



Good Sam Club

SOONER NEWS

July 1, 2015

Dear Oklahoma Good Sam Club Chapter Members,

Well, it's summer time in Oklahoma and I hope all of you are doing well and staying cool or dry as the case may be. We have certainly had our share of extreme weather so far this year. Here's hoping that you did not have any damage due to the flooding. I'm pleased to see by reading your chapter minutes and newsletters that the weather has not deterred you from enjoying your chapter campouts and get-togethers.

NAME CHANGE

This year will be the last time we will be using the term Samboree. Starting in 2016, our Samboree will be called a State RV Rally. This Good Sam Club name change is effective for all states and providences. This name change is for the term Samboree only. The Good Sam Club name remains the same. But, as the old saying goes, "it is hard to teach an old dog new tricks" so if you hear me using the term Samboree in 2016, please don't hesitate to remind me of the new terminology.

SAMBOREE (hey it's not 2016 yet) 😊

Our 2015 Samboree will be held October 8 – 11 at the Expo Center in Shawnee, OK, with early bird parking beginning on Sunday, October 4th. Please visit our website at oklahomagoodsams.com to download a registration form. The theme this year is "Let Freedom Ring" and will be a tribute to our veterans. If you have any veteran pictures or memorabilia that you would like to share, please bring it with you to display on our veteran's table. We will also be having a special veteran's parade and encourage all veterans to participate. Details and sign up will be available at the veteran's table. A tentative program will be available on the website in September. New this year will be a display of towable and towing vehicles.

STATE COMMITTEE MEETING

Our State Committee Meeting will be held on Saturday morning, October 10th, at 10:00 a.m. If you have any items that you would like to place on the agenda for the committee meeting, please call or email me by August 15, 2015.

STATE TREASURER

Gary Tidball, our State Treasurer, is seeking reelection to this position for the term of 2016-2017. The deadline for nominations was June 30, 2015 and I have received no additional nominees for the office of State Treasurer. Therefore, there will be a simple majority vote at the committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

Director's proposal to increase state dues from \$3 per year to \$5 per year beginning in 2016. At this time, the Oklahoma state dues are \$3 per chapter membership. The \$3 state dues amount has been in effect since 1998, 17 years ago. At that time, I'm sure it was adequate to support the Oklahoma Good Sam Club. However, 17 years later, this amount is no longer sufficient to support our organization. Along with the increased cost of goods and services over the past 17 years, we are also experiencing an increase in the camping site fees at the Expo Center beginning this year.

Oklahoma currently has the lowest state dues in the South Region. This increase would keep us in line with the other South Region states whose yearly state dues are \$5 - \$10. I am asking for your support to raise the yearly state dues from \$3 to \$5. We will continue to do everything possible to secure business donations and sponsorships to defray expenses, but, although this is not an easy request to make, I feel it is absolutely necessary to remain a solvent organization.

GOOD SAM EVENT

In June 2015, Oklahoma held its first ever Good Sam event, Good Sam Day, at Cedar Oaks RV Park in Grove, OK. This was held in conjunction with the campground's semi-annual music festival. Even though the event program is still in its infancy in Oklahoma, Good Sam Day was approached with a great deal of enthusiasm. It had been raining non-stop for days but the day of the event dawned sunny and bright. Tables were set up, grills heated and we were ready to go. A hot dog lunch was provided to the entire campground courtesy of the International Good Sam Club. We were privileged to have the South Region Directors, Don and Helen Woodard, the NE area ASD, David and Mary Lou Stroup, the Metro ASD, Dennis and Sandy Wishon, and the Scissortail Sams chapter members who came and helped out. Much time was spent by all with the attendees, providing complementary memberships if they weren't a Good Sam Member and telling those that were already members about our Oklahoma Good Sam Club chapters. Again, thanks to all of you that helped put on this event. We couldn't have done it without your help.

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

If you haven't looked at your Highways magazine yet, please take a minute to read about our own Oklahoma chapter, Will Rogers Sams, who won the International Good Sam Club Chapter of the Year award. There is a really nice article with accompanying pictures describing their much deserved award. If your chapter has not yet participated in the scrapbook/chapter of the year competition or just want to hone your scrapbook presentations, please be sure to attend the "Tips on how to become Chapter of the Year" seminar at the Samboree.

Susan

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Happiness is the journey, not the destination

