



"As a member of Good Sam Club, I pledge to give aid to others, respect nature and the environment, give back to the community and those less fortunate, treat others with dignity and respect and wear a smile (like Good Sam and Good Samantha's) and promote the pledge of the Good Sam Club to others."

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 12 **Published By And For Arkansas Good Sams** **December 2013**





DRAW NEW MEMBERS INTO YOUR GS CHAPTER

Tent campers are in right now; you don't have to have an RV to be a Good Sam chapter member.

Post to Facebook on a regular basis what's going on in your chapter. Share what folks in your chapter are doing, i.e., camping, volunteering, projects, etc. Include pictures. People want to join chapters that are active.

Follow up on local parades like Veterans Day, festivals, holidays and popular causes such as Race for the Cure, Alzheimers Research, etc. Walk their routes with them, have balloons & lights, and handouts telling about Good Sam chapters and what we do. They are cheap advertising and personal is always best.

Leave Gloomy Gus at home... Be bright, happy and have a big Good Sams Smile!

Hello to all,

Another month slipped by before we could blink an eye... got so busy with Thanksgiving, almost forgot about this news letter.

Hope everyone had a great "turkey day." Spending time with family, good food, fellowship with friends and giving thanks to our Lord is the best "thanksgiving" anyone could have.

Most of us have had our last campout for the year, and it's kind of sad knowing that it will be next year before we might all be together again. So many of our friends have gone to the Texas Valley, Florida, and even to Arizona for the winter. We hope all have safe travels and have a great time where ever they might be. We've got a feeling we might have a big bad winter here in Arkansas. We'll probably be wishing we had planned on going some place warmer but at this time we have a plate full with chapter Christmas parties and getting some "in advance" projects completed for our April Samboree. Have a blessed month.

Bill and Dee



ARKANSAS ONE



The November campout for Arkansas I was held at Lake Catherine State Park, November 4-8 for our annual work week and campout. Tim Choate rented a cabin that we enjoyed using at night and for meals and card games. Tommy and Shirley Blackwell were park hosting and they visited with us, too.

While we were at Lake Catherine, we completed several odd jobs. Railings were painted around one of the cabins, fire rings were shoveled and cleaned out, and electrical boxes were checked and repaired if needed. The weather was rainy one day and kept us inside so we didn't accomplish quite as much as usual. The sun finally came out and the weather was just right for our pot luck for the park staff on Thursday. Tommy always likes Tim's beans, but we also had a few other good things like jambalaya, dumplings, greens, sweet potatoes, and pecan pies. During the business meeting, we all paid dues and donated to our Angel project. A couple of nights we gathered at Tim's cabin to eat and play bingo with playing cards. Almost everyone went home with about as many quarters as they started out with, but a couple of people seemed to win more than usual! James Niblett made dumplings for us one night to go with Tim's beans and another night we had taco soup.

It was a nice campout with most of our group attending, a campfire for roasting hot dogs, beautiful fall colors, a little rain, and some crisp cool weather. We all had a good time for the last campout of the year.

It was nice to have David and Brenda Miller camping with us again. They are enjoying being "full timers" since David's retirement.

Remember our Christmas party at Rex and Katy Weaver's home, 542 Walnut Hill Drive, Hot Springs, on December 9th at 1:00 PM. There are still some menu items to fill in. If you need a suggestion give Katy a call at 501-767-2620.

"Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: For His mercy endureth forever." Psalms 107: 1



**Paulette's
Palette**



Our Caddo Lake State Park Director took this picture of our park host site. We're excited to be here and have already settled in. New this year to the park is rental of canoes. I've had the pleasure of stenciling the park name on each one; Arnie has helped get them in the water and secured to protect them from getting loose and roaming the cypress bayou! Now down to business:

Our Webmaster Ronnie Mooney has emailed me that there is a problem with the ArkansasGood Sams.com website. He will be sending this issue of the Arkansam News manually. This is a major problem for Ronnie who spends countless hours keeping this media tool up and running for AR Good Sam members. I think condolences are definitely in order for him.

