

## DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER, JANUARY 2016

Well here it is 2016, a new year, I can only imagine what the year will bring. As I look back I would never have expected to be your director but as time moved on it seemed that this could be a reality. It's almost like the first kiss, apprehensive at first but you get through the process. Karen and I hope that you all will have a great experience with your chapters, your district, and your state this year. We will try hard to meet your expectations as we move forward.

As 2015 has been here and gone we hope that each of you had the opportunity to enjoy your family and friends during Thanksgiving, Christmas and bringing in the New Year.

At this time, we are still looking to fill a few state staff positions, primarily ASD's. If you are inclined to help, I would like to visit with you. This is a state organization, completely volunteer, so stepping up would fit the Good Sam ideals.

Throughout this year we need to continue to track all our volunteer hours and any charity giving. Charity giving has been somewhat misunderstood. This includes giving to any non-profit organization but does not include your tithing to the church. Things like any groups such as a food bank, how much gas or mileage used to deliver goods and or services for example. Also I would like to remind chapter secretaries to send the minutes to me each month; this is a great way for us to stay connected with each other.

Not all the Districts have set up their meetings but should be forthcoming. On that note we have a new webmaster, Loretta Marlowe. She agreed to assume this task and has already taken steps to rework the site. The Kansas site has been adjusted in the past so really needed some changes to make it more inviting. If you have any suggestion, want something included or changed let her know. New will be that you can find this newsletter monthly on the website just in case you misplace your copy. The website is [www.kansasgoodsam.org](http://www.kansasgoodsam.org).

What's coming up? The RV Show at Century II in Wichita, January 28-31. We will take tickets and also have a booth to talk Good Sam to those

coming into the show. We have some who have already volunteered to help but could always use others, contact me if interested.

We are in the process of planning the 2016 Rally in Hutchinson and as always if you have any ideas please share. I would like to know of any games that were used 50 years ago.

Also I want to remind all that the charter process should be completed by now, if not you need to contact Larry Bond quickly. Now it is time to submit all of your Volunteering hrs. and charity giving to Kay or myself.

At the time of this writing I'm not sure what the winter weather will be like but having lived in Kansas all my life I can expect anything, so stay warm, drive safe and keep looking ahead for the next opportunity. Also again I want to shout out a big **THANK YOU** to Kay and Gail for the last four years of their leadership of this great club.

Make your Journey Count,

Dean & Karen Stewart

[rstewart8@cox.net](mailto:rstewart8@cox.net)

## DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2016

Today as I compose this letter they tell me it is Ground Hog Day. When I looked outside this morning it was nice and sunny, but now as I work on this it is cloudy and sounds like some of us will see some type of moisture today. As the ground hogs work together with their group preparing for spring so should we. It is time for making the list on what goes in the camper; does anything need fixing; what about our fellow campers, do they need any help? Do you know that there are many people around who do not know about Good Sam? After spending this last weekend at the Greater Kansas RV Show in Wichita, I was surprised at the number of people who did not know what Good Sam is all about. I think we need to toot our horn a little louder; need to spread the word; be more visible and ask others we see if they know about our group. We were able to share with many people this weekend. Several people filled out signup sheets which will be distributed throughout as contacts for prospective members.

We would like to thank those volunteers who helped us at the RV Show. Phillip and Carolyn Osborn, Larry Cody, Richard and Ann Tennent, Ward and Pat Nippert, Lloyd and Karen Wolf, Sonny and Nancy Crook and Woody and Donna Bird. We visited with a lot of people about all the good things Good

Sam has to offer - we were able to provide some free memberships to those that have never been members. So you see, there are still people out there just waiting to be asked, so don't hold back it won't hurt to ask.

This month we need to remember our valentines, the ones that have kept us on the move. Most chapters will, in some way, celebrate this event. Also at this time of year cabin fever starts to set in and we begin to look forward to spring. It will probably stay cold a little while longer so go ahead and dream. Spring will get here, camping will start and the stories will be told again.

Several of you have asked about Audrey Genereux from Salina Sams. The latest information is she will start treatment February 2. She will have radiation 5 days a week for 6 weeks and oral chemo for 42 consecutive days simultaneously. They have eliminated surgery as part of the treatment. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. I know she is not alone in the Good Sam family and could use a daily uplift.

