



Bordertown Sams

El Paso Texas Good Sam Chapter

March 2017 Newsletter

Camping is the answer. Who cares what the question is!

Website: bordertownsams.weebly.com

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Texas Good Sam Chapter Standard Operating Procedure: Article I - It is the purpose of the TEXAS GOOD SAM CHAPTERS to promote the use and enjoyment of recreational vehicles and outdoor fellowship among its members through trips and group activities. The State Organization shall maintain an attitude which is strictly non-sectarian, non-partisan, non-sectional, non-racial, non-denominational and non-discriminatory, and shall be dedicated to bringing together people interested in the ideals and principals of the Good Sam Club.



Mar 5 Jay
Mar 5 Dalena
Mar 6 Edgar
Mar 9 Jeff
Mar 20 Ginny
Mar 27 Greg



March Anniversaries

No anniversaries

Lost Alaskan RV Resort

Alpine, TX – February 2017



We had 9 rigs in attendance for the rally at Lost Alaskan RV Park in Alpine. The Mattingly's convoyed with the Becks, but we met up with Victor and Melinda in Van Horn. Highway 90 on the way to Alpine has a lot of work being done, and it slowed the travel time considerably. After arriving in Alpine, we found the Briseño and Rodriguez families already there. Later that evening, Jay & Greg, the Beaulieus, and the Browns along with their guests (the Simmons') arrived and we had our Friday soup & sandwiches together. After dinner, we were treated to an opera song by Jocelyn Rodriguez in Latin. She has such an amazing voice and it was a delight to hear her sing. Jay got some of us together to play a card game (Cards Against Humanity).

We were going to make reservations the following day to visit the McDonald Observatory for the evening star gazing. However, I was informed that the event was full, and reservations had to be made months in advance. Instead, some of our group went to the Museum of the Big Bend, and to Ft. Davis.

That evening, we got together for a pot luck dinner. As usual, there was plenty of food and we followed the tradition of allowing the guests, Ernie & Penny Simmons, to go first. Melinda & Victor dressed up the club room in a Valentine theme to give us a celebration feeling. Barbara Mattingly brought enough Valentine heart shaped candies for everyone. That was very thoughtful of her, thank you Barbara!

The following day, the Rodriguez family and the Becks decided to take trip to Big Bend, while the rest of the group stayed in the park. Tim and Ginny had to head back to El Paso as they didn't have Presidents' Day off. Susanna Beck had an app on her phone that informed us of all the places to visit while in Big Bend. We stopped at the Fossil Museum and were amazed at the number of dinosaur fossils that had been recovered in this area. We also went to a lookout point where you can see the Rio Grande plus a small Mexican village on the other side. You can leave your vehicle at the crossing and they will row you to the Mexican side if you want to visit the village. However, you need a passport to return to the United States. We finally made it to the Lodge inside Big Bend and each had a nice meal. Outside of the lodge the surrounding view is spectacular. We did locate a full hook up RV campground, but reservations have to be made months in advance. There is also a large campground for dry camping.

Monday morning, we got together for coffee and donuts and agreed that it had been a good weekend. Afterwards, everyone headed home.



That's a fine looking soldier there, Jocelyn!



Tim and Jocelyn sending a telegram



Goofing around and taking a selfie with Fort Davis in the background.



A stunning view



The hat style during the time of Fort Davis.

The Black Regulars—Buffalo Soldiers

A Congressional act in 1866 established the size of the Regular Army and required that six of the new regiments—two cavalry and four infantry—would be “composed of colored men.” The Act created the 9th and 10th U.S. Cavalry regiments and the 38th, 39th, 40th, and 41st U.S. Infantry regiments.

In 1869, the four infantry units were reorganized into the 24th and 25th U.S. Infantry regiments. The soldiers of these cavalry and infantry regiments would later be known as “Buffalo Soldiers,” and they served throughout the American west.



For African-American soldiers, service in the army offered a chance for education, training, and improved social and economic opportunities. Soldiers of all races performed the same duties for the same pay.



1877 U.S. Infantry Co. B, at Fort Huachuca, Arizona Territory, ca. 1868. Photographed by Benjamin L. O'Neil.



Weapons of choice



Buffalo Soldiers of Fort Davis



What's the funny message you're sending, Tim?



