

Cactus Patch Dispatch

Newsletter for NMHRRVC Chapter 81

December 2009

Web site

Nmhrrvc.com

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New Mexico State Rally

23 Holiday Rambler units participated in the New Mexico Holiday Rambler State Rally. Filled with lots of activities, those who attended this rally will have lots by which to remember it.

Perhaps the highlight of the rally was the day spent at the Luna County Museum. Most of the participants spent a full morning browsing through the large building, filled with dedicated rooms of artifacts that have been contributed mostly from the area around Deming.

Of note is the Mimbres Room, filled with pottery and artifacts which were gathered in the area left by the Native Americans who lived here from 950 to 1200 BC. Another room contained gems and minerals that would excite the most avid rock hound. Other areas which generated significant interest were the Military History room, the Art Gallery, the Doll Room and the Cowboy Exhibit.

It got better and better. This editor will step aside and present what was reported in the *Deming Headlight* (p 2, Oct. 30, 2009)

“A gala affair was held at the Deming-Luna-Mimbres Museum on Tuesday honoring the presence of the New Mexico Holiday Rambler’s State Rally in Deming.

“The Ramblers were presented with the beautiful Halloween themed decorations, table settings and outstanding service provided by museum volunteers, the delicious food served by ‘Fancy Fixins,’ and the professional entertainment by Deming residents, Cyndi Longoria, Bob Delk and Max Crook.

“The theme for the night was ‘Some Enchanted Evening,’ highlighted by a surprise visit from Mayor Andres Silva who warmly welcomed each attendee and offered the Invocation for the evening.

“Faye Hyatt’s ‘Fancy Fixin’s not only provided a meal, but had earlier provided a sack lunch in the patio of the Customs House on a perfect, warm and sunny day.

“Holiday Ramblers were treated to a synchronized and professional meal service offered by the museum volunteers.

“Longoria sang with such beauty that tears were brought to the eyes. Bob Delk delivered classical country and country rock with perfection that had everyone in the palm of his hand. Max Crook not only provided fantastic dinner music but also performed in his historic professional manner and had every toe tapping and/or singing along.

“A standing ovation was given by the Ramblers out of genuine appreciation to all

who had made this a truly 'Enchanted Evening.'

"Deming's ambassadors imprinted upon the memory of each and every Holiday Rambler what a delightful community Deming is."

Door Prizes at the New Mexico State Rally

Not often do door prizes at a rally rate special comment in the newsletter. This time, however, door prizes merit that special comment. Bill and Rossanna Hays put together one of the finest batches of door prizes ever witnessed at a Holiday Rambler State Rally. The quality was unusually fine and the quantity was sufficiently huge so that every registrant got at least one gift worth at least fifty dollars.

Way to go, State Manager!

Arizona State Rally

Many of the attendees at the New Mexico State Rally simply got into their RV's and headed over to the Cochise Terrace RV Resort in Benson, Arizona for the next scheduled rally. That five day rally allowed one full day of rest right in the middle when not a single activity was planned. Most everyone seemed to enjoy their own day to do whatever they wanted to do. It was noted, however, that many simply found the time to relax together while getting caught up with the latest gossip and travels of one another.

Chapter 81 Dues Due

Many of you have paid your dues to the chapter for next year. But for those of you who have not, the dues for Chapter 81 are now due for 2010. Please renew by check and send to Pat Lange, P.O. Box 53639, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87153. Thank you.

About the Members

Bill and Ursula Candelaria just keep right on traveling. After having missed the opening ceremony of the NM State Rally because of a mix up in calendar dates, they jumped into

their "ever ready" RV and headed down state from their Quemado home. Ursula and Bill got right into the mix of activities as if they had not missed a beat.

Bill and Rossanna Hays kept reminding everyone at the New Mexico State Rally to bring their meal tickets to every sponsored meal. Would you believe that Bill had to head back to their motor home from the museum to pick up their forgotten tickets? They laughed just as hard about it as the rest of us did.

Bob Patton finally had his knee replaced. The operation was done at Presbyterian Hospital on 9 November. A family member said that he was doing well and actually was walking with a walker in the hospital the day after the surgery. He is having physical therapy at home twice a week with a full recovery time taking anywhere from six months to a year.

Marilyn and Erwin Peake joined the Region Director Ray Nichols and his wife, Hilda, at the Texas State Rally which preceded the New Mexico State Rally by just a couple of days. Both couples commented about the great distance they had to travel to get from one rally to the next, across the state of Texas.

JB and Pat Hamlet left the New Mexico State Rally a day early after JB experienced some health problems. They returned to Albuquerque where JB was admitted to a hospital, went through a series of tests, received treatment for a serious episode of diverticulitis, and is now back at home where he is watching his diet.

Dan and Norma Hollenshead showed their celebrity status at the Arizona State Rally. Dan became the focus of attention one evening when the female singer sang to him during one of her enchanting songs. During a later number, it appeared to be natural for Dan to join her on stage while they continued to banter back and forth.

On a different night of entertainment, Norma was chosen by an excellent magician to work with him on stage. She played along with him as if she'd worked with him many times in the past. She even helped him with some slight of hand by taking non verbal cues and responding without prompts.