On a more exciting note, Bill and Dee and countless others are doing a lot of advance preparation to make this year's Samboree one to go in the record books. "Arkansas County Fair" is the theme. Chapters are asked to participate in the **Friday Afternoon Midway Game time** by hosting a carnival game. Please put your thinking caps on and give Katie Weaver a call. Her number is 501-617-4280. She is compiling a list of the chapter's games. What a fun way it's going to be to spend an afternoon at "the Fair."

The deadline for turning in **2013 volunteer hours** is January 1, 2014. Keeping track of the projects and hours spent working on them is a huge benefit to our Arkansas Good Sam organization. It's important to get these hours to your chapter secretary who can then forward them to each Area's ASD.

State Treasurer Ann Scott and I have already received several **chapter rosters**. November 1 was the deadline; so, if you haven't already done so, put them in the mail to Ann. You can email them as a file to her or me. I'll forward to Ann.

This year is coming to a close and I want to thank all our special "family" who has been so generous with their help publishing the Arkansam News. Being a digital publication this year has allowed us to publish an issue 12 months instead of 10. I hope you have enjoyed the newsletter with it's many changes.

For the **January-April 2014 issues**, please address your articles to me at **245 Park Road 2, Karnack, TX 75661** or write your article as the body of an email and send it to me at redhead.smith2002@gmail.com.
Deadline each month is the 25th.

Arnie and I wish each and every one of you "Blessings of the Season."
Thank you, Paulette

LA PETTE ROCHE



La Petite Roche met at The Hook in Jacksonville on November 14th. One of our main topics of discussion was our members who are no longer able to camp with us and are dropping their membership. We want them all to know that even though they no longer pay dues they are still welcome and encouraged to join us at any function they wish to attend. We are losing Harold and Betty Keen this year due to health reasons, and they will be greatly missed.

We also decided to move our October meeting at Woolly Hollow to the 3rd week of the month instead of the second which is when our meetings are regularly scheduled.

Our Wagonmaster Tom Anderson has also informed us that our Christmas Party will be at the Western Sizzler in Jacksonville Dec. 11th at 1:30 P.M. Please bring two (2) white elephant gifts.

Anybody have any idea where our tent might be?? We can't seem to find it.

Hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving and we look forward to seeing all at the Christmas Party.

Judy Bauer, Secretary

JOLLY ROGERS SAMs

The Jolly Rogers chapter members met November 8 for breakfast at the Rogers Golden Corral. There were 22 members present. The campout at Natural Falls had been cancelled due to cold, rainy weather.

The members voted to give \$100 to Hope Distributors, a food bank in Lowell, and \$100 to the Wounded Warriors project. A chapter yard sale will be held on Saturday, November 16 at the Stamps home in Rogers.

The school supplies collected for the Jones Elementary School will be distributed on Monday, December 9. The chapter's annual Christmas party will be on December 10 at the Rogers Golden Corral.

MELON CITY SAMs

Melon City held their November Sheba's Res-all members present. Business discussed were campouts, the food donation



Sams held meeting at restaurant with and 2 guests business discussed the 2014 Christmas to "Hope In upcoming trip

to Branson. Members along with Tom and Barbara Buchholzer presented Christmas cards ready for mail to the "Holiday Mail for Heroes." December 12 has been set for the annual Christmas party at Amigo Juan's.

ROCK CITY SAMS

Rock City Sams held their November outing at Ozark Country RV Park in Branson, Missouri on November 7-10. We had several visitors from other chapters join us throughout our stay. We welcomed Bill and Dee Nery, Charles and Melinda Wiggs, Bobby and Lisa Duckworth, Connie and Mary Gerg, Doug and Helen Tinkle, and Roger and Linda Robbins.

Wednesday evening we had a very nice supper at Bob Evans Restaurant. It is a nice place to gather with a large group.

Thursday mid-morning brought several out of their rigs for conversing and playing games. We got together for lunch at Mel's Hard Luck Diner. If you go for a meal be sure to go with an empty stomach; portions are more than adequate. After lunch the ladies went shopping at a quilt shop. Shopping was good but traffic was bumper to bumper. Thursday evening most of us attended the Baldknobbers performance. We went early for the pre-show. The whole performance was outstanding. Baldknobbers is certainly a show to see often. Most of the chapter members and guests returned to Ozark Country after the show; however, two couples went to Baldknobbers Restaurant for the ice cream social. The peach and blackberry cobbler a la mode was well worth the trip even at the late hour.

