

Red Carpet Country

Newsletter

Summer 2008

Volume 3 Number 4

Discover Black Mesa State Park This Year

Black Mesa State Park, located just 32 miles from Boise City, is home to Lake Carl Etling.

Discover fossilized remains of prehistoric plants and animals that once lived in the area in the rocks that were formed by the now extinct volcanoes.

The park has 66 RV campsites, 34 of which are semi modern with water and electric hookups, six are pull through and include a handicapped accessible site.

A comfort station with showers is located adjacent to the RV campground with a sanitary dump station near by. A playground is near that area.

The park has 32 tent camping sites with grills, tables and fire rings.

The park also boasts 32 picnic tables available for day use, some with grills and most tables are covered.

A group picnic pavilion is available for family reunions, company picnics and other large gatherings. The pavilion can accommodate up to 24 people and is equipped with water, electrical outlets and a cooking grill. The pavilion can be reserved up to a year in advance by calling the park office.

The group camp is available for large groups, church, family or company gatherings. There are 10 bunkhouses available, with overnight accommodations for up to 120 visitors.

The group camp also includes a fully equipped kitchen and dining hall.

The bathhouse is handicapped accessible and has hot showers.

Bunkhouses can be separately rented when the group camp is not occupied. Call the park office for reservations and rates.

There are three unlighted boat ramps on Lake Carl Etling, which has 159 surface acres and nearly five miles of shoreline. The lake boasts fishing and from November to April anglers can fish for the stocked trout. Boating speed limit is six miles per hour. Water sport activities not allowed on the lake are swimming, water skiing, windsurfing, water biking and scuba diving.

The Black Mesa Hiking Trail is in the Nature Preserve 15 miles from the park. The 4.2 mile trail ends at the granite monument marking Oklahoma's highest elevation. Allow four to six hours for the round trip hike because of the steep incline. Hiking shoes, a hat and appropriate clothing and drinking water are necessities for the hike. The trail is strictly a walking/hiking trail.

The park also offers a ropes course for groups and individuals. A minimum of 15 per group is required with a minimum age of 14.

Call the park office for fee information and for reservations at 580-426-2222 or email blkmesa@ptsi.net.

Discover Charlie Adams Day in Newkirk, Oklahoma in September

Charlie Adams Day is celebrated annually on the second Saturday in September on the Kay County Courthouse grounds in Newkirk.

Adams was a pharmacist who settled in Newkirk in 1899. He brought his love of horses with him and during those early days, he patented and sold in his drug store a horse liniment which he named Good Luck Liniment. Its main ingredient was linseed oil.

Adams' passion was racing trotters and pacers. His favorite horse was named Good Luck. In 1947 Good Luck won more races than any other trotter in the U.S.

Newkirk honored Good Luck and his owner with a parade. Today Newkirk carries on the tradition.

Newkirk's historic downtown, filled with buildings from the early days, is the perfect setting for the event which includes barbecue teams, Dutch oven teams, arts, crafts, entertainment, classic cars, bikers, stagecoach rides and games for children.

Demonstrations include flint knapping, leather tanning, basket weaving, blacksmithing, yarn spinning and other early day arts. Visitors can also purchase Good Luck Liniment.

Each year at high noon a gunfight dramatization takes center stage. Native American dancers, singers and signers share the stage with gospel music, country music and story tellers. All entertainment is free. The event is held in downtown Newkirk and begins at 9 a.m. and concludes at 3 p.m.

The event began in 2001 sponsored by Newkirk's Main Street project is now a major fundraiser for Main Street and for the Newkirk Chamber of Commerce.

Fairview Schedules National Two Cylinder Show

The eighteenth National Two Cylinder Tractor Show is scheduled for September 26 and 27 at the Major County Historical Society's grounds in Fairview.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and tractor games and

field demonstrations begin at 10 a.m. Tractors will parade at 12 noon and field demonstrations continue at 1:30. On Saturday events begin at 9 a.m.

This is a unique working show and visitors will watch tractor games as well as be able to

view the tractors plowing, baling, threshing and binding.

Food and concessions, an arts and crafts fair, and a swap meet are all included in a day of fun and history. Call for more information 580-227-4895.

Alva Hosts Festival of Flight Sept. 27-28

The fourth annual Oklahoma Festival of Flight is scheduled for September 27-28 at the Alva Regional Airport.

A free fly-in and air show includes aircraft displays, exhibits and a kids' zone.

In addition visitors can enjoy two hours of aerobatic performances. Over 200 aircraft and 5,000 visitors are projected to attend.

For more information call 580-327-3706.

Running concurrently is the 23rd annual Threshing Bee also in Fairview on Saturday and Sunday. The Threshing Bee sponsored by Major County Historical Society features old time equipment and a tractor pull at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday. For more information call 580-227-2265.

Big Cruise and Car Show 2008

The eighth annual Cowboy Beef Jerky Big Cruise and Car Show is scheduled for downtown Alva on September 19-21. The event organizers' goal of making each show bigger and more spectacular has led to this show becoming Alva's largest yearly tourism event.