There is not much going on this month but it will soon get busy as some will be planning for upcoming District Rally's. If you have not heard about a district rally in your district let me know. In March the South Region Spring Rally's in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas are coming up so hope you all can join us for those.

The biannual newspaper is on its way and if, for some reason you did not receive it, you should first check with your secretary or treasurer that the correct information was sent to the State Treasurer, Larry Bond. If that information is correct, please contact Larry or myself.

We are working on securing some ASD's for a couple of districts. If you are somewhat interested let me know. We also have a **dire** need for members to join our Second Chance Chapter. We need some officers. All of us at one time have been given a second chance so please consider this opportunity. I believe that Kansas was the first state to have a chapter of this kind. They normally meet during our State Rally each year.

Planning for the Kansas State Rally September 29 to October 2, 2016 is underway. We have secured Rusty Rieron for the Saturday evening program. Maybe you have heard him before, but if not, you won't be disappointed.

Make Your Journey Count,  
Dean and Karen Stewart

#### DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016

For those of us still in Kansas, February was mostly nice and mild. This brings us to March, with the hope for some, moisture for the dry conditions many still endure. I thought I would write something about road hazards, but with not having hardly any snow or ice to deal with, maybe we can look at other hazards. How many times have you found yourself dodging tire parts on the road, road kill, boxes, boards, pot holes and many items too numerous to count? This is a lot like our own path, always dodging. Sometimes we need to slow the process and look ahead so we can avoid the hazards ahead. Keeping this in mind, we could have some bumps ahead that can be avoided if we keep positive with our Good Sam ideals. New membership is one step in securing a positive future. With that in mind we are looking for a couple that would like to serve on State Staff. An opening will be available this fall as our present Patch Packers are needing to shift gears. I am hopeful that we can have someone on board to help them this fall and learn the ropes. Are you still saving your pop tabs for the fall Rally?

**GREAT NEWS** this month. The **KONZA CAMPERS** have won the South Region's Chapter of the Year award. This entitles them to be entered in the National Chapter of the Year. Congratulations to the Konza Campers as they have worked hard for this honor and we need to support them as it moves forward to the national judging. Your scrapbooks help keep a record of what you do and where you've been for the chapter during the year from Rally to Rally.

At the end of this month Karen and I will be leaving about the 22nd or sooner to attend the annual Directors Meeting being held in Waco, TX. prior to the Texas State Rally, March 31-April 3 with early bird starting March 28. Next we will travel to Shreveport for the Louisiana Rally, April 7-10 with early bird starting April 3rd. The last stop will be in Texarkana for the Arkansas Rally April 14-17th with early bird starting April 10.

The District Rallies are approaching and our plans are to try and make them all. I have a request from the Serendipity Sams chapter.

They are planning a trip this summer to Santa Fe, NM, June 14-19. They welcome anyone who might be interested in going with them. Please call Lloyd or Karen Wolf. Lloyd 316-772-2074 or Karen 216-772-6550.

We will be on the road when the next newsletter will be sent so I hope that I will have a great connection to send it out. Don't forget to check out our website [kansasgoodsams.org](http://kansasgoodsams.org)

Make your Journey Count,  
Dean and Karen Stewart

Chapter Presidents please share with your members, please send in your chapter minutes and we are still accepting last years' volunteer hours.

#### DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER APRIL 2016

April is here, Easter has passed, March came in like a lion, not sure if it went out like a lamb. Karen and I are in Waco Texas, attending the Texas Rally; next we will be in Shreveport, La. and Texarkana, AR. Six rigs of our Kansans are attending the Texas Rally some enroute back home from their winter in the valley. We will lose some but know we are gaining at least two rigs for the LA Rally. Wish more were able to attend as it is always good to support the other states in the South Region.

April showers bring May flowers, and also brings out the campers going places and doing all things good. Get the rigs checked out, loaded and hit the road. Starting the end of this month District Rally's will be starting and continue thru the end of May. Do you know when your district rally takes place? Find out and don't miss out on the fun of getting together with old friends and maybe meeting some new ones.