Friday morning several people met in the recreation games or conversing, while others went shopping. Outlet Mall, some went to Branson Landing and a few men checked out Vanity Fair at Branson Meadows. anyone who enjoys a wide variety of shops. Friday couples attended the early show and regular performance was a sight to see, but the eating experience and Christmas show was sensational. If you have never been to Dixie Stampede, take it from a first timer, "It is an experience well worth having." Dee Nery, our tour guide for both outings, did an excellent job. THANK YOU Dee. After the performance everyone returned to Ozark Country RV Park. Most everyone arrived without incident while others took longer to get back because they missed the turn for the campground and had a scenic late night ride.



Some of the ladies decided to check out Tanger couples went to Dick's Five and Dime. Some of the Shopping in Branson is an experience waiting for night six couples from the chapter and four guest ance at Dixie Stampede. The pre-show Juggler

Saturday morning brought a delicious breakfast of biscuits and gravy prepared by Ann Scott with her helpers. You out did yourself Ann, and it was greatly appreciated. Thanks, also, to Roger and Linda Robbins for the Krispy Kreme donuts. The afternoon was filled with shopping and games. Saturday night we spent an interesting evening at Fall Creek Steak and Fish Restaurant. What started out as an early supper became a late night supper. Fall Creek was busier than they could handle without some waiting for their supper a lengthy time. We will have to give Fall Creek another chance to share their hospitality when they are not inundated by three tour buses. I think it could be a real good dining experience.

Our next outing will be our annual Christmas party on December 14th at 12:30 at Olive Garden on Rodney Parham. Please email Steve Brown by December 10th with your intentions for this outing. Steve is also asking for three cities or areas you would like for consideration for outings in 2014. If you have any questions about this, please contact Steve.

Thanks to our guests for helping to make our outing a huge success. Hope to see 100% of our Chapter members at Olive Garden Dec. 14th.

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BELLE POINT SAMS

Our last campout of the year 2013 was our Mystery Campout. On November 12th ten rigs and one vehicle showed up at the Old Wal-Mart in Alma to follow our Wagonmaster for about 4 hours. We stopped at a Wal-Mart in Jane, Missouri for a pit stop and lunch and eventually ended up at Coachlight RV Park in Carthage Missouri.

After our meeting in the Park's meeting room we had a Pot-Luck meal which included awesome ribs smoked by Leonard Howard and numerous homemade sides and desserts. We sat around visiting for awhile then some headed back to their rigs and some stayed to play cards.

That first night the weather report called for the temperature to be at 16°, so we filled up fresh water holding tanks and unhooked water hoses so they wouldn't freeze. A couple of our members had frozen water issues the next morning but most of us were fine.

Wednesday morning we had a potluck breakfast of sausage, bacon, pancakes, biscuits and gravy. After breakfast the Craft Team had the ladies making small gift bags. Some members went next door to the RV Center to look at new RV's, some members went to downtown Carthage to see the Court House etc. and fuel up for the trip home and in the afternoon most members went to Precious Moments for the light show. That evening we enjoyed the leftover Smoked Ribs and leftover sides and desserts. Everything was just as awesome the second time around.

Thursday everyone did their own thing and late in the afternoon Johnny Martin got permission from the Park staff where to set-up to charcoal cook an Apple Crisp in his Cast Iron Dutch Oven. Everyone enjoyed a serving including the Park staff. Most of the ladies played cards and the rest of us just socialized until we were ready to call it a night.

Friday morning we packed up to head home, having had a wonderful campout and looking forward to the next one.

Safe Travels, Ann Martin, Secretary



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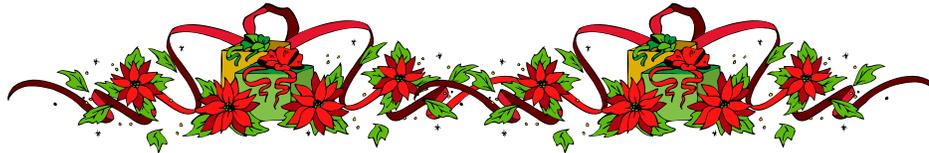
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ARKANSAS VETERANS CHAPTER

From the Secretary of Arkansas Veteran Sams:

Only about half of our members have paid dues for the year 2014. These names have been submitted to the State and are active members for 2014. If you wish to remain members, you will have to send \$20 to the Treasurer Bernie Bauer at 28211 Hwy. 107, Cabot, AR. 72027 or bring the dues to the April 2014 meeting to be reinstated. If you have only paid dues once, that was for the year 2013.



