

Dinner Planning Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 1, 6:30 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar!

Thurs. February 15, REI — Rock Climbing Basics

Join REI for an in-store, introductory class in rock climbing. Participants will leave with an understanding of the different types of climbing, what gear is necessary and the basics on how to get started. Note: this is an informational class – not an “on-the-wall” climbing session. Dallas REI (6:30-8:00 pm)

Class is FREE! 35 Spots Left

February 22-25, Camping Palmetto State Park

Come join us at a new camping destination for TOWN Dallas members!

Palmetto State Park is a small gem of a park located near Luling, Texas, about 5 miles south of Interstate 10, off Hwy. 183. The park is about 50 miles from both Austin and San Antonio. The drive is 4 hours from Dallas.

In addition to Palmettos, the park is in a deciduous forest of very tall trees and has a small lake with kayaks, canoes, and paddle boats for rent. The park lies within the looping curves of the San Marcos River hiking trails of various lengths. An interpretive



First Hike of the New Year!

trail winds amongst the Palmettos. Fishing from the concrete trail crossing the river or along the river’s banks is an option.

Those who have the time may choose to stay over at Palmetto or share campsites at McKinney Falls State Park or Pedernales State Park the following week – en route to our annual trip to Inks Lake Campout planned for the following weekend of Mar. 1-4. During the “stay over” we may choose to visit San Marcos and/or Austin sites.

The TOWN Dallas Palmetto trip coincides with TOWN Austin’s annual trip to Palmetto State Park. Austin townies will be camping in the RV area the same weekend. Dallas Townies will tent camp in

the water only tent area.

This will be a great opportunity for us to meet and say hello to our Austin “sisters” in the TOWN network.

Trip Leader:

Judy Shaw

JShawTX@AOL.Com

March 1-4, Camping — Inks Lake

We have been camping at Inks Lake in February for several years, always having beautiful weather. This year we are going a little later. Things to see near by are Longhorn cavern and Enchanted Rock.

Trip Leader:

Barbara Minyard

barbara_gran@yahoo.com

What’s Inside!

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Dinner Planning Meeting

This will be in addition to our regular monthly meeting. If we get some good ideas on the calendar we could add them to the list at the regular meeting. Casa Milagro is doing first margaritas free that night. Where: Casa Milagro on Campbell Rd., in Richardson.

**RSVP to Sharon at
sfahlberg@aol.com**

NEXT TOWN MEETING

**MONDAY
FEB. 5, 2018**

**LA MADELEINE
5290 BELT LINE RD
ADDISON, TX**

**6:30-7:00 Social Hour
Meeting 7:00**



Sat., March 24, Hike — Erwin Park McKinney

This is a great park just North of McKinney. We could meet at 3 p.m., walk an hour or an hour and a half and then come back to McKinney Square for an early supper. A sign up sheet will be at meeting

Trip Leader:

Robbie Chandler

rbbchandler@yahoo.com

June 11-15, Camp Mary White Women's Retreat

Last year Robbie and nine (9) other TOWN members made the drive to Mayhill NM for the annual Women's Retreat at Camp Mary White. Awesome time had by all. Many of them mentioned that they would like to come back and Robbie has just been sent the dates of the Retreat.

Robbie is definitely going, and she knows other TOWN members also hope to return this year. This year we have been assigned our camping area, near a restroom facility – same as last year) last year we were in the cabins, this year we have a choice, tents or cabins.

They averaged 12 hours driving time going there and 12 hours back but was well worth it. The cabins were made of wood, 3.5 walls to be exact the other half wall was open to the sky. Much like camping really, no electricity in the cabins and the toilets were down the hill. The only places that had electric were the main lodge, showers and arts and craft room.

There was a different activity/art project every day, everything from

painting wine bottles (my personal favorite) to making leather goods and jewelry. Hiking every day for those that wanted too. Trips to White Sands and Carlsbad were also undertaken. A professional masseuse on hand for these aches and pains or just plain spoiling. We had a SPA evening, a camping cookout on the grill, a night or two around the fire and on the front porch. Lots of casual evening activities from jigsaw puzzles to just plain good old fashioned conversation.

The horseback riding was pretty awesome as well, you could go morning or afternoon. Two well-seasoned and knowledgeable cowboys both leading and bringing up the rear. The cowboys were attached to the local goat ranch which we had access too, corrals within easy distance from the main lodge and more importantly to many of us there were dogs, lots of Pyrenean Mountain dogs, 23 to be exact. And when they were not working or sleeping they were all round our huge outside porch, all perfectly mannered but enjoying our treats anyway.

The meals were three times a day by a dedicated cook and staff, plentiful and varied, snacks available constantly and as we all know this group moves on their stomachs, which were well filled.

Details still to be finalized, so mark your calendars!

Trip Leader:

Robbie Chandler

rbbchandler@yahoo.com

August 4-9, Camping — Rocky Mountains / Explore Colorado

Visit and explore Colorado for a

week in Colorado Springs and Rocky Mountain National Park or choose to stay an extra week and visit Vail, Breckenridge, Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, Aspen, and the Gunnison/Crested Butte area for a real central Colorado adventure!

WEEK 1

The first week we'll stay 3 nights, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday at Springdale Campground, Pike National Forest, Woodland Park, just north of Colorado Springs to get acclimated for higher altitudes. Sites include Garden of the Gods Park, Visitor and Nature Center/Museum, Pikes Peak, Seven Falls, and US Air Force Academy. Then we'll move onto Rocky Mountain National Park and stay three nights, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, at Moraine Campground. We'll drive over Trail Ridge Road and visit sites at Estes Park.

WEEK 2

The second week we'll camp Saturday and Sunday nights, at Gore Creek Campground 6 miles east of Vail, then venture to the Carbondale/Aspen areas, camping at Bogan Flatts or Difficult Campground Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights, then move to Lottis Creek Campground at Williams Lake, Alta, in the Gunnison NF, staying Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights to visit Tin Cup, Crested Butte, and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison.

Information on campgrounds and further details with sign-up sheets for a choice of one week or two weeks will be available at TOWN's next meeting.

Trip Leader: Judy Shaw

jshawtx@aol.com



Mission Statement

The TOWN mission is to provide all women the opportunity to learn and experience outdoor activities in natural surroundings through a non-threatening, safe and supportive environment.

Battin Island



Photos by Nancy Lee