The Texas Rally has been good. There were about 260 rigs attending. It rained some but that has not dampened the spirit. It was good to see the rain, just wish we had more in Kansas to help the dry regions.

Not much new information from our Region Director's meeting. A lot of the time was spent on getting the correct procedure and forms to the main office and the timing of all the submittals. One main item was that there will not be an International Good Sam Rally this year. As you all know this is the 50th anniversary of the Good Sam organization and this is what we will highlight at our State Rally this fall. Plan on coming, we'd love to see you all.

Last month I wrote about road hazards. On the way south I could not help but notice all the debris in the road. It almost looked like a tire dealer was seeding the road. We will be going to Winfield end of April for District 4 Rally and the first weekend in May will be in Hutchinson for the District 3 Rally. Other rallies will happen later in May and will talk about them next month.

The Committee meeting will be June 25, 2016, in Hutchinson at the Fairgrounds. This meeting is for all Chapter Presidents. Your vote is the voice of your chapter. More information and an agenda will be

forthcoming. If you have anything you want on the agenda, please contact me so we can include your item. A Rally Staff meeting will precede this meeting.

Make Your Journey Count  
Dean and Karen

#### DIRECTOR NEWS LETTER MAY 2016

ITS MAY, time to get out and moving about this great state and maybe beyond. Karen and I have been on the move since March and somewhat looking forward to a weekend at home, but that will have to wait another week. Since the last newsletter we have attended the Louisiana Rally in Shreveport. It was nice, the weather cooperated and was fun. The next stop was Texarkana for the Arkansas Rally. They had approximately 175 rigs in attendance. There were a few showers that week but they did not upset the activities. Kansas supported these rallies with six rigs and we are so happy when we have Kansans that go and attend these Rally's. Thank you for being there and someday maybe we can have more rigs join us.

We no more landed at home and it was time to reload and attend District 4 Rally in Winfield April 21. They had 40 rigs attending, nice weather and it was a great, fun- filled weekend. The next reload was

last weekend for the District 5 Rally, held at the Four Season RV Park east of Abilene on I-70. We had a great time, however, the moisture from above (called rain) could have created a mess but didn't and all was good. I am not sure of their final count but believe it was around 20 rigs. Larry Cody ASD 4 and Katheryn Fox ASD 5 both did a great job with planning their respective rally's. Please THANK them when you see them next time.

If you have never attended a District Rally you should ask why not? This is a great place to meet your neighbors as you all live in the same general region. The ASD's work hard to plan these events and we need to support them. At both of these Rally's I was able to sign up some new members. It is always great to see new faces and chat about so many things.

This weekend on May 5 we are off to Hutchinson for District 3 Rally. Hoping for some warmer temperatures and for a little drying out after last week's rains. Then we get some time at home. Looking ahead into next month, District 9 Rally is June 3-5; next Nebraska Rally is June 9-12 with early birds starting the 7th. **The state staff Meeting is June 25 at 9:45 and the State Committee Meeting at 1:30.** These meetings are in Hutchinson at the State Fairgrounds near the RV camp grounds.

Hope this date and times are on your calendars.

It's not too early to send in your Kansas Rally registration.

Make Your Journey Count

Dean & Karen

#### DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016

June has arrived, with May being just a little wet in places; some of it extreme with heavy rain and tornadoes. These last two weeks have kept all of us on edge. The weather did not totally cooperate, as many of us were out camping. It's great when we can get our groups together for some fun and fellowship. The weather keeps some of us with our furry friends on our toes. With the rains and storms we are busy wiping feet, (ours and four others); with thunder storms, some of our pets will try to find a hiding place to be safe; we have to find our rain coats and maybe an umbrella so we can go outside. So goes the life of those of us that have pets. One thing it does accomplish, it gives us the chance to take a walk and possibly meet others that are walking. This has to be one way to tell someone about your Good Sam group. Don't be afraid to ask as there are some out there who are just waiting for an invitation.

In May we attended District 3 rally in Hutchinson. It was fun and all enjoyed the weekend. We enjoyed a weekend at home; then attended our first chapter campout for the camping season at Marion Reservoir. Over Memorial weekend our oldest son and his wife from Ohio came to Kansas to visit family for a few days. As we spend memorial weekend with family, friends and others, let us remember all who have fought the fight from the time our country became a nation of the free and home of the brave.

