

## **KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER JUNE 2017**

Memorial Day, or as I remember my grandmother calling it Decoration Day, was always on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May. She would gather as much family as possible and we would drive to the cemeteries and decorate the final resting places of family and friends. Some noted the service in which they served for our nation; some from the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WW I, WW II and other services to our great country. Of course, as a youngster, I probably did not totally grasp the whole meaning at that time as I was looking forward to a large lunch and playing with my cousins. Later, I understood, you see grandma had sent three sons to the battle of WW II and they all arrived back home safe, but many did not, and she was always counting her blessings. Karen and I spent time this weekend visiting the ones who have gone before us and we hope that you found time to include your visits as well.

Spring developed a leak (?); it seems that we have had our share of interesting weather for the beginning of this camping season. District 9 has cancelled two times because of the weather but still plan to have a get-together at some point. I am sure many of you have had the same schedule issues. Let's hope for more inviting weather as summer arrives.

By now all nominations for State Director should be submitted to Pat Nippert and she will continue with the next step. Will keep you informed as the process moves forward.

As most of you know we are always trying to secure door prizes for the Rally. There are many opportunities throughout Kansas to obtain some small gift or maybe even a donation. Check within your area.

A reminder about the State Committee Meeting on June 24, 2017, at 1:30 pm. This is held in Hutchinson at the Fairgrounds. The Staff will meet at 10:00 am at the same location. The fair has increased the overnight price to \$30.00 per/night. If you plan to stay over I would like to know. All presidents should have the agenda and had a chance to gather any information your chapter would like to discuss. If you (president) cannot attend please send a note with the person who will be attending in your place to represent your chapter.

We should also be collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald house, we will collect them at the Rally and deliver them.

Karen has a new email address [klstewart4240@gmail.com](mailto:klstewart4240@gmail.com)

Deans email has not changed [rstewart8@cox.net](mailto:rstewart8@cox.net) or [rstewart853@gmail.com](mailto:rstewart853@gmail.com)

Chapter Presidents, if you have an email address you may want to check the [kansasgoodsams.org](http://kansasgoodsams.org) web site to see if we have it correct. We have some who wish to contact you about your chapter. If you don't have one then maybe someone within your chapter could be a contact person. Let Loretta know if you have changes or questions about the web site.

Some of you will be attending the Nebraska Rally next week. Have fun and enjoy meeting up with friends. Karen and I will not be able to attend so represent Kansas and invite all to attend our Kansas Rally.

**DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT YOUR CHAPTER NEWS FOR THE NEWSPAPER SOON.**

**Make Your Journey Count**

**Dean & Karen Stewart**

## **KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER MAY 2017.**

We arrived back home late afternoon Easter Sunday from the South Region Rallies. We left Wednesday, March 22, as we have dear friends in Woodward, OK and we heard of Phil's passing on Sunday so we made a side trip there for his service on Thursday. We were going to leave there Friday morning, but the wind was really blowing so we waited till Saturday and headed to Kerrville, TX to visit other friends before heading to Waco on Monday when early bird parking began. Joanne, the new TX Director did a good job. Her husband, Jim, is battling health problems and she planned the Rally in amongst all his appointments etc. Had a good time in Waco and we had a few Kansans there with those on their way home from the Valley plus those of us who left from Kansas.

We left Sunday am for the trip to Shreveport in a thunderstorm that stayed on top of us the whole way. There were 3 rigs of us and it probably would have been wiser to have waited till Monday to leave. Next year the LA Rally will be in Rayne so a new place to go.

We left Louisiana on Friday and drove to Texarkana so we could leave the MH and get up early Saturday morning and made a quick trip? (9 hours each way) back to Overland Park to attend our grandson's Eagle Award Ceremony on Sunday. A lot of miles, but we wouldn't have missed it; then it was up early Monday morning for the return trip back to Texarkana and the rest of the Rally there. Of course, it rained there and in OK on the way home.

Good to be home if only for a short while-to catch up with wash, mail, papers etc. Thursday headed to Winfield for District 4 Rally. It was well attended in spite of the all day and night rain on Friday. This weekend was Four Seasons RV Park in Abilene to attend District 5 Rally. We attended this on Friday, April 28. We had the opportunity to meet up with friends plus meet some new folks. Also enjoyed a chicken dinner provided by the district plus many covered dishes. Originally we were going to drive to Sylvan Grove at Wilson Lake on Saturday for District 9, but guess what? after hearing the weather forecast for rain and possible snow, Carmie postponed their rally till May 19-21, as they did not have a

shelter. Then, this next weekend we will be attending District 3 in Hutchinson.

