded like spring had not yet arrived. Cold, snow, sleet and ice, not a great start for the camping season. You may have noticed that I did not get an April newsletter written, but the activities did not allow the opportunity to sit down and write newsletters. We should return home around April 15, wash clothes, reload some food then head for Winfield for District 4 Rally. The next weekend we will spend time with District 5 at the Four Seasons RV Park and District 9 in McPherson RV Park. Were not done yet District 2 & 3 will be May 3-5 in McPherson RV Park. Hopefully the weather will cooperate, and all will have a great time. I hope you all will take the time to attend a Rally this spring to kick off the summer of fun and fellowship.

The first trip out always seems to have a few minor hic-ups with the rig. So, when you see me next, I will relate a few issues we have encountered this spring.

Some information about the Spring Rally's so far. First Texas, their final rig count was 154. This is about 100 short of the normal. They attributed this to Easter. Louisiana was in Rayne, way south, and their final count was 55. This was about half of what they normally have in attendance. Currently, I do not have any totals for Arkansas.

This is alarming. Why the significant decrease in attendees at the State Rally? I am not sure what the answer is, but I hope by fall we have many Kansan's join us in Hutchinson for our Rally. Encourage everybody to attend, plan now, mark your calendar, send in your registration, come and have a great experience.

Enjoy your spring camping it can be a great time of the year, everything is becoming green again, flowers blooming, birds singing, and a few less bugs.

As you can tell I started this sometime ago, so will continue. It is now April 23 and we are back home after the Arkansas RV Rally. Their rig count was 158. They were also down some but that could be that many did not come from

Texas. Last weekend, April 19-22, we attended District 4 Rally in Winfield. We did have some welcome rain but not one person complained. They had a fair turnout, and all seemed to have a good time connecting after the winter months.

April 30, and we have now attended both District 5 and 9 Rally's. Both were well attended with great people. Games were played, great fellowship, conversation, and of course great food.

Karen & I have experienced some electrical issues with the rig and hope to have them resolved soon, going into the shop May 2.

The newspaper will be coming out soon, and it is time again to submit your stories and pictures. Submit your items to David Marlowe. Also, don't forget you can sell ADVERTISING for the paper as your chapter president has access to this form.

I will be sending the agenda for the Committee meeting towards the end of May so you can look it over and have some thoughts before the meeting. At this point I am not planning on staying over on Saturday night,

I would like all chapters to send to us any members who have passed away this year, this would include those from October 1, 2017 to our State RV Rally. We have a memorial service included with Sunday morning devotions. Please include dates if possible.

May is always a tough time for campouts as it seems to conflict with many school graduations, family or school reunions, but possibly we all can create a time to get out and have some outdoor activities.

As a side note Karen and I are planning to attend the Nebraska RV Rally June 6-10 in Hastings.

Make Your Journey Count.

Dean & Karen

**CHAPTER PRESIDENTS—COMMITTEE MEETING – JUNE 23
Hutchinson Fair Grounds 1:30PM**

STATE STAFF – MEETING 10:00AM -JUNE 23

KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER MARCH 2018

March, at our house anyway, is definitely coming in like a lion. Let's hope this wind will bring in some much-needed moisture. This month's letter is a few days late as I have been busy with some church renovations and, of course, basketball games. We hope this finds everyone getting plans made for the upcoming spring. You might be preparing the garden for planting seeds or starting flowers and the many other tasks that come with spring. One of those tasks might be preparing the rig for camping. That list can start now so you don't forget anything. I don't know how many times we have been out for the first time in the season and, of course, we always seem to be missing something. We will be loading up soon to attend the South Region RV Rally's. First will be the Texas Rally in Waco; next we travel to Louisiana for their Rally in Rayne and then to Texarkana for the Arkansas Rally. After we complete that trip we will be back home to attend the District Rally's in Kansas. Looks like a busy couple of months and we look forward to seeing many of you after a long-cold winter.

By now you should all have received your biannual Good Sam News. I want to THANK David for a great job as his first time as editor for our Good Sam News. If for some reason you did not receive yours, please contact me so we can determine what might be the problem. This paper, because of using bulk postage, will not be forwarded in the mail. One main item of concern is that we did not have any advertising within. Therefore, we need to get on the ball and start working on that part of our paper. Attached to this is a form you can use to sell and promote advertising within the paper. If you have any questions on this, you can contact me or David Marlowe. These extra dollars help publish our paper as these costs are also rising.