June will be another busy month. The first weekend in June we will be attending the District 9 Rally at Sylvan Park, located below the dam at Wilson Lake. Then it's off to the Nebraska Rally in Hastings. Many Kansans attend this Rally so hope to see you there. We plan to have a Kansas get-together on Wednesday pm before their Rally. Our next stop will be to Santa Fe, NM with our chapter for a week of looking and exploring the sites.

The next event will be our STATE COMMITTEE MEETING on June 25 at 1:30 pm. This meeting is held in Hutchinson in the 4H Centennial Hall. All presidents or a member representing your chapter should attend. You are the ones that can vote on any items brought forth to this group. A staff meeting will precede this meeting at 9:45 am at the same location.

If you have not let me know if you are staying overnight, please forward that info to me before the meeting.

All presidents should have in their hands the agenda for the meeting, and hopefully you have had discussion with your chapter regarding this information so you know how your group feels about these points to be discussed at the meeting.

The Kansas Rally program is still in progress. We will be making some final adjustments at the June meeting as we want to make it great for participation of all our friends.

One last note, remember to send in your chapter news for the biannual newspaper. ASD's should

also send in a report for your area. The newspaper goes to print about July 1. Send this news to Marilyn Allen.

As I close this, I know many of you are traveling this summer. Be careful, enjoy the trip and come back safe.

Make Your Journey Count,  
Dean and Karen Stewart

Tacos and all the fixings will be provided for the Wednesday evening get-together at the Nebraska Rally. Please bring a dish or desert to share, plus your table service and drink. **Please pass this on to all your members who will be there.**

#### DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER JULY 2016

As June ends we have reached the half way point of this year. Summer solstice has passed and that means the daylight hours will be coming shorter. Therefore, the State Rally is not that far away, so we hope you are planning to attend.

June was a very busy month. First was the District 9 Rally at Sylvan Park at Lake Wilson. It was well attended and the weather was just about perfect. Thank you Carmie for a well-planned Rally. Next stop was the Nebraska State Rally at Hastings. Kansas was well represented with 22 rigs and also the state with the most rigs other than Nebraska. We had a Kansas get together Wednesday evening with taco fixings and plenty of other side dishes. I would like to thank the Cowboy Sams for their help with the taco fixings. The weather at Nebraska was somewhat warm and windy, but the buildings were cool. It was a good Rally. We left Hastings Sunday morning to meet up with other Serendipity Sams' for our planned annual trip and to a lower humidity climate in Santa Fe, NM. It was a good trip and enjoyed by all. We left Santa Fe the next Sunday morning and we decided to drive all the way home so we could start preparing for the semiannual committee meeting on June 25.

The committee meeting was well attended and we had great discussions. I want to thank all Presidents and/or their representatives on their commitment to this meeting. The Rally Staff had a meeting prior to this meeting and discussed many things, mostly about the Rally and making sure every one was on the same page. Some things that came out of the committee and staff meetings was hoping to do a better job assisting those who might be attending our rally for the first time. Another item was raising the state dues from the present \$5.00 per rig to \$10.00 per rig starting January, 2017. The main reason for this was the last time dues were raised was seven or eight years ago and our biannual newspaper utilizes most of this money meaning there is not much for anything else. The minutes of that meeting will be sent to each chapter as soon as we can.

Attached to this newsletter are copies of various certificates that can be used for good deeds. We have several members that do a lot of good deeds for people. If you know of a deserving person for one or more of these, please let us know so we can recognize them.

I want to thank the Wheatbelt Sams for the large coffee pot donated to the State for use at the Rally. Please keep recording your volunteer hours and charity for this year.

As many of you can tell, warm to hot is the temperatures outside but we can't let that stop us from going out and having fun, meeting people and possibly inviting new ones to join our group. All you can do is ask.

Coming up this month we'll be putting the final touches on the Rally Program; do some camping; making a trip to Oklahoma City for some door prizes, other than that we should be home.

