



Southwest Bonanza Society

September 2019 Newsletter

SWBS MEMPHIS FLY IN

September 6-8, 2019

by
Mike & Anita Watson



The fly in started at General Dewitt Spain airfield just a few miles north of downtown Memphis, Tennessee.

Anita and I arrived on Thursday on American Airlines as we had sold our F33 and had not finalized the purchase of its' replacement. As the hosts of this big fly in, it was a somewhat disappointing way to begin the event – with NO PLANE! So, we put the extra night to use by shopping and gathering items to include in goodie bags the attendees receive upon arrival. Everyone needs snacks but the best goodie bag item was a red scarf that was each signed by Elvis Presley, himself! {wink}

The first to arrive were Ray and Sue Lewis, followed closely by Joe and Konnie Sasser. Guests trickled in throughout the rest of the day and we made numerous trips to three hotels where the guests could settle in before beginning the activities. Most of the attendees chose to stay at the recommended Big Cypress Lodge inside the pyramid of the Bass Pro shop and were truly impressed with the entire package of activities, shopping and lodging they offered.

After everyone arrived and got settled, we were off to the Peabody Hotel to watch the famous ducks make their red-carpet waddle from the lobby fountain into the elevators headed for their rooftop home. The ducks have been doing this since the 1930's when this tradition began – albeit – not the same ducks.



The Peabody ducks

After the duck walk, we walked across the street to the Rendezvous Restaurant for some good old Memphis style barbeque.

Anita created a quiz on Elvis for dinner guests to take while we waited for our food. All cell phones were required to be face down in front so no one could cheat! (Not that any of our good standing SWBS members would EVER think of doing that..) Joe Sasser must be a huge Elvis fan as he had the most correct answers and Bill Keller came in a close second.



Konnie & Joe at the Rendezvous Restaurant

On Saturday, we were off to visit Graceland and get an inside peek at Elvis' personal life and his favorite place in the world, his home.



This was followed by a tour of two airplanes he owned. One was a 1958 Conair 880 named "The Lisa-Marie" after his daughter.



Conair 880

The other was a Lockheed Jetstar named "Hound Dog II".



Lockheed Jetstar

To walk inside the airplanes, we were forced to walk through a gift shop. That is where Boyd lost Nina who was thoughtfully selecting souvenirs for those back home.

We got back to the hotel for a late lunch and viewing of Mudd Island and downtown Memphis from the restaurant at the top of the pyramid.

Everyone had the rest of the afternoon off before it was time to put on the fancy duds and dancing shoes to head to the Memphis Queen for a dinner and dancing cruise down the mighty Mississippi.



Bridge across the Mississippi

The Southwest group was the hit of the boat and tearing up the dance floor to some good ole Memphis Blues and Jazz music.



On the Memphis Queen

Sunday morning was a sad reminder that our stay here was coming to an end. Time to say good bye to our friends and start that trip home to wait for the next Southwest Bonanza adventure. *****



