

TEXAS FREEDOM STREAMERS RV CLUB RECAP OF OUR FREDERICKSBURG CHRISTMAS RALLY

Fredericksburg Rally November 29 to December 4, 2007. Twelve rigs attended and arrived at Lakewood RV Resort in Fredericksburg TX. The RV Park was close to all of our activities and was extremely nice. We had the pleasure of meeting and welcoming many first timers to our group, Keith & Arlene Jack, Jay & Danielle Sender, Fred & Pat Koritta, Philip & Marolyn Scott, and Robert & Anne Hymel became part of our RV family almost instantly. By the end of the rally we all felt they were old friends and looking forward to seeing them again soon at future events.

Thursday evening we started off the rally with our officers' meeting and members' meeting followed by a "potluck dinner." Brisket, pintos, potato salad and drinks were furnished by the club and everyone brought side dishes. Oh so good. Yummy, Yummy!!! We enjoyed the great meeting room and ate way too much and enjoyed sitting around catching up with everyone's news and visiting.

Friday morning we visited the Nimitz War Museum, which is perhaps one of the most widely recognized landmarks in Fredericksburg and is standing tall on East Main Street as part of the much-larger National Museum of the Pacific War complex. The newly-renovated structure features an 1880s ballroom and world-class exhibits, and it serves as the "front door" to the rest of the grounds, which also feature a memorial walk and courtyard, a Japanese Garden of Peace, the Plaza of the Presidents, the George Bush Gallery and the Pacific Combat Zone. The National Museum of the Pacific War is the only institution in the continental United States dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific Theater battles of World War II. This was a super experience. Then we went on to Kelly's Café for a really nice lunch. Afterwards, we had free time for shopping, etc. Some of us couldn't resist the chocolate store where the liquor-filled chocolates were superb. The Texas Freedom Eaters met at the award-winning Cotton Gin Restaurant for an unparalleled dining experience. The meals are prepared under the direction of recognized Executive Chef Ross Burtwell. The service staff was very "Texas friendly" and the architecture and atmosphere alone were worth the visit. Later it was the lighted Christmas Parade in downtown Fredericksburg. Great Parade but a little cold while we were watching it.

Saturday we had free time to enjoy the shops or rest a bit. We met for lunch at Honda's. Great Place, Great Texas Fun! Afterwards, we enjoyed Vereins Kirche Museum. The Gillespie County Historical Society owns and operates the Vereins Kirche Museum, located in the heart of Fredericksburg's Marktplatz. While the octagon-shaped building, built in 1847, was demolished in 1897 after being deemed unsafe, the townspeople built an exact replica in 1934. Subsequent to serving as a public library and Chamber of Commerce office, the Vereins Kirche now houses permanent exhibits about the history of Fredericksburg. Later we found out how many Texas Freedom Streamers it takes to fix a door lock!!! However, we wondered what they were going to do with the hammer. Then it was dinner at Catfish Haven and on to the Rock Box Theater, where Santa's Sleigh was packed silly with musical goodies for us. Cool Yule!!! This was equal to any Broadway show.

Sunday morning it was off to Johnson City and the Johnson Ranch. At the LBJ Ranch one senses the contrasts that live on in the man: the child who chewed a blade of grass and wondered if it would rain and if the river would rise, the man who strode forth on the world stage, came back to work his ranch, and finally joined his ancestors. At the ranch we saw his boyhood home, his residence, his many automobiles, the cemetery where he and all of his ancestors are buried, the Sauer Beckmann Working Farm, and his first school house. We ate lunch in Johnson City at the Silver K, a great buffet with so many selections there was no way to try it all. After lunch some went to visit President Johnson's birth place in Johnson City while others stopped at the Wild Seed Farm and/or the Candle Factory. Everyone decided to skip dinner as we were all so full from the huge and delicious lunch.

Monday morning we enjoyed a breakfast of homemade breakfast tacos, orange juice, donuts and coffee at the club house and then played five-cent bingo games. Everyone looked oh so serious while playing. We had our auction, with our own auctioneer Tony Beeler who always does such a great job. Later we had our door prize drawing. Lunch was on our own since the Air Port Diner was not open on Mondays. Dinner was at Lendenbaum's or another restaurant of choice. Some of us played cards afterwards.

Tuesday we all enjoyed a farewell breakfast at the Limestone Grill compliments of the club. Good food, but we all hated to say farewell to our RV family again.