

# Red Carpet Country Newsletter

Volume 3 Number 3

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## Roman Nose State Park Still a Popular Red Carpet Destination

Roman Nose State Park located seven miles north of Watonga is comprised of 633 park acres. There are two lakes there, 55 acre Lake Watonga and eight acre Lake Boecher.

The area where the park is today was once a winter campground of the Cheyenne tribe.

Roman Nose was a Cheyenne Chief who lived in the rugged canyon from 1887 until he died there in 1917. Roman Nose is one of the original seven Oklahoma State Parks, constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps and opened to the public in 1937.

The park features distinctive white outcropping of gypsum and beautiful mesas. Hiking, biking and equestrian trails offer visitors spectacular views and a wide range of recreational opportunities.

A lodge featuring 47 guest rooms, as well as ten cot-

tages, seven campgrounds, 48 RV sites, conference facilities and a restaurant and full service bar offer visitors an array of possibilities.

There are equestrian trails and campsites available. Fishing, canoeing, paddle boating, hiking, biking and nature trails are also activities visitors might find fun.

There are also two swimming pools, tennis, volleyball courts and a golf course located in the park.

The Roman Nose Golf Course was designed by Floyd Farley, and it makes use of the underlying gypsum rock and hilly terrain of Oklahoma's red rock canyon country. Countless loads of topsoil and yards of terracing have made this course newly lush in recent years. Canyons border fairways and some holes, and drop offs of

30– 40 feet are common.

Roman Nose State Park Group Camp #2 has been getting a new look and feel this summer. Through funds raised by Friends of Roman Nose State Association via bake sales, grants and other fund raisers. The camp facility now has updated electrical in the main building, electric hot water heater, two new heat and air units, new lights and new ceiling.

Future projects for the park include insulation for the main building and painting. Cabins are in the future plans.

The parking lot and the main road into the camp has been resurfaced, and it is hoped that this facility can be opened year round. For more information about Roman Nose State Park call 580-623-7281.

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# WATONGA TO HOST ANNUAL CHEESE FESTIVAL

Watonga's Cheese Festival will return this October for its traditional two-day event., October 11-12 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All events take place in downtown Watonga. Admission for both days is only \$5 and children under 12 are admitted free.

Watonga's citizens are thrilled to have the event back since last years event had to be cancelled due to excessive storm damage from Hurricane Erin.

A new event this year is a wine and cheese reception for the Cheese Festival Artists and art lover who would like to commit to a \$200 purchase award. These buyers will get first pick a the selection of paintings, photography, sculptures and pottery exhibited by 14 different artists.

Also added to this year's Fine Art Show is a division for youth, 12 and under.

Also included new this year is an art project area for children. Children will be given supplies and allowed to work on a project, with a little assistance while parents get to view the Art Show.

The quilt show returns under the direction of Pansy. Pansy chose 20 Rat Race t-shirts to make an 80 x 75 inch

quilt for a fundraiser.

The Cheese Food Contest takes place in City Hall Auditorium. This is how the festival began back in 1976.

There are two divisions: Junior ( on Friday for 18 and under) and Senior Division (on Saturday.

A new twist will be the Friday morning "cooking show; beginning at 11 a.m. Each contestant group will be given a basket containing some items including beef and cheese. The participants are going to have to come up with an appetizer

in a specific time frame. This is a show that spectators can watch.

Friday night on Liberty Theater stage entertainment will be City Moon, an Oklahoma City country band. The band has opened for some of country music's hottest acts.

The great Rat Race begins and ends in front of the Noble House. There will be a mile fun run that begins at 8:30 a.m. Then at 9 a.m. the 5K and 10K will begin. First, second and third place medals will be awarded in appropriate age divisions.

## Cherokee Strip Museum Schedules Festival of Trees

The Cherokee Strip Museum in Alva will hold its annual Festival of the Trees November 28 to January 3, 2009.

Over 40 rooms will be decorated by various community groups and organizations to give the museum a festive atmosphere for the holidays.

The trees are often decorated to correspond to the theme of each room

The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. except on Christmas Day and is located at 901 14th Street in Alva. The museum also has a Fireside Room and a kitchen that can be rented for meetings or parties. Call 580-327-2030 for more information or to arrange a private tour.

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# *Governor Seay Harvest Ball October 11 in Kingfisher*

The Governor's Harvest Ball will be held October 11 at the Memorial Wall at 123 West Main in Kingfisher. The cost is \$10.

