

LA VOZ

April already, don't know where March went. Stan and I are still not home. We have been gone since mid March.

The State Committee Meeting was the 18th of March. Many issues were discussed. The Committee decided to keep the trailer. Stan and I purchased permanent registration tags – about \$250.

State positions were finalized. Larry and Diane Eakin decided to remain as Wagonmasters. Rene Embres is the Assistant Director for the Central Region. That region included M. Mtn. Sam, Zia Roamers, Manzanita Sam and East Mtn. Sunchasers. Chuck Culpepper is the Assistant Director for the Northwest Region. That region included 3 River Sam, Rio Rancho Sam and New Mexico Computer Sam. Herb and Karen Deppe are the Assistant Directors for the Southwest Region. That region included Dona Ana Peppers, Los Paisanos and Mesilla Valley. Fran Bannon will remain Assistant Director for the Southeast region. That region includes Bulldog Sam and Los Sombreros. If you need anything or have questions you can contact your Assistant Director or me.

We talked about the electronic equipment that was in the trailer. We had the equipment checked and the majority of the equipment does not work for a variety of reasons. The Committee decided that the equipment would be brought to the State Rally in September 2017 and a one time sale would take place. If the equipment is not sold, it will be taken to Goodwill. I don't have a complete list of items with me, but I know there are 3 printers, one laptop, speakers, microphones, and amplifiers.

We discussed the charity – Dogs for the Deaf. This has been the state charity for many years, but only one dog has been provided to a New Mexico family. A decision was made to collect ½ of the Bingo money and ½ of the 50/50 money at the State Rally and give it to an active Good Sam State Chapter. The Chapter name will be drawn from a 'hat' and the money will be given to that Chapter. The Chapter can donate the money to the charity of their choice.

A decision was made to keep the Gazette. Each Chapter President agreed to provide an article for the Gazette by April 1st, 2017. Unfortunately, I have learned today that only 3 of our 12 Chapters have provided an article. I will send another reminder out to the Presidents this month. If I do not get the response we need for the Gazette, I will make a decision to not print a Gazette. Preparing a short article about your Chapters annual events shouldn't take long. Please, let's keep this Gazette in print.

The uniforms were changed. Instead of the red shirts, white pants, white hats, red shoes and white vests – we have changed to red polo shirts with the Good Sam logo on the left front. That will go with black pants for dress uniform and blue jeans for other occasions.

I am asking for Chapter members that have passed since September 2015 through July 31st, 2017. The deadline for that information is August 1st, 2017. That information will be used at the State Rally Memorial.

I also brought up volunteers for the 2018 State Rally and someone to volunteer for State Director for 2019. There are many benefits being a State Director but won't go into the detail here. Contact me if you are interested.

March was the Passport America campout. We left on March 24th and the campout lasted until April 1. The events were about the same as our events at our State Rally. We met lots of folks from all over. We played Bean Bag Toss and won 1st place. We also played horseshoes but only placed 3rd. Reyna was in the Pet Parade and took 1st for best kisser. If you know Reyna, you know she loves to kiss. She was a shoe-in for that category. We all won ribbons, it was quite the event. Their dinners were great. One night was pulled pork and the other night was rib eye steak. So much food – much was given away each night. They had a great ice cream social but bought too much ice cream. They ended up tossing 6 gallons of ice cream. No freezers at the facility.

We are headed to the Arizona State Rally then the Nevada State Rally. See you all soon.

Janice and Stan