

# Happy Wanderings

The Official Newsletter of the Happy (OK) Wanderers

An Affiliated Chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association



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## 2021 Elected Officers

### **President**

Joe and Vera Bouse

### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President**

Joe and Lois Sturgil  
*New Member Recruitment*

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President**

Ron and Evelyn Lee  
*Host Recruitment*

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President/ Wagon Master**

Ron and Evelyn Lee  
*Rally Site Coordinator*

### **Secretary**

Joyce and Darrell Rich

### **Treasurer**

Debi & Steve  
Branstetter

### **National Director**

Dan Stogner

### **Alt. Nat. Director**

Dick Stickle

### **2022**

### **Nominating Committee**

Rod Cleavelin  
Joe Sturgil  
Dick Stickle

### **Newsletter/Website**

Carol Valk

## HOW AUTUMN THANKSGIVING RALLY

October 14th – 17th  
Coachlight RV Park  
Carthage, MO

Wagon Master: Joe and Vera Bose

Hosts: Joe and Lois Sturgil

Dick and Hellen Stickle

Randy and Beth Plant

It was a little cool and rainy in Carthage for our last rally in 2021, but comfortable and looked forward to the Maple Leaf Festival this week and activities.

Some of us arrived from Hutchinson, KS straight to Carthage trying to beat the forthcoming rain. It was difficult following the detour on the way but most of us made it without many wrong turns. Wait for “The Rest of The Story” later!!

From the 10th to the 13th members enjoyed playing games and visiting in the rally room going out to lunch, shopping or touring this beautiful city.

**On Wednesday October 13, 2021:** Dan & A'Donna Mortimer organized an evening meal at Misarcos Mexican Restaurant. Those early arriving for the rally and partaking in this meal were: Doyle & Lou Jean Tampleton; Ronnie & Evelyn Lee; Dan & Von Stogner; Bob & Linda Murray; Rod & Ginger Cleavelin; Randy & Beth Plant; Joe & Vera Bouse; Kent & Sandi Gardener; Joe & Lois Sturgil; Jim & Patsy Gallaway; Steve & Debi Branstetter; Gerald & Diane Branstetter; Dan & A'Donna Mortimer; Skip Steele; Jerry Slutz; & Frank & Cyndi Timchak. A total of 28 gathered in our own private room. The service was excellent as was the food which was served in a timely manner. They kept the chips, salsa and drinks coming till the food was served to us. Many of us carried 'go boxes home' and enjoyed left-overs for a couple more days.



**On Thursday October 14, 2021:** HOW members met at 8:30am for breakfast in the rally room. Arrangements were made by Dan & A'Donna to hear speaker Mark Ellif from The Chamber of Congress. Mark presented a very informative overview of Carthage on several businesses, homes, the artists community, etc. Steve Branstetter led the group in our dinner blessing. Before eating, Lois Sturgil presented Dan & A'Donna Mortimer with a large pumpkin centerpiece for making arrangements for Wednesday's group meal at Misarcos Mexican Restaurant, Chamber of Congress speaker Mark Ellif, Chamber of Congress welcome bags and donating many, many door prizes to be given away. This is the last year for the hosting committee to award door prizes; this was a unanimous vote by club members at September business meeting. Another recipient of a large pumpkin centerpiece was Kent and Linda Murray for stepping up to help host with the Coachlight rally since Dick Stickle had surgery on his shoulder and he and Hellen were unable to attend. Our prayers are with Dick for a complete and speedy recovery. Our dinner meal was hearty ham, baked beans, coleslaw and pumpkin pie with whipped cream. Very tasty and plenty enough for seconds. 'Mikey' Branstetter & several others joined in.



After dinner Joe Bouse held a brief meeting reminding us:

- The Christmas lunch is December 11th, 2021 in OKC; place TBA later.
- There are a couple rallies in 2022 needing hosts.
- Your 2022 HOW membership dues (changed in Sept. business meeting) are now \$40 annually.
- Membership dues are due by January 1st of each year and considered late by January 15th. Please mark your calendars and/or phones as a reminder.
- Your current rally fees have been (changed during the Sept. business meeting) from \$20 per person to \$25 per person beginning at the March 2022 rally. This is due to the increase in food and other expenses.

Names were drawn for door prizes. Our hosts assured us everyone would receive a door prize by the end of the rally.

**On Friday September 15th, 2021 at 8:30am**, Steve led us in our blessing and a delicious breakfast of 'make your own omelet'. Eggs, ham, cheese, onions, green peppers & salsa were served. It was somewhat cool outside but Joe Bouse cooked omelets on his grill. What a trooper!! Also, we had biscuits, fruit, juice, coffee, lemonade and trimmings for the omelets. Well organized and tasty. Lunch was on our own, games to play in the rally room, visiting and sightseeing.