I have been searching all week for a possible leak in the plumbing of the motor home and have discovered so many spaces that are not readily accessible and becoming frustrated to locate what I'm looking for. After a week I still don't have any idea where it is coming from as it does not show up all the time. The joys of having an RV.

The chapter Presidents should have, or will soon receive, the forms needed to start the nomination process for the 2018-19 State Director. This form should be sent back to Pat Nippert before May 31, 2017. You can scan and email or mail them to her. Pat Nippert, 600 Penn Dr., McPherson, KS 67460 or [treasurerkgs@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerkgs@gmail.com)

Karen and I, if nominated and elected again, would serve if it is the desire of the Kansas Good Sam members. We have enjoyed working with so many great people this last year and looking forward to another Fall RV Rally. We do greatly appreciate the great help from all our members; the staff who help with the Rally; chapter presidents with their input and guidance keeps this organization on the move. Our past directors who have offered much support and our many members who make up the Kansas Good Sams, **THANK YOU** so much for your help and participation.

### **Looking Ahead- Mark Your Calendars:**

- 1 **STAFF** meeting June 24, 10:00 am and following that at 1:30 pm will be the **STATE COMMITTEE** (Chapter Presidents) Meeting. This meeting will be held in Hutchinson, at the Fairgrounds in the meeting room of the 4H Centennial Building (where we play cards at the Rally). The Agenda will be sent to all Presidents before the first of June.
- 2 Newspaper items should be submitted anytime now. Will go to print after June 1. Please send your articles to Marilyn Allen so she can layout the paper. It is really cool that we share with others our travels and fun.
- 3 Start planning with your chapters to attend the Kansas RV Rally, **I REMINDER WHEN**, September 28-Oct 1, 2017 (early bird

parking starts Sept. 24). We have 4 chapters that have reached the 45-year mark. This in today's environment is a great achievement.

Camping season is here so let's move, get out and enjoy the great outdoors with friends. Keep on the lookout for some new friends to join us as we continue to expand our horizons. I do so much enjoy the opportunity to check out new areas; some you may wish to visit again and others once was enough. So, let's go do some exploring.

We have many Kansans that attend the Nebraska Rally June 8-12. We will not be able to attend this year because of conflicts in our schedule.

Make Your Journey Count,

Dean & Karen Stewart

April showers bring May flowers (should have a lot of flowers this year)

PS. Memorial Day is approaching so let us remember those who have gone before us.

## KANSAS GOOD SAMS NEWSLETTER APRIL 2017

As I compose this month's Newsletter we are in Shreveport, LA with a little down time to get ready for the LA State Rally. Last week we were in Waco TX for their State Rally. It was well attended and for the most part for those who stayed home (in Kansas) for the winter it was warm. We do have a few Kansas folks who have followed us to LA. It is always great for friends to participate in the adventure. The drive to Louisiana was very wet, and at times, a complete down pour, so the drive took us a little longer than usual.

Next week we will be attending the Arkansas State Rally in Texarkana. Karen and I will be moving to Texarkana on Friday, April 7. We will leave from there early Saturday and take the Colorado (pickup) to KC to attend our grandson's Eagle Award Ceremony. All three of our sons have received this award and will be there as the next generation gets his. I can't wait to have a three-generation picture of this event. Grandparents SO PROUD.

This will be a shorter Newsletter and we hope to see many of you later this month at your District Rallies. Good fun, Good Food, and good times.

Make your Journey Count,

Dean & Karen

## **KANSAS GOOD SAM NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017**

March is here and it seemed to come quickly. As I compose this letter today (Feb. 28), it is a very nice day so far. Tomorrow it is supposed to turn cold and windy again but I guess that is the way March normally is. With that in the back of our minds let us forge ahead and get ready for camping, traveling, meeting our friends and maybe connecting with some new friends. I need to do some last-minute cleaning as we will soon prepare to attend the Texas RV Rally in Waco. Early bird parking starts on Monday, March 27. We hope to have safe travels and a great time. I am passing on some information about Jim Rich. Joanne & Jim are the incoming Texas State Directors and Jim has had a few surgeries recently to address a tumor found in his head. He is now, or soon will be in treatment, which includes chemo and radiation. Joanne is still planning to be at the Texas Rally at Jim's request. Of course, the other spring Rally's will follow, Louisiana and Arkansas. Come join us if you can- best way to shake off cabin fever. Spring will also bring on the District Rally's, so check out the dates and places so you can plan to attend. These Rally's are always fun and helps us reconnect after a few months of winter. Karen and I plan to attend these District Rally's.