SPA CITY SAMS

Our November 2013 campout was held at Petit Jean State Park near Morrilton, Arkansas beginning Sunday, November 10th. We had a total of 10 members and 5 rigs at the campout. Everyone spent Sunday evening just visiting and getting set up.

On Monday part of the group went out during the day to Hollow Bend Recreation Area and were able to see four bald eagles: two in flight and two in a tree. Then they went to Russellville and had lunch at Stubbs. Our evening meal had several different kinds of homemade soup with all the fixings. Kay made homemade rolls in the Dutch oven and Doug made chili. There was a variety of desserts to go along with the meal also. Later everyone just visited or played cards.

We all pretty much stayed in during Tuesday morning since it was so cold. That afternoon everyone went out into the park and checked out Turtle Rocks and Rock Cave. Part of the group hiked down near the waterfall. That evening everyone was on their own for dinner and then spent the evening playing cards.

Wednesday it was decided to go over to the Rockefeller Institute to have lunch. The buffet was really good, the desserts were even better. They were a great prelude to visiting and playing cards.

We had planned on having an omelet in a bag breakfast on Thursday but changed it to Brunch since the weather was so cool and damp. Dave & Barb drove in for the meal and the business meeting. Lawrence & JD Henley was Park Hosting so they joined us for the meal as well as JD's brother and sister-in-law. The omelets were great. Each person was able to include anything they wanted in their own bag and it was all put into boiling water for 15 to 17 minutes depending on the number of eggs included in each. Kay made homemade cinnamon rolls in the dutch oven. Really Great!!!! Everything was really delicious and enjoyed by all. After our meal we had our monthly business meeting. Leah from the Visitor Center sent down a gift for Don Dale – a cover for his Official FEMA Trailer. He and Allen need to take turns using it on their new campers instead of a golf cart. Everyone had a wonderful afternoon then we broke up for the evening to begin getting ready for home going on Friday.

Everyone left for home on Friday, and we are hopeful that all will be able to make it to our **December meeting and Christmas Party at Smoking in Style in Hot Springs on December 12 at 11:00 am. We will have our Dirty Santa Gift Exchange with gifts ranging from \$8-10 if you want to participate. See you all then.**"

POTATO GUN CONTEST AT NEXT ARKANSAS SAMBOREE

At the 2014 Arkansas Spring Samboree we are going to have a potato gun contest. This is open to both male and female above the age of 21. Louisiana has been doing this for years, and it seems time for the rest of us to have some fun. Louisiana has also said they would have some of their people come to our Samboree and challenge us in our contest. These potato guns are easy to make and do not have to be fancy.

Go to any of the following web sites to see how they are make and come join the fun:

- | | |
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NORTHEAST ARKANSAS TRAVELERS (N.E.A.T.)

Simpkins Restaurant was invaded by 19 NEAT members, luckily (for them); they had us corralled in the private room at the front of the building. After we cleaned out the buffet, we had a short meeting.

Lavon Pease told us that Davidsonville State Park has been given the State Park Maintenance Award. It's no surprise since the park was so clean the day after the 'ghost' visit' that we had nothing to do when we visited there last month.

We will be selling chances at the Samboree in April for the 'Good Sam' afghan. If you are going to be there, please leave room in your schedule to help out at the table. You are asked to wear your vest so you will look 'official'.

Along that same idea, the quilt has been completed and was displayed. And it looked GREAT!! We will begin selling those tickets sometime this spring or summer and the drawing will be held during our November 2014 meeting.

The chapter voted to donate \$100.00 to the Northeast Arkansas Food Bank.

