

September 18, 2017

Vadilia, Louisiana

Fall Rally

Monday all had arrived at the *Riverview RV Park* overlooking the mighty Mississippi River.

On **Tuesday** night we all got together for delicious dinner of pizza and salad.

Gene Anderson from Baytown Texas and Albert Rivera from Corpus Christi Texas told us of their experiences during Hurricane Harvey and how it devastated the Texas coast.



Prayers are still needed, as it is going to take a very long time for this area to recover.

Wednesday morning we had an awesome breakfast prepared by the men. After breakfast some of us went on a tour of Frogmore Plantation.

This plantation is still in operation today. They farm 1800 acres of cotton. We got to compare a plantation and a rare steam gin of the 1800's with a modern cotton plantation and computerized gin of today.

We learned about the culture of the Natchez planters from the Antebellum Era through Freedom and Share Cropping.

Several of our group got the chance to pick cotton for the first time while others remembered picking as a child.



It was a very interesting tour full of information of long ago.

Later that evening we all went to dinner at the *Biscuit and Blues Restaurant* in Natchez Mississippi. It is famous for its biscuits with apricot butter. Everyone enjoyed their meal and highly recommend eating there if in the Natchez area.

On **Thursday** we had another awesome breakfast prepared by the men.

Later in the morning some of us went on a “hop on hop off” tour of Natchez Mississippi. Just across the Mississippi River from Vidalia, Louisiana.



Natchez has been voted one of Southern Living 50 best places in the South.

For over three centuries this historic city has been situated on the bluff of the Mississippi River, and has been a cultural melting pot with a distinct love for music, history, food, and hospitality.

As we enjoyed driving by many of the beautiful Antebellum homes and historical sights some of us decided to take our cars and go back to do the inside tours of these gorgeous homes.



I could write and write about the history of this city. One interesting thing about this city was that by 1860 Natchez had more millionaires per capita than any other city in the United States. All this was because of King Cotton. However, most lost their wealth during the Civil War. Surprisingly, Natchez's architectural treasures remained largely intact.

On **Friday** the men took the day off and went to *Nikki's Restaurant* for a men's breakfast.

The ladies went to *Dunleith Mansion* for a tour and then to the *Castle Restaurant* on the Mansion grounds that was the carriage house long ago.

During lunch the ladies were nice enough to sing Happy Birthday to me. 😊



In the afternoon some members left to go on to other obligations.

The rest of us sat around and caught up on what we had been doing since we last saw each other and what fun we had at this rally .

Thank You **Gene and Jackie Anderson**, for hosting a wonderful rally.



We hope to see everyone in Tyler Texas in December for our Christmas Rally. Check the ACA/SCC web site for all the information.

Wishes for safe travels for all.

Susan Gesford
SCC Historian