Victor and Melinda strolling through the barracks. Check out the metal horse.



An ancient tree. Are you all trying to count the rings?

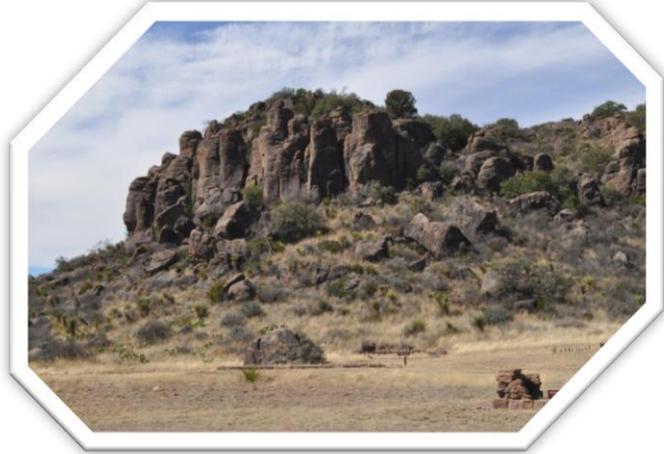


Too bad we couldn't sit on this. It would have made for some good pictures.





The old Commissary at Fort Davis – with a note from the Commissary Officer about the rusted shipment of sardines. Ugh!



Breathtaking view of the mountain with the fort ruins in the front.



Officer quarters

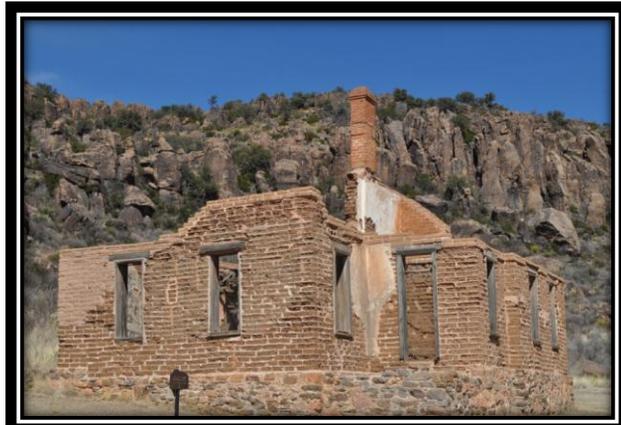


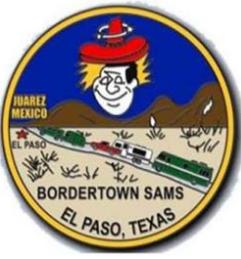
The breezeway at the hospital.

The "All-Purpose" building – chapel, ballroom....



Officer housing





Bordertown Sams 2017

Outing Destinations

January	13-16	Benson, AZ (280 miles)	Butterfield RV Resort 800-863-8160 520-58604400	
February	17-20	Alpine, TX (213 miles)	Lost Alaskan RV Park 432-837-1136	
March	1-12	Alamogordo, NM (112 miles)	Boot Hill RV 575-439-6224	Cancelled
April	21-23	Las Cruces, NM (45 miles)	Sunny Acres RV Park 575-524-1716	
May	26-29*	Silver City, NM – Blues Festival (160 miles)	Manzano's RV Park 575-538-0918 (NO CREDIT CARDS)	
June	16-18	Ruidoso, NM (143 miles)	RV Resorts of Ruidoso (top level) 575-257-2600	
July	1 – 5	Chama, NM (444 miles)	Sky Mountain Resort 575-756-1100	
August	10-13*	Cloudcroft, NM (112 miles)	Upper Fir Reservations are already made – we reimburse Victor and Jerry	
September	1-4	Grants, NM (331 miles)	Bar S RV Park 505-876-6002	
October	6-9*	Fredericksburg, TX (491 miles) Oktoberfest	Fredericksburg RV Park 830-990-9582 866-324-7575	
November	3-5 (date change)	Las Cruces, NM (55 miles) (probably Hacienda)	Hacienda RV & Rally Resort 575-528-5800	
December	1-3 or 8-10	Tabled until January meeting	Edgar is checking into White Sands	

* These dates are for specific events and cannot be changed.