Jim and Vera Woods arrived at the Arizona State Rally in fine form. They had not traveled since returning from Florida where Jim broke his leg while en route to visit their daughter. His leg may have broken but certainly not his spirit! With his leg now healed, he's back to his old self, fully representing the moniker he carries: "Chief Agitator"!

Bob and Betty Luikens had the bad luck of being parked in the wrong spot when they initially arrived at the Arizona State Rally. They had all ready hooked up and were settled in when the park advised them that an error had been made and that they'd have to move. Apparently the site they were in was reserved for a work camper.

Bob and Betty worked hard to unhook and to move to another site. You know? The site that they had occupied originally never did have anyone park in it the whole week of the rally. What were the park personnel thinking?

Konrad and Diana Scheels have decided to drop from the Holiday Rambler Club. During a telephone conversation with Konrad recently, he said that they were going to concentrate their Club participation in another club. The club shall remain unnamed but the initials are FMCA. Sorry to see you guys go! All of us in Chapter 81, however, wish you "Happy Travels!"

Tails from the Trail.

Rusty Mason seems to have problems with crossing borders! First, there was the incident while going into Canada that her forgotten and thusly undeclared wine was disposed of by the

border guys. Then, there was another incident when she and Jim were en route to Mexico. Rusty was somewhat concerned about traveling into Mexico but was convinced that it would be ok. So, they were bringing up the rear of a group of RV's as they crossed into Mexico. All the Holiday Rambler RV's in front of them were simply waved through, but Jim and Rusty were waved to the side to be searched. "Why us?" wondered Rusty. After the search, they were allowed to continue.

On the way home from Mexico, expecting the worst and simply knowing that she could not bring any vegetables back into the U.S., Rusty threw away two huge potatoes that she had purchased. Foiled again! They were simply waved back across the border without any hesitation! "I'm not crossing any borders again!" is Rusty's final comment.

Large Gift to Region Director

The New Mexico State managers presented our Region Manager, Mr. Ray Nichols, with a very large package one evening at the rally. Unwrapping this beautiful package in front of the group, Ray displayed none other than Angelina, the mysterious Garden Angel.

She had been declared missing for months. No one would claim knowledge of where she was or what had happened to her. But here she was, wrapped in a beautiful package and handed over to the Region Director. It was great to find her back with the group after being lost for such a long time.

Angelina Retired

Angelina, the Garden Angel, was given a retirement ceremony at the Arizona State Rally. All members of the Ancient and Beneficent Order of the Garden Angel Society who were in attendance at the rally were invited by the Region Director to attend the special "retirement ceremony" for Angelina.

The Grand High Mocus, Jim Wood, agreed that she should be allowed to retire near a private burial place in Colorado. She will watch over the site where the parents of Mary Alice Carlson's parents are interned.

After several years of traveling with members of Region VII Holiday Rambler Club members, Angelina will be taken to her final place of honor by the Carlson's. The membership was assured by Mary Alice it would be the perfect spot for Angelina to remain while another Garden Angel assumes her role.

Replacing Angelina is her long lasting understudy, Angelita. Also in the possession of the Carlson's, Angelita will travel to Massachusetts for a visit to their grand children before she will be passed on to the next unsuspecting HR recipient.

It is expected that Angelita will continue the tradition of traveling from member to member, arriving in a most unusual manner at a time and place of a most unsuspecting member from Region VII. Be vigilant and be wary! Angelita will continue to broaden the membership of the Garden Angel Society. When she arrives, give her the care and support that was awarded her predecessor, Angelina. Enjoy her while she is in your care and then watch the reaction of the next member who receives her.

We've All Had A Similar Experience.

While it may not have been on an airline, we've all had similar experiences when we've traveled along some of America's highways. Heard on Southwest Airlines just after a very hard landing in Salt Lake City, the flight attendant clicked on the intercom and said, 'That was quite a bump, and I know what y'all are thinking.

I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault; it wasn't the pilot's fault; it wasn't the flight attendant's fault. It was the asphalt!

It's Been Fun

As has been reported in earlier editions, this editor will be leaving the job with the December edition of the *Cactus Patch Dispatch*. It has been great fun! Thank you!

Register Now for the Western Sunshine Rally!

If you register before 1 December 2009, you have one night of free early parking at the Western Sunshine Rally on February 1. See you there!

December Birthdays

3 December	Carolyn Ellis
26 December	Konrad Scheels

Tentative 2010 Chapter 81 Campout Schedule

Jan:	Isleta Casino Campground
Feb:	Western Sunshine Rally
Mar:	Usery Regional, Mesa, AZ
Apr:	Mimbres with Chapter 433
May:	Cochiti Lake recruiting campout
June 20-25	State Rally, Golden Eagle RV Park, Eagle Nests, NM (20 is early parking; 25 departure)
July:	International in Perry, GA
Aug:	Quemado Polo Matches
Sept:	Percha State Park with Chapter 433
Oct:	Region VII, Mesa, AZ
Nov:	Breakfast Business Meeting
Dec:	Holiday Party

The above schedule was provided as a first, working list and was used at a meeting in November in which a more firm schedule was developed.

The final list is being compiled as this issue of the *Cactus Patch Dispatch* is being completed and distributed.

It wasn't the driver; it was the asphalt!