Bill & Brenda Smith, Jay & Kathy Burris with mother Jane Kellogg



Jim, Boyd, Peggy, Lisa, Bonnie on steps to the Convair 880



Sharon, Nina, Konnie, Joe, Peggy, Jim, Ray



On the bus to Graceland



Boyd & Nina Proctor



Marty King & Sharon Davis



Bill & Brenda Smith



Rich & Nancy Faust



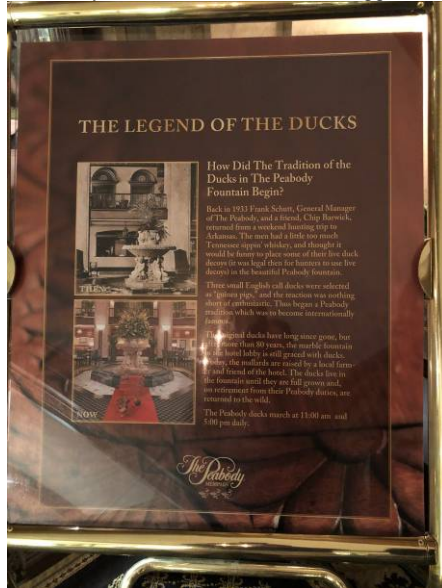
Kathy & Jay Burris



Jane Kellogg & Jay Burris



Jay Burris & Mother Jane Kellogg



The Legend of the Ducks



Konnie, Bonnie, Anita



Nina Proctor & Sue Lewis



Boyd Proctor & Robert Macaluso



Rich Faust & Bill Keller



Bill Keller & Kathy Burris



On the bus to Graceland



Nina, Konnie, Joe, Peggy, Jim, Ray



Dinner at the Rendezvous



Anita and Mike Watson at Graceland



Michael Yousik & Karen Sparks



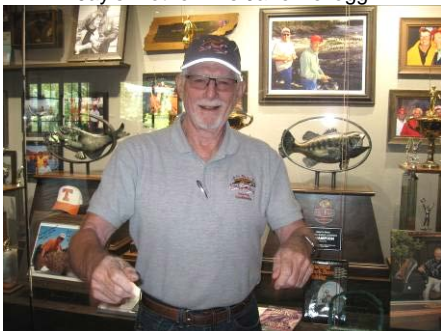
Marty King & Nina Proctor hotel lobby



Jim Davis hotel lobby



Jay's mother Mrs Jane Kellogg



Ray Lewis hotel lobby



Jim & Lisa Clement hotel lobby



Glenn & Bonnie Beavers



Marty King & Sharon Davis



Konnie & Joe Sasser Rendezvous



Brenda Smith & Bill Keller



Bill & Brenda Smith Rendezvous



Nancy & Rich Faust Rendezvous Restaurant



Anita Watson & Jane Kellogg



Mike & Anita Watson Rendezvous



Kathy & Jay Burris Rendezvous



Jim & Lisa Clement Rendezvous



Sandra Simmons & Robert Macaluso

The following SWBS Group picture will not let me post or write anything else on the page. That's why it is alone here.



SWBS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

August 17, 2019

by
Mike & Anita Watson



“Wanna host a pancake breakfast? It will be easy!” Mike Watson asked of his wife, Anita. He added that the local EAA chapter had the hangar space, tables, chairs and volunteers to make this an easy peesy event. After all, Dick Keyt had volunteered to cook the pancakes on his wonderful “Pancake in the round” grill that he had personally created. This grill did not only cook the pancakes, but also entertained the guests as they watched Dick’s process. It was truly an amazing thing to watch and the pancakes turned out perfectly. Of course, this relied on a better batter which needed to be perfectly mixed. Analise Bennett was the wonderful EAA volunteer to manage that daunting task, which she did with a smile. We also had another EAA volunteer, Steve Bloomquist, taking care of last-minute shopping details while also cooking and serving at the sausage station.



Mike had mentioned earlier that he only expected about 20 – 25 people to attend. Knowing the key responsibilities were already managed, it did sound simple enough and Anita agreed. Then all the details began to roll in as the event became closer.

After breakfast, there were personal hangar tours of Dick Keyt, John McComas, and Bob Newton’s hangar. If that didn’t hold your interest, they offered a trip to Granbury Square to shop, eat, or simply walk about the wonderful town square.

Then late news of nearly 60 attendees threw Anita and Mike into panic as they considered the logistics of transporting everyone to their desired locations. After all, people were flying in so they needed vehicles and golf carts for this large group.



Being their first event to host, Mike and Anita relied heavily on their incredible neighbors, Konnie and Joe Sasser to lend a hand. They all got on the phone and began calling for volunteer drivers and/or loaner golf carts. Pecan Plantation has so many wonderful residents who pulled together to assist with whatever need arose that day to help make this event run smoothly. The seasoned volunteers needed no instruction. When they saw a need, they were all willing to just jump in and do it! “We are so grateful to all of the volunteers that showed up that day. Anita and I are just learning the ropes around here and could not have done it all without their help”, Mike Watson said.

The final attendance count was 56 people. *****

PREZ SEZ

The past 4 months have flown by and it seems impossible that the SWBS Christmas event is just around the corner. We have had 3 very successful events so far this year and the Christmas party is sure to be the icing on the cake. Many thanks go out to all the members who helped make these events memorable for all who attended.

Tulahoma is quickly approaching October 10-13. Hope to see many of our members there with name tags on to promote our great group. We have added new members to our organization every month this year. We are working on a welcome letter to each new member to talk about our mission statement and the fun events we have planned for the future. We are also working with ABS in increasing our membership by inviting new ABS members from our region to join us. Those letters will start going out in October on a monthly basis.

I encourage you all to join us for the Christmas celebration in League City December 6-8. Nancy Faust and Kathy Burris have planned a wonderful event with something for everyone. Our dinner on Friday evening is at T-Bone Tom's which was featured on Diners, Drive-ins & Dives on the Food Channel. Saturday is filled with the Kemah Boardwalk, Haak Winery tour and the big event our Christmas dinner. If you can not be with us all 3 days consider joining us for dinner on the 7th. All the information for the party is on the website.

Our Southwest Bonanza Society is one of the warmest and caring groups of people we have ever had the pleasure to spend time with. It is a fantastic group of people with one thing in common, our aircraft, but such a diverse group of talented people. Thank you all for making our organization such an enjoyable experience.

Jim & I look forward to seeing you at one of our future events.

Fly Safe,
Lisa Clement, President
Southwest Bonanza Society



Brenda, Peggy, Jim, Glenn



Elvis's Tomb



Beale Street



Robert preparing to jump ship

SWBS 2019 Christmas Party, League City, TX

When: December 06, 2019 , CST

Where: 2500 South Shore Blvd League City, TX 77573

Merry Christmas! This rather lengthy message describes this year's Christmas party, how to register, and how to book a room at the event venue, the South Shore Harbour Resort and Convention Center in League City, TX.

Please take the time to read the full notice to familiarize yourself with all the details before attempting to register. If you still have questions, please contact event hostess Nancy Faust at 832.202.4180 or faustns@fastspot.net.

Hope to see you there!

Will you be attending?

[Register](#)

[Not attending](#)

EVENT DETAILS:



See below for our fun filled itinerary...