As the 4th of July is upon us let us remember that in 1776 was our first true time that we were granted complete freedom as a standalone country. As a member of the Sons of the American Revolution I have many ancestors that helped secure that freedom. So this time of year I reflect upon these family ties and am very proud that they fought the fight.

Make your Journey Count,  
Dean & Karen Stewart

## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016

What a wonderful time of the year. The weather begins to cool; camping season starts to ramp up for fall and we hurry to get one last campout in before the cold sets in. I often wonder how we can work in all the things we want to do. All the fall activities are beginning with the start of school; fall crops need planting and others harvested; there may be family issues, doctor's appointments, planning a winter trip and anything else you can dream up.

First, you need to plan to attend the fall **KANSAS RV RALLY**. This will be a great time to connect with many friends and make many new ones. **GOOD SAM 50 YEARS OF CARING AND SHARING**. Be sure to send in your reservation before Sept. 15 to avoid a late fee. Some of you will attend the Missouri Rally then come to the Kansas Rally. We will start early bird parking on Sunday, September 25 at 1:00 pm. We will have a couple of games on Tuesday afternoon and a couple on Wednesday, but on Thursday games begin in earnest.

We will have a Second Chance pot luck Friday at 11:45 (location to be announced).

Several of the staff and others have spent time securing door prizes for the Rally. I found out that I could also ask in my own town for some and it was positive, so if you have an opportunity to ask at home it is not too late. I would also encourage each chapter to donate a couple of door prizes and a store bought cake (or donation) for the cake walk. I want to thank Ann and Richard Tennant, Jerry and Vera Ummel and Nancy and Sonny Crook for helping us with these door prizes. Don't forget to bring your pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

We have two Chapters receiving Anniversary Awards this year. Rising Clouds with 20 years and Big Brutus with 30 years. Hopefully they will be there to receive their awards.

This newsletter will be a little earlier as we will be working at the State Fair and the next newsletter may be a late because of our state Rally. The Rally program is on the website [kansasgoodsams.org](http://kansasgoodsams.org) if you want a

look ahead. We are trying to keep it up to date as some things have changed.

We are so looking forward to this Rally with excitement and, of course, some apprehension, this being our first and hope you can come and enjoy. Early registrations appear to have several First Timers. This is **great** news. Reminder to all Chapter Presidents, the Committee Meeting is Saturday morning at 8:15 am. Please try to be there or send a note with a designated representative. One vote per Chapter.

We will be attending the Oklahoma RV Rally in Shawnee following the Kansas Rally. This is not too far on down south, so we hope you will join us for the last of our South Region Rally's for 2016.

Make Your Journey Count,  
Dean & Karen  
Kansas State Directors

## DIRECTOR AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Here it is August 1, 2016, and summer is almost coming to an end. Schools will be starting, swimming pools will soon close and just maybe our mail boxes will not be full of those don't vote for the other guy because of ???????. I hope that all will take time to vote as it is one way you can express your feelings toward our great country.

This also means the Kansas State RV Rally is getting closer, so please plan to attend. Send in your reservation form. We will be looking forward to seeing each of you September 29-October 2 with early bird starting September 25. Registration forms should be sent in prior to September 15 to avoid extra fees.

We have been busy (and I thought July would be slow). Made a new game for the Rally; checking on various things; went to Oklahoma City for door prizes; trying to fix wipers on my rig (still ongoing),

and making a new display cabinet for some historical items to be displayed at the Rally. Of course, trying to do this in a hot garage has been challenging. I'm sure some of you had similar situations. Almost makes you want to stay in where it is cooler and think maybe it might be better tomorrow. I want to take this opportunity to talk about our Rally. First, remember the only thing on TV during our Rally will be political commercials so come join us for fun and a great time. The Rally schedule will soon be on our web site - I have just a couple of things to check out so there may be some minor changes. We have some great entertainment for you and, of course, great parking for all. I would again appreciate it if each chapter donated something for door prizes as many have done in the past and also a store-bought cake for the cake walk. This has always been a great part of sharing with each other.