New attractions in 2008 include R.C. rock crawlers, a swap meet, motorcycle stunt riders, and a street dance. Generous sponsors and the Alva tourism committee contribute, which enables the Alva Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the R.A.C.E. club to give away thousands of dollars in prizes and gifts. There are even free gasoline incentives to participants outside a 35 mile radius of Alva.

For additional information, call the Alva Chamber at 580-327-1647.

Wakita Celebrates Cherokee Strip

Wakita's all day Cherokee Strip Old Settlers Day Celebration is scheduled for September 13. This is a continuous yearly event in Wakita since 1922.

Organizers have events scheduled all day for all ages. The parade is at 4 p.m. and new entries are invited.

An evening meal will be served and a donation will be

accepted for the meal.

During the evening a hypnotist will provide entertainment.

Whiskey River, a country band, will play for a street dance that night.

The event is sponsored by the Wakita Lions Club.

For more information call 580-594-2200

Kaw Lake Fest

Rescheduled

Kaw Lake's annual Kaw-Fest has been rescheduled for July 19. It had originally been scheduled for June 14. The Kaw Lake Association encourages groups wanting to participate in the Sand Volleyball Tournament, Classic Car/Motorcycle Poker Run, Talent Revue and other Kaw Fest activities to put July 19 on their calendars and plan to attend.

The event, filled with fun-in-the-sun activities for every member of the family, will take place at Sandy Beach on Kaw Lake, just east of Ponca City.

The sand volleyball tournament begins at 9 a.m. and the classic car and motorcycle poker run begins at 9 and runs until 4. At 10 a.m. the kids' games begin. Also at 10 there is a sand sculpture contest. At 11 until 3:30 is the talent revue and from 6-11 visitors can listen to two live bands, Five Shades of Gray and Fund Da Fied.

Harper County Events Scheduled for Summer

Buffalo will host the Lyn Franks Memorial Roping at the Lauer Arena on July 20 and 21. The annual Firefighters Golf Scramble at Doby Springs kicks off on August 10. August 17 will find picnickers at Doby Springs Park for the Old Settlers Picnic. On August 30 the Lions Clubs Junior Rodeo is scheduled at the Fairgrounds Arena.

In Laverne visitors can shop the Town Wide Garage Sale and Farmers Market on September 20 and celebrate Homecoming with Laverne residents on September 26.

For more information in Buffalo 800-642-1883 and Laverne 580-921-3612.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Don't See Your News?

Send news items via email to paynek@pldi.net. Or phone 580-824-0600.

The deadline for the next edition will be September 15 for events October to January.

Discover Cherokee's Events

July and August are Rodeo times tract 90 vintage automobiles. in Oklahoma, and Cherokee is no Events scheduled include the ever exception. Cherokee's Round Up popular burn out and a poker run.

Club sponsors the Junior Rodeo on Pee Wee's Sound Machine will pro-Saturday, July 2. The Cherokee vide music for the day and the stampede Rodeo runs from August comedy duo of Smith 'n Nokes will 21-23. perform.

This year's rodeo parade on Satur- For the kids, Jumps of Fun will be day will include a category for truck set up with their ever popular water dogs. The Little Wrangler Contest slide and big bounce.

after the parade is always a hit. Grand Prize for the auto show is Parents and grandparents get to \$500 and several gasoline cards show off Cherokee's newest cow- will be awarded. For more infor- boys and cowgirls. mation call the Cherokee Main

The yearly Crystal Cruise and Car Street or Chamber of Commerce at show is August 9 this year. This 580-596-3575.

year's car show is expected to at-

Shop Kingfisher

Kingfisher has marked August 2 on the calendar. That is the date of the yearly Crazy Days and City Wide Garage Sales.

Tom's Drug, known for its famous orangeades as featured in *Southern Living* and on *Discover Oklahoma*, will culminate an 'Old Fashioned Drugstore and Soda Fountain' week on that day.

There will be bargains galore inside the stores, at sidewalk sales and all around the town.

If weather cooperates visitors may see lots of Virginia's Zinnias, a new agri-tourism business and zinnia seed company located one block off Maine Street.

Call the Kingfisher Chamber of Commerce at 405-375-4445

ANNUAL RED CARPET COUNTRY PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Shutterbugs, get your cameras loaded! The annual Red Carpet Country Photography Contest is open. Red Carpet Country is looking for photos of unique attractions or landscapes of this 16 county area of Oklahoma for the purpose of promoting it as a tourist destination. Deadline for submission of photos is August 1 this year. Entries must be postmarked by this date to be eligible. All photos submitted become the property of the Red Carpet Country Association and photos must be taken in Oklahoma's Red Carpet Country during 2007 or 2008. A photo submitted must have been taken by the person entering the photo. Entry forms are available by calling the Red Carpet Country Office in Alva.

Divisions include Professional, Adult and School Age. Categories include seasonal, wildlife, wildflowers, events or activities in Red Carpet Country, lifestyle in Red Carpet Country, landscapes, historic building, children, golden-age, human interest, hobbies, pets, and other. All entries must be 3"x5" to 8" x 10" in size and matted for suitable display. Only paper or cardboard matted pictures will be accepted. First, second and third place ribbons will be awarded in each category and division.