We have kept busy in February going to our home basketball games and, of course, watching K-State, KU and some Wichita State games on TV. Also, enjoying the seasonably warm temps we have had for this time of year.

I hope that you all have received the newspaper. This issue has a lot of great information about what some of our chapters are doing. If, for some reason, you did not receive yours please contact me, Marilyn or Pat and we will try to figure out what may have happened. There are several chapters that have not yet turned in any volunteer hours for 2016. If you have any of this info please send it to me. Thank You.

It is also time to think about the Kansas Fall Rally. Send in your application before you get too busy and may overlook it.

**MAKE YOUR JOURNEY COUNT**

Dean & Karen Stewart

## DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017

February is the month that brings out the ole ground hog. Does he see his shadow or not - is spring close or not? Also, many communities have ground hog suppers which seems to be one of my weaknesses. I am hoping it is close so we can get back out camping with friends again. This month is also the month for love. Valentine's day is approaching so don't forget to do something special for your loved ones. I look back a few (several) years ago - making valentines in art class for our classmates and family.

Last weekend was the RV show in Wichita at Century II. Those that helped us out were Larry Cody, Phillip and Carolyn Osborn, Dean and Judy Andreason, Woody and Donna Bird, Ward and Pat Nippert, Sonny and Nancy Crook and Leroy and Marty Ward. I want to THANK them for taking time to help at this event. This event had a total of over 3300 people that walked through the doors. We were able to secure some names of those who might be interested in joining a chapter. If you get a name from your ASD or me please contact them and invite them to your meeting. Also, I created a list of about a dozen who were not members of Good Sam that I am hoping to get signed up. One thing that was really noticeable for me was the number of folks who do not know of Good Sam and that is of concern. We really need to spread our exposure.

We have had some problems with the bi-annual newspaper. The firm that prints the paper is moving to a different location. Therefore, that has delayed the printing. We have been assured that it should be completed very soon.

March will be here before you know it, so get your calendars up-to-date and don't miss out on camping opportunities. I am so ready to get out and go.

Karen and I are recovering from the flu (had the shots), better now. This weekend we'll go to KC to watch our grandson play basketball and attend an Eagle Scout award ceremony for my brother's grandson. It is so exciting for me to see young men work hard for this achievement.

**MAKE YOUR JOURNEY COUNT**

Dean & Karen Stewart

Kansas State Directors



## KANSAS GOOD SAM JANUARY NEWSLETTER

The new year is here and we are ready for a fresh start. Looking at things in the past and looking to the future and we hope we can blend these into a step forward as we forge ahead this year. As a Good Sam Club we have passed the half century mark with many good things happening in those years. As we move forward, we all need to reach out and keep our Club strong. I don't know of many RV camping clubs that are growing. Why is this? I don't have the answer for this but it seems we are aging and need to involve some younger folks that might bring in some new energy and ideas. So, let us make a New Year resolution to make our chapters stronger and reach out. There are campers located all over our communities that may need a reason to use them more.

Karen and I had a great Christmas with all our boys and their families. The weather was good for traveling and we hope all had the opportunity to be with your family. About two weeks ago, I again was hit with a very bad virus on my computer so I have spent some time rebuilding the whole thing. Even my back-up system was affected. Hoping this is the last time.

The bi-annual newspaper will soon be sent out to all chapter members. We still have two chapters that have not turned in their rosters and may not receive the newspaper. Also, it is time for our chapters to turn in their volunteer hours and any charity giving. I will apologize that some sent this to me earlier and was lost when my computer totally crashed. If you would be so kind could you send them to me again?

I know some of our members have headed south for hopefully warmer temps and some of us will just stay home and tough it out. Many chapters will hold winter meetings, discussing the future camping season, planning group volunteer opportunities, and just having a good time together. Some districts have planned their rallies for this spring so start planning on attending. We have been working on plans for the Kansas RV Rally this fall, securing entertainment, planning activities and gathering supplies.

Some new information coming out of Headquarters, all region directors were released from their jobs. At this time, we have only one contact with Good Sam, Dave Morgen, who was a region director. Not sure what is going on or what happened, will keep you informed as new

information comes available.

Up next for us is the RV Show in Wichita, Jan. 26-29. We sure could use a few more **volunteers** for this event. If you could spare even a half a day would help, let us know. Keep WARM, stay healthy, and we will make through the winter.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Make Your Journey Count

Dean & Karen