We all need to express a great big THANK YOU to Woody & Donna Bird. Woody has been our Wagon Master the past 16 years and he felt he needed to resign from this position. They have family commitments that need to be taken care of at this time. We hope they can join us when they are able to. **Thanks Woody and Donna.**

Make your journey count. Dean & Karen Stewart

### KANSAS GOOD SAM OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Here it is mid-October and the time has really flown by fast. Starting Labor Day, Karen and I spent two weeks working at the Kansas State Fair RV Park. After running home and swapping out a few clothes we were on our way to Sedalia, Missouri, to attend their Rally. Kansas had about 10 rigs in attendance. We enjoyed great weather during the week and had a good time.

Saturday morning the Crooks' and Stewart's left to get back to Hutchinson early to prepare for our Kansas Rally. All went well until we were almost in Hutchinson and the skies opened up and it started raining and before all was said and done there was 3-4" in a few hours and it was almost dark before it slowed down to a drizzle. Therefore, we did not get too much accomplished that afternoon. Ward was able to get one trailer moved late that afternoon and the rest on Sunday morning. Not everything was totally ready when we started parking, but with everyone's help it all worked out.

The Rally, I thought, went super. I cannot thank the staff enough for a super-great job. You all really worked hard to provide a first class experience for all attendees. And to those that attended, **THANK YOU.**

You do not know how it feels to have a great group of campers come to the Rally and enjoy all the activities. If anyone has any comments about the Rally and you wish to share them, please do. We are always trying to improve the experience. One item of interest, we did have 32 rigs of First Timers to a Kansas Rally and a total of 171 rigs. I hope everyone enjoyed their time at the Rally as I did. If you missed the Rally this year, start making plans to attend next year.

The rain we had prior to the start of the Rally did our trailers no favor. We encountered major leaks in three of the four. A lot of time was spent on Monday and Tuesday cleaning, drying and determining how much was lost due to the water. The many years that they have spent outside has taken a toll on these trailers. The State Committee has decided to store them inside a local RV storage in Hutchinson. The rate was very fair, even less than we could have hoped for. One trailer that did not have water infiltration was looked at by the insurance adjuster and found to have a lot of hail damage that will be addressed later.

The saga continues. About midweek at our Rally, my computer blue-screened. In other words, it crashed. Now about three weeks later, I have it somewhat working, but there are many more items to set-up. We have a hard drive backup, but it seems that some of the settings have changed some time so not all was saved. So much for issues that we have no control over so we'll move on.

After wrapping up the Kansas Rally, we headed south to Oklahoma for their RV Rally. Last count, we had ten rigs of Kansans as in Missouri. Their Rally was very nice and well attended. Friday, we had a fun time attending their "Prom" night. Sunday morning we headed back towards home. This time

we're here for good for a while – till it is time for the last campout for the fall. Hope the weather cooperates around the 20th and we see sunshine (no rain) and see some of nature's beautiful colors in the trees. It is a great time to camp with friends.

As the year slowly comes to the end, our time together will continue as most all of you have winter meetings. This is also the time to get your rosters turned into Larry Bond so he can process these and send them forward.

Next, if each Chapter would submit a newsy article for our State Newspaper that would be great. Our last newspaper lacked many submissions from our chapters. They should be in to Marilyn mid-December.

It is not too early for planning the District campouts for 2017. When these are determined let us know so we can include them in the Newspaper and Website. Have you checked out the web lately? [kansasgoodsams.org](http://kansasgoodsams.org)

Make Your Journey Count

Dean & Karen Stewart

Please share this with your members and any others that may have an interest in what is going on with Kansas Good Sam.

#### **DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2016**

November is here, although it hardly seems like it. The weather has been great this fall. Makes one wonder why we winterized so early, we could surely make one more outing. We had some little goblins show up at our house on a nice evening with their bags, buckets, pillow cases and anything else to hold the treats.

When we picked up our mail in mid October, I discovered a summons to serve on jury duty for this month. We should consider this a privilege to serve because our forefathers determined we should have a right to be judged by our peers. The headlights are not working on our rig so this is something needing attention as well as getting it serviced, ready for the next trip. This reminds us that this is the time to winterize for the cold that is sure to arrive. Drain all water; clean it inside and out; rodent proof; battery maintenance; check air in tires and I'm sure there are many other items that need attention. I recall one time a member forgot to drain his hot water tank. It froze - new water tank.