After breakfast, Cyndi Timchak took pictures for new profiles of Davis', Gardeners' and Steele, who all have 'new to them' coaches.

At 5:00pm members gathered in rally room for socializing before dinner at 5:30pm. Dinner was very good - meatloaf, mashed potatoes, croissants, salad and pumpkin pie with whipped cream on top. Then Beth Plant had a game to play after dinner called "match the city with its nickname". Grouped in 4's, most of us did very well. Names were drawn for more door prizes.

**On Saturday 16th, 2021:** Our last full day to enjoy the sights and beauty of the Carthage Maple Leaf Festival. Just after 8:30am, Steve made a comment that “every day is a good day to celebrate” and announced we needed to help **Skip Steele** celebrate his birthday today so.....we had a party!! Skip's birthday present to himself was a “new to him” 2018 Dutch Star coach.

## Happy Birthday Skip!!



At 8:30am, Steve gave our meal blessing. Once again, the breakfast was delicious of pancakes, syrup, butter, sausage and fruit, juice, lemonade and coffee. We did see some sun again this afternoon. Members gathered in the rally room, went shopping, or stayed in out of the wind and watched the OU game. The hosting committee put out left-overs in the rally room for lunch to anyone wishing to relish in more good food.

At 5:30 we enjoyed the evening meal of awesome taco soup, chips, cheese, sour cream and ice cream sandwiches. After the meal Frank Timchak had this to say re: detour!!!!

## “The Rest of The Story”

It seems Ronnie Lee had a more somewhat difficult time than others with the detour to get from Hutchinson to Carthage, and, needless to say, he got lost. Frank Timchak just happened to have a 'Global Positioning Device' he made and presented it to Ronnie. Now Ronnie will always know where he is!!

## “You Are Here X”



Just after 6:00pm, Michael & Lyanna McKinney stopped in, on their way home, to visit and have dinner with us. What a joy it was to see 'the world travelers' again! The last of the door prizes were given out; all names put in the bowl and drawn again till all prizes were given out.

**Sunday October 17th, 2021:** Our last rally for this year was coming to an end. 8:30am Steve gave our morning blessing before we had pastries, coffee, tea and lemonade. Seve Branstetter gave a brief devotional before traveling to each of our destinations.



**A last note to our hosting committee:**

Joe & Vera Bouse, Joe & Lois Sturgil, Randy & Beth Plant and Bob & Linda Murray stepped up to fill in for Dick & Hellen Stickle.

Thank you for a fantastic rally and all the delicious meals.

Nobody went away hungry!

**All attendees were:**

Joe & Vera Bouse,  
Steve & Debi Branstetter,  
Rod & Ginger Cleavelin,  
Dwayne & Dee Davis,  
Raymond & Georgia Franks,  
Jim & Patsy Gallaway,  
Kent & Sandi Gardener,  
Ron & Evelyn Lee,  
Dan & A'Donna Mortimer,  
Bob & Linda Murray,  
Randy & Beth Plant,  
Jerry Slutz,  
Skip Steele,  
Dan & Vonietta Stogner,  
Joe & Lois Sturgil,  
Doyle & Lou Jean Templeton,  
Frank & Cyndi Timchak  
Charlie & Sandy Val Bracht.

Jim Garrelts got caught in rain and closed roads & couldn't make the rally. We missed him.



# **Christmas Luncheon**

**Saturday, December 11, 2021**

**Time: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm**

## **New Location for Christmas Lunch**

Church of The Servant  
14343 N. MacArthur Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73142

Enter at the Main door on the East side  
(you can also enter on the South or West Side)

## **Registration for Christmas Lunch**

**Cost: \$25 each**

**Deadline date to Register is December 1st**

Registration forms were emailed out on 10/18/21.

Print this page, complete and mail to Beth Plant with your check.

Send Registration and Money to:

Beth Plant  
18701 Garden Ridge Road  
Edmond, OK 73012

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

# Deadline Reminders!

December 1<sup>st</sup> - Christmas Luncheon

January 1<sup>st</sup> – 2022 Membership Dues

## Renew your HOW Membership NOW!

Membership dues for the 2022 year are \$40 (pls note the price increase).

You may start mailing your dues now to our Treasurer, Debi Branstetter.

Dues are due by 1<sup>st</sup> Jan, 2022 and are considered late if not received by 15<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2022.

Please make your check to Happy (OK) Wanderers and note on the check that it is for your 2022 membership dues.

<b>Membership</b> C. Seikel	<b>Chapter Clothing</b> Ken and Linda Johnson	<b>Chaplain</b> Jim Bratcher	<b>Profile Books</b> Cyndi Timchak
<b>Hospitality/E-Blasts</b> Hellen Stickle	<b>Webmaster/ Newsletter</b> Carol Valk	<b>Chapter Photographer</b> Joe Sturgill	<b>DA Award Coordinators</b> Frank Timchak Dan Stogner Earl Powell