A tentative campout schedule for 2014 is as follows:

- March—a possible friendship—location to be determined
- April—Samboree, April 17-20, early parking begins on April 13th
- May—Mt. View, MO
- June—Mt. View, AR
- July—Mt. View, AR
- August—Cotter, AR
- September—Davidsonville State Park, September 8-12
- October—Lake Charles State Park, October 6-10

The hosts for each month are yet to be determined, but it has been decided that the hosts will only be responsible for determining the location and general organization. They will not be responsible for supplying the meat for the meals.

Charles Van Pelt reported that members have turned in 6,748 volunteer hours and asked that anyone who has additional hours give them to him at or before the December meeting.

The December meeting will be held at the Western Sizzlin' in Jonesboro on December 5th at 11:30 AM.

As always, May you all find smooth roads and level sites, Jo Ann

2014 SAMBOREE SCHEDULE

Texas
Spring Samboree
Theme: Pirates of the Carribean

Date: Apr 3-6, 2014

Louisiana
Spring Samboree
Theme:

Date: Apr 10-13, 2014

Arkansas
Spring Samboree
Theme: Arkansas County Fair

Date: Apr 17-20, 2014

GOOD SAM MALLARDS



FALL is STILL in the AIR

The Good Sam Mallards had 6 rigs at our campout Nov. 14-17 at Cane Creek State Park near Star City. Our hosts for the weekend were Tommy and Shirley Blackwell who went overboard cooking for everyone and keeping a great fire going all weekend.

Thursday, after fishing, card games, or sitting around the fire, the Blackwells hosted dinner where we could choose from two of Shirley's homemade soups: potato or chicken taco soup, with spicy crackers, perfect for the cool weather. Both were so tasty I hardly had room for the many desserts the rest of us brought.

Friday most of us made a trek to The Country Village to explore the shops and have lunch. All the shops were cute, and we had a nice time exploring the area. Friday's meal was pork roast with homemade mashed potatoes and gravy—with sides and great desserts—including pecan pies. All were melt-in-your-mouth delicious. After the meal, Danny Hutchison, President called our business meeting to order. We welcomed our guest, Mary Owen and eleven members were present. We were sorry Martha and William Hosto could not attend this month. We missed you. The Christmas party will be December 13 at the home of Harold and Joyce West in Beebe. We will have a \$10.00 Dirty Santa gift exchange, with dinner about 5:30 PM. Thank You Harold and Joyce!

In other business, we extended a big Thank You to our weekend hosts: Tommy and Shirley Blackwell. We discussed future meetings. January and February will be dinner meetings at locations to be decided later. March is the Friendship Campout. April 10-13, Sherry and Joe Hoffpauir will host at Meraseck Park, so mark those calendars. Lenora reminded us that everyone needs to turn in the rest of their volunteer hours, their self-addressed envelopes and their DUES at the December meeting.

Saturday, although it was windy, the fire and pop-up provided shelter from the wind, and card games continued. Fishing was still not happening, but the fall colors were beautiful. Blackwells provided lunch with pork sandwiches or deer meat. After more games, we all decided we were too full to go 'out' to eat dinner, so we had a 'throw together' supper: hot dogs or polish sausage grilled on the open fire, and a super banana pudding by Sherry Hoffpauir. We all agreed relaxing by the fire in the evening is one of the best things about camping out! And, in between lunch and dinner, the Park Ranger gave a talk – at the Blackwell's campsite of course,— about primitive weapons the Indians made with the cane that grows in these parts. It was quite informative. We had over a dozen campers, including one very enthusiastic young man who proved he could throw a spear!

Sunday Blackwells had fresh biscuits with gravy waiting for us all at breakfast, followed by our devotional service. Although the weather warmed up considerably Sunday, it was time to head for home. We all had a wonderful weekend. Thank you again, Tommy and Shirley Blackwell!!!!

Lenora Murray, secretary

THUNDERING SAMs

The Thundering Sams had a pretty good turnout for the Pecan Grove outing at Lake Village, AR with 5 rigs attending.

On Monday we all had dinner at JJ's Lakeside Café in Lake Village. It was very good. Tuesday everyone went sightseeing/riding (Bear Roberts went fishing) on their own. Some of us went to Sherman's Steak & Seafood Restaurant in Greenville, Mississippi. Some stayed in and missed an excellent meal and great service.

