

SMART HOGS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2018

Our September muster began when we met at the Texarkana Sunrise RV Park in Texarkana, Arkansas. The next morning, we gathered for breakfast and headed down the road. It rained most of the way, finally stopping just before we arrived in Mineola, Texas. Monday, some went on a tour to the Dallas Arboretum, Botanical Garden and Bush Presidential library, to return to an informal dinner provided by the directors. Tuesday, provided a tour to the Tyler Rose Garden and a local boarding school with a historical military museum. We all had a lot of fun and took pictures of almost everything. Most everyone had arrived by Wednesday and the official muster began. Our chapter helped with the rummage sale, silent auction, book sale, food and kitchen help, first aid and blood pressures, even some cart driving for those walking. Donations of books and other items were provided by our chapter members. Tuesday night we met for a catered meal and Guest speaker. The speaker was a previous Sheriff, book author and motivational speaker, as well as a part time auctioneer. He had us laughing so hard our face hurt. We thoroughly enjoyed the night.

Wednesday provided us the opportunity to have our chapter meeting and a potluck dinner. We had two new couples join our chapter, Mike and Diane Hensley and Judy and Roy Hart. The Weiss donated a flag stand and flags, along with a POW/MIA flag with stand to our chapter. Will Pate (Mary Engels father) donated his book, "Pate's Fate" to our gift basket for the muster. Thank you to all our donors and volunteers. This couldn't happen without you all.

Thursday, we attended more seminars, shopped and had our social hour. The social hour and dinner were followed by DJ and Dancing with "The C". Music from the 50's, 60's and 70's. There are a lot of wonderful pictures of everyone dancing available on the SMARTS page. Friday, we attended luncheons and social hour. We all were present at the Flag Retirement ceremony. Jim Daugherty and Lisa Duckworth participated in the ceremony. Saturday, we gathered in the center of the inner circle of RV's for a photo taken by a drone. The word SMART was chalked on the ground, we stood three deep, and the drone took the aerial photos. The photos were available for purchase. This was the first time this type picture had been done since the eighties. Later we had the talent show, truly hysterical by the way.

We completed our week with Sunday services, followed by the closing ceremony. That night we had a delicious catered dinner and the final door prizes and drawings. It was a very busy week with lots of activities. Everyone agreed that this is the best muster we've attended so far. Monday, thankfully we left to sunny skies and good weather. For photos or videos go to smarterving.org., next years muster will be in Urbana, Virginia.

Our next muster is 8-13 November at NLR Riverside Park. Make your reservations and plan to be there.

Lisa Duckworth