



Southwest Bonanza Society



December 2017 Newsletter



SWBS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Pecan Plantation, Dec. 1–3 2017

by

John Whitehead



In recent times, when a Saturday/Sunday fly-in is planned, the host finds demand for a gathering of members on Friday. Seems Saturday/Sunday just isn't enough. And that's a good thing. It speaks to the friendships created over time and the desire to renew at the first opportunity. Such was the case with the weekend Pecan Plantation Christmas event. In fact, it was only a few days after initial planning that Friday was added to accommodate a few that became more than "a few" quickly. Of course, that's perfectly fine because getting together is what we're about.



The success of any weekend fly-in is always tied to the weather since we're flyers. The weather at the Pecan event couldn't have been much better. Beautiful skies and mild temps. I ordered that. You're welcome. OK, OK ... maybe I just asked for it and because I've been a good boy, the weather Gods obliged. OK ... maybe that's not it either but the weather was indeed great which certainly enhanced our gathering. I tried to take credit but my voice was drowned out by the "Boo" overtone coming from the attendees.

Thanks to Sam Butler at Pecan, our weekend home base was the EAA hangar which Sam owns. Members slowly arrived throughout the afternoon Friday, parking at the transient grass ramp adjacent to the EAA hangar. By dinner time, with greeting hugs complete, all were catching up on each other's lives and anticipating a great

dinner. And we weren't disappointed. Konnie Sasser had arranged for Joe's Pasta House to bring in their signature item, lasagna. Oh Lawdy that was soooo good.



Lunch in the EAA hangar

Saturday saw the remainder of the attendees arrive. With the normal weekend traffic at Pecan and SWBS arrivals, it was a regular airshow throughout the day. We watched the airplanes come and go, occasionally holding up a landing score card where appropriate. All right, maybe that was just me.

Lunch was a near disaster. The local Pecan bistro was to serve lunch in the hangar at noon. That assumes setting up about 11:45a but that time came and went and no caterer. Konnie started calling. They mostly just didn't answer their phone but occasionally they answered and said the driver was "on the way". They finally showed at 1pm. Konnie was given a Valium and all was well the rest of the afternoon.



The lasagna

Around 5:50p we again gathered, this time at the Pecan clubhouse where a beautifully decorated room was our evening venue. And it came with a full bar and bartender. What could go wrong. The D.J. Played slow music to get everyone limbered up for later in the evening when he turned it up a notch or two (or three). Konnie had cleverly arranged for everyone to pick up their name card to be placed at their seat, complete with a little icon showing what that person ordered. Service went smoothly as a result. The food was excellent!



Pecan Plantation Club House

After dinner the D.J. cranked it up a bit. The dancers took to the floor, but when the D.J. cranked it up yet again, I couldn't help but notice that the men fell to the side while several of the ladies got out there and "cut a rug". Is that still a term? Well, whatever you call it those ladies were rockin and rollin. Did I mention there was a cash bar. I worried at times as they would drop down low to the floor while doing the boogie but to my delight they were able to come back up although not as fast as they went down. Nobody felt the need to call 911 so I guess all went well. Well, maybe not. Sunday morning saw a few folks walking slower and sitting a lot. I think I smelled Ben Gay.



Glenn & Bonnie cutting a rug!!

While the Sunday departure weather was wonderful at Pecan, many of our south Texas members had to sit awhile, waiting for weather to improve at home. Slowly, the airplanes cranked up and took off while the remaining few watched from the hangar. It was understood that we needed to leave the borrowed hangar the way we found it. Everyone chipped in and folded tables, put away chairs, emptied the garbage and swept the floor. What a great group of people.

I took a few minutes at the banquet to thank those responsible for choreographing this event so I won't repeat that here other than to say that those

living at Pecan came out in force and said, "Put me in coach". We all owe a debt to those Pecan folks for making this event a success.



Shirley Roberts

Addendum: We have several members that have held an important position for more than just a year or two. I mentioned them but my feeble brain failed to mention Shirley Roberts. Shirley has held different positions over time but she has continued to be our Treasurer for quite a while now. She never complains ... she just does what is needed. That goes beyond just writing a check every now and then. She takes her job seriously. She has to acquire receipts and accounting for all financial matters pertaining to the SWBS. After all, she's the caretaker of "other people's money" ... your money. Thank you Shirley. 😊