Friday we will fly into [Signature Flight Support](#) at [Ellington Field \(EFD\)](#) on Friday, Dec 6th. Please plan to arrive between 10:30-11:30 a.m. While waiting for all to arrive we have access to the Conference Room deck to watch others flying in.

There is normally a daily ramp fee at Signature Flight Support, but SWBS will be getting a nice discount: \$30 for the entire stay with the purchase of fuel. We will also get a \$.50/gal discount off the retail price for avgas purchases over the weekend.

After everyone has arrived, we'll take a short van ride on the Ellington Airport property and then enjoy a boxed lunch and tour of the [Lone Star Flight Museum](#).

Mid-afternoon the vans will take us to the beautiful [South](#)

[Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center](#) to check into our rooms. Relax in the Marina Conference Parlour (our hospitality suite) until we leave at 4:40 p.m. for dinner at [T-Bone Tom's in Kemah](#). We will order from the menu and pay individually.

Saturday breakfast on your own in your room or the [Paradise Reef Restaurant](#) in the hotel.

We will go to the [Kemah Boardwalk](#) at 10 a.m. to explore the stores and sights on your own and pick one of many restaurants for lunch.

Then off to the [Haak Winery](#) at 1:00 p.m. in Santa Fe

Return to the hotel around 4:30 p.m. for our 6:30 p.m. Christmas dinner in the Harbour View Room with a cash bar.

We have a block of rooms under Southwest Bonanza Society for \$129 each night. Here is the link to book a room at South Shore Harbour Resort & Conference Center: [SOUTHWESTBONANZA](#). (more detailed room reservation instructions are provided below)

We can add more rooms if needed. Contact Nancy Faust at faustns@fastspot.net if you try to register and find our block of rooms is full.

Sunday the vans will be taking people back to Ellington from 8:00-11:00 a.m.

We think we have planned a fun-filled weekend and hope you will join us. **Registration instructions for SWBS Christmas Party 2019**

The price to attend this event is **\$115 per person**. Please complete the registration process for **each** person attending by clicking the [\[REGISTER \]](#) link in the left column near the beginning of this page. The four (4) prepaid items listed below are included in the registration fee. You must choose menu options for Friday lunch sandwich and beverage, and Saturday dinner entrée for each registrant.

1. Lone Star Flight Museum admission

2. Lunch from OMG Sandwich Shop

Boxed lunch includes sandwich, drink, cookie. Pick one type of sandwich and one drink. Sandwich options are:

- Spicy Turkey – turkey, lettuce, tomatoes, cheddar cheese and chipotle mayo on Kaiser roll
- Italian – black forest ham, salami, pepperoni, roasted pepper relish and mayo on Kaiser roll.
- Ham and cheddar – lettuce, onions and tomatoes on Kaiser roll.
- Chicken Caesar Wrap – roasted chicken tossed with Romaine, Parmesan and Caesar dressing in spinach wrap.
- Chicken chipotle wrap – chicken, bacon, Monterrey Jack cheese, avocado, lettuce, tomato and onion with chipotle cream .
- Vegetarian sandwich/wrap - *we're still working on details for this sandwich.*

Drink choices:

- Coke
- Diet Coke
- Sprite
- Water

3. Santa Fe Haak Winery – tour and sampling.

4. Christmas dinner in the Harbour View Room - at South Shore Harbour Cash bar available.

- **Salad** - Baby Arugula, Mesculan and Frizze Lettuce with Orange Segments, Bermuda Onions & Shiitake Mushrooms with Creamy Maple Balsamic Dressing
- **Entrée** - Duet of Grilled Tenderloin of Beef with Stilton Bleu cheese and Grilled Shrimp with Lemon Grass Butter Sauce. Served with Starch and seasonal vegetable.
- **Desserts** – Decadent Individual Flourless Chocolate Trilogy Cake with Raspberry Chambord Sauce.

- **Vegetarian menu** - *we're still working on details for this option.*

TOTAL PER PERSON

\$115.00

Room Reservation Instructions

Directions to make a reservation at the South Shore Harbour Resort & Conference Center web site:

To make a room reservation click on this link:

[SOUTHWESTBONANZA](#)

Once at the reservation site click: **[SELECT & GO TO THE NEXT STEP]**

Select the dates. Check in is December 6 and check out is December 8.

At the bottom of the screen click: **[CONFIRM DATES OF STAY]**

Select your room and click: **[BOOK]**

On the right side of the screen select: **[ADD ROOM & CHECKOUT]**

Enter your billing information. Click on: **[COMPLETE RESERVATION]**

You should be all set!

If no rooms are available, please contact Nancy Faust at faustns@fastspot.net or call her at 832-202-4180.

Note: Please make your reservations on the website. The click on's do not work in the Newsletter.

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FUTURE FLY INS

Oct 10-12 Tullahoma Beech Party
Dec 6-8 Christmas Party League City, Tx

Photo Credits

Thanks to Konnie Sasser, Sue Lewis, Lisa Clement, Mike Watson, Jay Burris, and Boyd Proctor for all the nice fly in photos.



Nina & the Peabody Ducks



Watching show at Graceland



Chowing down at the Rendezvous Restaurant

That's All Folks