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Health and Wellness Update of MS Magnolia Members

The weather refused to cooperate for our first muster of 2025 at Hollywood Casino February 17-21. Eight of our registered rigs canceled before the muster started and we mustered with the remaining 4 members plus Diane Thompson and Lou Finkle who drove over for some muster socializing during the day on Tuesday. We got in a game of Skip Bo with them during the afternoon while staying out of the wind in Lemaire's RV. We had decided to do stone soup for that Tuesday night (where everyone brings an ingredient of their choice) and Jan Lemaire cooked the soup, simmering it slowly during the day. We had lots of beef, vegetables, noodles and broth to serve to everyone. Ten of us gathered in the Lemaire's RV and while it was cozy, it was surprisingly comfortable as we dined on soup, French bread, grape salad and king cake. We had stimulating conversations during the couple of hours that we met. Great fun, but we all agreed that if we have the Hollywood muster next year we must wait until later in the calendar to let the weather settle and warm up if it can!

Ron and Patsy Erieg were our mustering troopers as Ron arrived at the Campground on Friday after he picked up his rig from Happy Camper. It had been there over one of the polar vortices and of course, it did not get winterized! When Ron turned on the water, there were several leaking lines and he had to shut off the water to their coach. Patsy arrived on Monday after a medical appointment and she and Ron camped with bottled water until the ordered part arrived on Thursday evening before departure! They were troopers and did not complain one single bit!! Ron had a cardiac diagnostic procedure last week and came through it with a clean bill of health!

Jan and Dave Lemaire forgot that they had left their propane water heater on and used propane heat during the supremely cold January weather so after the first 4 hours in camp they were out of propane and camped with minimal heat (thank goodness for space heaters) as the heat pump that is electric was marginal in the below 30-degree weather at night. They sold their Tiffin Allegro gas RV and are enjoying their new to them diesel Phaeton.

Elaine and Bob Comeaux joined us as Elaine's health permitted. She tells me that they have finally made a diagnosis and now it is a journey to balance appropriate medical intervention and medication to give her symptom free days. She and Bob are looking forward to a trip to Branson soon. They will be cohosting the Vidalia muster with Nancy and John Arce as the primary hosts.

Ben and Tee Lane stayed in the Hollywood Hotel as their rig has been in the shop for major leak repairs that began at the Christmas Muster and have gotten worse. It has been a major undertaking and isn't done yet. We have all been there at one time or another.

Lou Finkle and Diane Thompson are gathering items for baskets for both Regional and National. We have a fair amount for the Regional basket but must continue to collect items for the National basket. Please try to bring a contribution for the National basket to our next muster and if you have anything that is unique to Mississippi for the Regional basket, bring that also. Thanks to Nancy Arce for the generous contributions that have gotten us this far along in the process. It is tax time and Diane is busy many days at Keesler and her phone rings a lot when she is not there!

Charley Leblanc tells us that Dianne is making progress, but it is a "one day at a time" process. They are hoping that they can join us in Vidalia in April.

Francis Arceneaux has been in the hospital with pneumonia. Please keep him in your prayers.

Bob and Juanita Glazier had planned to attend but Bob was having some flu-like symptoms, and they canceled. Good call! The cold wind was merciless!

We see on Facebook that Frank and Linda Coates have been heavily involved in Mardi Gras festivities at home and looked like elegant royalty in their pictures. Their energy seems boundless!!

Sadly, we lost a Magnolia member. Dewey Burke passed away unexpectedly in January. He had experienced some health problems and he and his wife Kathleen LeBlanc had settled into a new living situation that made both of them comfortable with many less worries. Kathleen, an accomplished artist and crafter, did several crafts for us at musters. We send condolences to Kathleen and know that we will miss the lively conversation that happened when they were able to muster with us.

Sara Esterly passed away after a lengthy illness. Please Keep one of our Charter Members, Bill Esterly in your prayers. Though bill had given up RVing a few years ago he has always managed to stop in at musters in his area to say "hi" and to socialize. Sara was able to attend a few times but her fragile health didn't allow that often.

The Vidalia muster is shaping up. Johnny Leggett and the SMART Louisianan caravan will be at Riverview for a couple of nights while we are there. Johnny has invited us to attend the cooking lesson on how to cook jambalaya and to share the jambalaya meal with that national event. Please bring a dish to share for that night. We should meet some new friends who are learning about the Great State of Louisiana!

We didn't take many pictures at the Hollywood Muster, but did manage to get some of us eating out at the Chinese buffet as well as the Stone Soup Night gathering.



Ron Ereig, Patsy Ereig, Elaine Comeaux, Bob Comeaux, Dave Lemaire (Jan on camera duty)

Dinner is served!



Diane Thompson



The meeting was winding up!



2025 MAGNOLIA MUSTERS

Central Regional Muster, May 12-14, 2025 at Coachlight RV Park in Carthage, Missouri. Central Regional director Nita Taylor is the assigned Muster Master. All Info about the Regional Muster is on the website, but Nita sent an email stating registration fees are to be mailed to Reese Burke and checks are to be written to SMART.

Sept 15-19, 2025 Mineola, Texas, SMART National Muster. All info is on the SMART website.

Nov 30-Dec 4, 2025 with departure on Dec 5. Christmas Muster at Sun Roamers RV Park and Resort, Picayune, MS: Cohosts TBA. This is a free muster for all MS Magnolia members. Guests must pay \$20/pp. We will have our Dirty Santa Game as usual. Check out the website for more info and registration forms.

Lunch out at Cuz's on the waterfront for Patsy, Elaine, Bob, Dave and Ron.



The Board continues to attempt to make the SOP and the Bylaws congruent on the matter of the duties of the muster hosts. More to come as we work through these issues. If you have news to share, please send me an email at: janislemaire@hotmail.com. As time permits, I might call you, but it's great if you send me items for the newsletters!!

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