As I close, please check the Good Sam News for dates of activities that you can attend as all are welcome at these events.

Make Your Journey Count,

Dean & Karen Stewart

KANSAS GOOD SAM'S NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018

February, the month that brings out the Ground Hog, so he can look for a shadow and the month that brings out the flowers and candy for our Valentines. We can look for love this month, and hope for a shorter winter, so we can get up and go or it may be a longer winter, more time to snuggle with our valentine. Also, this month we have Presidents Day. This month seems to be one for many types of opportunities to eat at many soup suppers, pancake feeds, ground hog feeds, and other fund raisers.

Not much has happened this last month. Our State Good Sams did provide a service for the Greater Kansas RV Show in Wichita last weekend, Jan 25-28. I felt that it was well attended and the weather cooperated. I would like to THANK all those who helped take tickets and man the booth to answer any questions. I am still amazed at the number of folks who do not know about our Good Sam organization and what we strive to accomplish. Those who helped were Woody and Donna Bird, Phillip and Carolyn Osborne, Harold and Susan Grimes, Gary and Sharon Johnson, Jackie Ward, Ward and Pat Nippert, Dean and Judy Andreason, Ricky Beverage, Sonny and Nancy Crook, Jeff Guernsey, Mike Evans, Annette Russett, Larry Cody, Larry Bond and Dean and Karen Stewart. I do appreciate these members who traveled to Wichita and volunteered their time to help. Most of the RV vendors who participate in this show support our Rally with donations and door prizes. I also will be sending them a thank you for letting us be involved with their show. This year there were five RV dealers represented, so there was a great selection of RV's.

Before you know it March will be here. Have you made your list of what you want to do this summer? Start planning, camping season will be here very soon. Check you calendars for Chapter Campouts, District Rally's, the State RV Rally, and maybe you could attend some of the other South Region Rally's. All these activities are available to attend. You may need to plan ahead as reservations may be needed.

Make Your Journey Count

Dean & Karen Stewart

KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2018

We made it!!!!!! 2017 is past and we now look forward to 2018. I have always looked forward to a new year. It is a time to take a moment to reflect on the previous year and look ahead for improvements. First, I must comment on the colder than usual weather we are having. In checking the map it seems that this reaches way south. As I was watching some of the ballgames this past week, the folks in the stands needed more clothes because they seemed to be expecting nice warm weather in the southern states. For those who are already south and those who are just leaving, you need to keep the propane vendors happy. I recall several years ago we were traveling from Birmingham, AL south to Destin, FL on our way to Arizona. It was cold and those that are not used to 30-degrees and below weather had to contend with frozen hoses and other problems. Passing through Houston we stopped to visit NASA. We were running low on propane and wanted to fill up. Guess what? Everyone was out of propane. Lesson, don't get caught on the short side of keeping warm.

As we enter a new year we have one Chapter that has dechartered. We now have 27 active Chapters. Along with this we have 13 new presidents. We need to support our new chapter Presidents. If at any time you have any questions or concerns, please let me know how I might be able to help. As always, we need to keep aware of other folks that would like to join your camping group. Many do not know who we are or even what we do.

Our biannual newspaper will be sent out approximately the very last of January or first week of February. This issue should be a good one, thanks to Dave Marlowe. Please take note of all the upcoming events and dates that you can participate in.

One of my goals this year will be to increase membership and to increase participation at the State Rally. This can be achieved with everybody doing just a little more.

Its not too early to submit items for the Agenda to be presented at the State Committee meeting June 23. This Committee is very important to

our organization. The Chapter Presidents make the final decisions on the operation of the state.

The Audit Committee will be meeting soon to review the 2017 financial books. When this has been completed and certified I will send copies to all chapter presidents for your information.

I have started booking entertainment for the State Rally. One act is confirmed, King Midas and the Mufflers. They are a 50+ year rock and roll band. They have been inducted into the Kansas Music Hall of Fame. There are 3 members of the original group plus some off-springs of the group. They are from this area and we will recognize most of their music. Should be a great show.

Let's try to make this year better than last. Let's go more often; make more new friends; have great campouts; and hope to have fewer doctor's visits and **most importantly** KEEP IT SIMPLE, MAKE IT FUN.

Make Your Journey Count

Dean & Karen Stewart