I want to thank all the Chapters that provided door prizes for the Rally. All the registered names were called and should have received a door prize. There were others that went out on their own and secured door prizes, and I want to thank you for that. THANK YOU to the Rally Staff that helped in many ways. THANK YOU to the many First Timers to a Kansas Rally for attending and THANK YOU to all who attended and participated in all the fun. Thanks for coming.

Some important info.

1. Dates for District Rally's - please send these soon so we can have it in the biannual Newspaper.
2. Send in your articles for the newspaper by December 15, 2016, - you can also sell adds to support the newspaper.
3. Finalize and submit your Chapter Rosters for 2017.
4. RV Show, Wichita Century II, Jan 26-29. I have a list started of those who indicated they could help and if you would like to help, let us know.

November 8, 2016, be sure to vote. Some say this will be historic but aren't they all. Each time we vote a change happens and that is the freedom we enjoy in the USA.

November will see us all giving thanks as we gather with family and friends, probably around a table with great food. We will give thanks for the many blessings that have been given to us in the free world. In closing, have a great THANKSGIVING and if traveling please be safe and have a great day.

Make Your Journey Count,

Dean & Karen Stewart

Please Share with your Chapter Members

#### **KANSAS GOOD SAM DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2016**

Well here we are with the end of another year drawing to a close. Thanksgiving is over and Christmas is within our grasp. This is the time when we look around to see who might need a lift or who might need some strength. Who do we thank for our many blessings? As we move closer to the birth of Jesus, let us keep all those in our thoughts and prayers. During this past year we have lost some of our Good Sam family so let us remember them and their families.

Karen and I hope to have all our kids together this year. This doesn't happen very often any more so it will be special. We will gather at one of our son's house in Overland Park. For those that will also travel, take care on your trip.

I know that many of you have planned your next year and the calendar is already starting to fill up. Just think of the good times ahead with campouts; the stories we share and the great sharing of food. This also is a time we can invite new people into our group. Also, don't forget to toot your horn and share with others about Good Sam. I must be reminded occasionally when someone asks me "what is Good Sam"? That tells me we should be telling and spreading our story better than what we are doing now. How can we do this? One example would be to have a monthly article in your local newspaper on what your chapter is doing or where you're going. I can recall some years ago, this was a normal practice for some chapters. Some newspapers will even put it in as a public service or have a calendar of events. Just a thought.

As you all know Don Woodard, our South Region Director, passed away. We do have new South Region Directors along with a small realignment of the South Region. Our region now includes Mississippi. The new South Region Directors are Ed and Peggy James, previously the Southeast Region Directors. Ed and Peggy have held several positions in Good Sam as he has been a member since 1976. At one time, he was a Sambassador along with Don prior to becoming the Southeast Region Director. They live in Tupelo, Mississippi.

Starting Jan 1, 2017, we will have a new State Treasurer, Pat Nippert. Pat lives in McPherson. Please welcome Pat as she takes on this new

responsibility. Her contact information will be on our web site after the first of the year. I am sure she will have questions as do most of us so KISMIF.

As many of you know my computer blue-screened at our Rally and I lost all my information.

Therefore, if you had sent in some previous volunteer hours and charity giving, I no longer have that information. So, as you finish out the year just send me your year's total sometime after the first of January.

The Greater Kansas RV Show held in Wichita, Century II, January 26-29 is also a great opportunity to greet and meet some new and some old friends. This is a volunteer job we do as a State. We take tickets and have a chance to visit with people that might be interested in Good Sam (a place we can toot our horn) and a great possibility of finding new members. I have a short list of some that are willing to help. If you can also help, please let me know. The hours will be Thursday thru Saturday 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM and Sunday 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Don't forget to send in your articles for the newspaper by December 15 to Marilyn Allen.

You all have been great this year. Many of you have stepped up when called upon to do a task that maybe you thought you couldn't do, but you did and did so in the true example of Good Sam. I want to THANK you all for your support and kind words. Sometimes you wonder if you can make it happen. In closing, as we move on to 2017 let us all try to do our best in whatever task we may be called upon to do.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Make your Journey Count

Dean & Karen