John Whitehead the MC



Lorrie Guley filling in for Cam



Ladies at the EAA Hangar



Joe, Sceptra, Wayne, Jim, Ron, Ray, Joe



John on the bullhorn



Pete, Stephen, Joe, setting up the drone



Konnie, John, Sue, Joe at the EAA Hangar



Ginny, Jeanne, Nina at the Country Club



Ginny & Pete Peleberg



Nina & Boyd Proctor



Stephen & Jeanne Ballard



Shirley Roberts, Joe & Konnie Sasser



John Kleber & Annette Worthington



Aileen & Carlos Acosta



Wanda Green, Nina Proctor



Cathy & Ron Bindas



Marcia & Ed Livermore, Doug Green



Jim Crain, Brenda & Bill Smith



Jon Taylor, Sharon & Marty King



BJ Whitehead, Anna Bradley, Lorrie Gulley



Sue Lewis, Bonnie Beavers, Lorrie Gulley



Pat Casey, Kathy Burris, Nina Proctor



Ginny, Aileen, Meredith Sue, Bonnie, Nina, Nancy



Rich & Nancy Faust



John & Elizabeth Hawley



Pete, Boyd, Stephen, Jeanne, Glenn, Jim



Dianne Cathy, Meredith Lessley



Joe Cathey, Ron Lessley



Nancy Faust, Anne Parrish



Sceptra & Wayne Lohmeyer, Anita & Mike Watson



Glenda Norcutt & BJ Whitehead



Glenda, Peggy, Catherine, Connie



Meredith, Nina, Jeanne, Dianne, Sue



Nina, Meredith, Jeanne, Dianne, Sue, Nancy, Ginny



Jeanne Ballard



Dianne, Sue, Nancy, Ginny



Nina, Meredith, Jeanne, Dianne, Sue, Nancy, Ginny



John Whitehead



Boyd Proctor & Glenn Beavers



Bill Smith & Stephen Ballard



Jim Davis, Marty & Sharon King, Ron Bindas



Dick Keyt & Michelle Sonier



Jeanne, Nina, Ginny, Konnie, BJ



Ginny & Pete Peleberg



Chuck & Karen Fronce



Stephen & Jeanne Ballard



Shirley Roberts



Joe & Konnie Sasser



Shirley Roberts, Joe & Konnie Sasser



Rich & Nancy Faust



John Kleber & Annette Worthington



Wayne Collins



Meredith & Ron Lessley



John & BJ Whitehead



Lorrie Gulley, Anna Bradley



Aileen & Carlos Acosta



Wayne Collins, Anne & Mike Parrish



Suz & John McComas



Sue Lewis



Catherine & Ron Bindas



Sue & Ray Lewis



Scepra Lohmeyer, Doug & Wanda Green,



Robert Macaluso & Sandra



Lorrie Gulley, Kacie Taylor



Jeanne & Stephen Ballard



Mary & Mike Kirk



Jon & Kacie Taylor



Pete & Ginny Peleberg



Sue Lewis, Bonnie Beavers, Lorrie Gulley



Kathy & Jay Burris



Nina & Boyd Proctor



Bonnie & Glenn Beavers



Monty Lewis our DJ



Carlos cutting a rug



Bonnie Beavers, Pat Casey, Kacie Taylor



Ginny & Pete Peleberg



Sue Lewis with Claudette & Monty Lewis



Bonnie & Glenn on the dance floor



Kay & Jim Crain, Claudette Lewis



Nina & Bill cutting a rug



BJ Whitehead, Peggy Davis



Catherine & Ron Bindas



Wayne Collins has all the luck!!



Nina & Boyd Proctor



Catherine, Anne, Peggy, Bonnie



Jeanne & Stephen Ballard



Jon, Ray, Ron, Ron



Ginny, Konnie, Nina, Dianne, Glenda



Dianne & Joe Cathey



Catherine, Jon, Sharon



Kathy & Jay Burris flying home in their Baron



Ron & Pat Casey



SWBS Christmas Party Fly In, Pecan Plantation, Dec. 2, 2017



Parking Pecan Plantation, Christmas Fly In, Dec. 2, 2017

(courtesy Pete's drone)



John getting the members together for a group photo—similar to herding cats

PREZ SEZ

The Christmas season is in full swing and it's hard to believe that another year is nearly in the books.

Thank you to all those who helped make our Christmas celebration event at Pecan Plantation such a success. There were many who pitched in but the **Sasser's**, **Lewis'** and **Whitehead's** deserve a big "thank you" for a job well done in planning and coordinating the event. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend but Lorrie and a friend of hers stood in my place quite well from what I've been told.

Life has a way of throwing curve-balls when you least expect it. One was thrown my way on November 16th when I lost my balance and fell off the back of a golf cart at the airport here in Eastland while being driven to our hangar. The result was a severe concussion and total memory loss of that night from the blow I sustained to the back of my head. The ensuing recovery precluded my attendance at Pecan Plantation. Providence and God's hand watched over me because doctors say it's a miracle that it was not a life-altering event.

Wayne and Sceptra Lohmeyer will be hosting our next event on February 23-24, 2018 at the West Houston Airport. It will be an ABS BPPP weekend event and shuttle service will be provided from the Wyndam Hotel. Detailed plans of the event can be found on the ABS website and will be coming soon to our membership in the next couple of weeks.

We all have much for which to be thankful as we spend time with friends and family this holiday season. I am thankful for the many friends that we have from our association with the SWBS.

Godspeed as you travel this holiday season and here's wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year!

Safe flying,

Cam Gulley, president
Southwest Bonanza Society

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Future Fly Ins

Feb., 23-24, 2018. BPPP weekend clinic hosted by Wayne Lohmeyer. It will be at the West Houston Airport (KIWS). Here is the tentative plan (formal information will be forthcoming once Wayne finalizes it all):

Friday, February 23

Afternoon arrivals - Shuttle from Wyndham can pick-up as well as return and drop off participants that want to get checked in and cleaned up before party

6:00 - 9:00 PM - Hospitality party at West Houston Airport - Heavy Hors d'oeuvres and variety of beverages

Saturday, February 24

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM - BPPP Live @ West Houston Airport

6:00 - 8:00 PM - Dinner at Wyndham Hotel

PHOTO CREDITS

Thanks to Pete Peleberg, Sue Lewis, Ray Lewis, Catherine Bindas, Jay Burris, Konnie Sasser and Boyd Proctor for all the nice photos.



THAT'S ALL FOLKS