Wednesday morning President Doc Welburn called the business meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The Secretary called the roll but reading of the Minutes was omitted. Max Brown gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion to accept as read was seconded and carried. We had no guests, no correspondence committee reports and no unfinished or old business.

Under new business: Our next meeting is the Christmas Party on Thursday, December 5, 4:00 PM at Bear Roberts and Verna Millers home in Hot Springs. Please bring a covered dish and a \$10 man's gift and a \$10 woman's gift for Santa's helpers to pass out.

Thank you to the committee in charge of selecting the camping dates for the parks in 2014. They will meet ASAP.

After the meeting, the women went shopping then we all met back up and went to dinner at the Cow Pen Restaurant in Lake Village.

One of the Thundering Sams is downsizing. I won't mention WHO has the red wheelchair!



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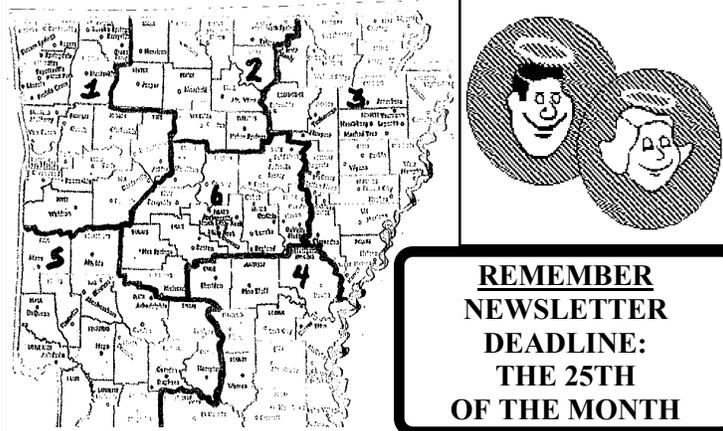
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<p><u>STATE ELECTRICIAN</u> Kirk & Dolly Flanakin 500 Lakeshore Drive Hot Springs, AR 71913 501-620-9757 1170844</p>	<p><u>ASSISTANT ELECTRICIAN</u> Buzz Goodwin PMB 262 1635 Higdon Ferry Road Hot Springs, AR 71913 501-276-0292 2235164</p>	<p><u>PARK HOST COORDINATOR & PHOTOGRAPHER</u> Bob Scott (Ann) 13325 Willow Beach Rd North Little Rock, AR 72117 (501) 945-3684 34463737 (501) 416-0142 cell</p>	<p>STATE WEBMASTER Ronnie & Sue Mooney 3633 Independence Dr Bryant, AR 72022 501-681-2343 43419555 Jmoonman@sbcglobal.net</p>
<p><u>STATE PATCH COORDINATOR</u> Ty & Mary Tyson 1679 Treasure Isle Road Hot Springs, AR 71913 501-767-8960 43614726 Cell: 501-276-1205</p>	<p><u>COMMERCIAL & ASST. PARK HOST COORDINATORS</u> Bud & Jean Wright 53 Cliffwood Circle North Little Rock, AR 72118 501-753-5753 Cell:501-590-8715 817583</p>	<p><u>STATE SONG LEADER</u> Charles Wiggs (Melinda) 2501 Skyline Point Jonesboro, AR 72404 870-972-0951 48831358</p>	



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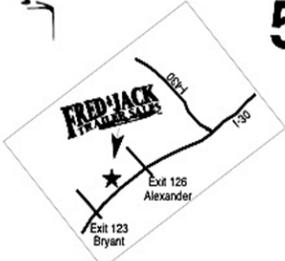
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CAMPING WORLD

Camping World was on the grounds at the AR Good Sam Spring Samboree and provided invaluable support with seminars, RV's on display, a well-stocked booth on the arena floor, and a complement of staff from the North Little Rock store that included a mechanic whose calendar was full every day of the Samboree.

Samboree attendees made good use of the expertise brought to them by the associates attending the Samboree:

Store Phone Number:	501-219-4420	
Doug Cheek	Retail Store Manager	Extension 1101
Marty Stansbery	RV Sales	Extension 1209
Robert Minnick	Customer Service	Extension 1121
Blake Overturff	Mechanical Tech	
Emily Overturff	Retail Sales Register	

Stop in the store and let these people know how much Good Sams appreciates all they do for the RV community.