The Prairie Land String Band, of Oklahoma City, will provide Victorian era music for the ball.

The ball will commemorate the great achievements of Abraham Jefferson Seay as

Governor of Oklahoma Territory and to continue raising funds for the restoration of Governor Seay's historic 'Horizon Hill' home in Kingfisher.

"Martha Ray of Pawnee will be the caller for this event. The Victorian dancing steps are easy to learn and fun, and that's exactly what this ball is, a lot of fun. Dancers

will enjoy the evening, and spectators will enjoy watching the dancers," said organizers.

Victorian period dress or "Sunday best" attire is requested. Victorian ladies wore soft slippers and sometimes wore holes through them in one evening.

## **Aline Fall Fest on Tap Oct. 10-11**

Aline has scheduled the annual Fall Fair for October 10-11.

Friday evening from 6 p.m. to 7:30 the Stew and Chili Cook-off begins. Also scheduled is an Ice Cream Crank-Off.

There is also free entertain-

ment and an "under the stars" movie.

On Saturday a parade kicks off the day at 10 a.m.. A free soup dinner begins at noon. Bingo begins at 2. There is free entertainment that entertainment and a cake walk that evening.

Don't see your news here? Send news and events to [paynek@pldi.net](mailto:paynek@pldi.net) or call 580-824-0600. The next newsletter will cover events in January, February and March 2009. Deadline for News is December 1.

## **Ponca's Annual Oktoberfest at Marland Mansion**

Ponca City's annual Oktoberfest happens at the grounds of the Marland Mansion again this year the first weekend of October.

Admission is \$3.00 Saturday and hours are 10-7 and Sunday from 11-5.

Features are crafts, food, kids' games, entertainment, wine tasting and Bier Garten (Beer Garden). For more information call 580-767-0420.

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# PowerFest 2008

## Fly the Dunes!!

## RCC Conference

Waynoka's Chamber of Commerce has scheduled a new fall event. The first ever Power Fest for ultra light flyers and radio control flyers is scheduled for October 17-19 at the Waynoka Municipal Airport with the theme, "Fly the Dunes."

Participants, pilots of ultra light flyers, and radio control flyers, will be treated to two evening cookouts and two breakfasts, plus a hay rack ride.

The \$35 dollar entry fee gets flyers a free tee shirt commemorating the event and a chance to win a PPC airframe.

Organizers are expecting 50 flyers for the weekend. Ultra lights will fly early in the morning and late afternoon

(weather permitting) on Friday and Saturday and Sunday morning.

Organizers and Chamber members invite the public to come watch this exciting and beautiful sport.

Radio controlled pilots will have a fly in at 3 p.m. on Saturday at the airport.

The Masonic lodge will sponsor a free cookout Saturday evening at the airport.

Since it is Waynoka's High school Homecoming on Thursday night, the game ball will be delivered by ultra light aircraft.

More information is available at 580-824-1717 or at [www.Waynokachamber.com](http://www.Waynokachamber.com).

**On the Road Again!** Is the theme for the annual tourism conferences sponsored by Red Carpet Country and scheduled for Oct. 28 at Northwest Tech Center in Alva.

The conference begins at 9 a.m. and runs until 2:30 p.m. The day begins with "Chick Trip Oklahoma USA" presented by Melyn Johnson of the OK tourism Department. An Agri-Tourism Panel Discussion will be moderated by Becky McCray beginning at 10:15. Linda McCowen of the Sirolli Institute will speak on business assessment at 11.

Lunch will be served at noon keyed by Judge Dean Linder of Alva. At 1:30 Laura Girty will present "Kansas Sampler Oklahoma Style." Laura is with the Department of Commerce.

Door prize drawings will be held throughout the day.

President of Red Carpet Country's board Chuck Rager says "we are excited this year, as we continue *on the road again* to promote tourism in North Central and Northwestern Oklahoma!"

Register by Oct. 20.

## Attractions invited to RCC Conference

Communities and tourism based businesses in Red Carpet Country are invited to bring a display or promote an attraction, business or event in their community during the Red Carpet Country Tourism Conference. Red Carpet Country officials urge, If you or your community is interested in hosting a display, please contact the Red Carpet Country office at 1-800-447-2698, or at [ww.redcarpetcountry.com](http://ww.redcarpetcountry.com)