

Come Camp With Us in Stonyford

Come camp with us in Stonyford, at the 74th Annual Stonyford Rodeo, May 6 and 7, 2017. You may likely score a *trifecta* of camping; in that the weather will, hopefully be sunny; the campgrounds are spacious with some amenities (toilets and garbage cans); and the rodeo action is first rate. Because Stonyford lacks motel facilities, camping at the rodeo has been a tradition for many folks and families over the last 70-odd years.

Over the three days of rodeo weekend, the camp grounds behind the arena are a merry place where good times abound for all campers. If you're not shy, newby campers will find it easy to join in the fun. There's nothing structured, just campers who get together and visit. Camping is \$25 per motor vehicle. That is, a vehicle pulling a trailer is \$25, but a camper towing a car (2 motorized vehicles) is \$50. It's a one-time fee that is good for the duration of your camping (one day or one week, whatever). There is also lakeside camping available along the shoreline of the East Park Reservoir, for a fee. These campgrounds are two miles away, on the Stonyford end of the lake, or eight miles distant, on the Lodoga end. Go to www.countyofcolusa.org/index for information.

The rodeo weekend events begin on Friday, May 5, at 3 p.m. when we crown our rodeo queen and her court. You'll get to see some interesting horsemanship from some very pretty cowgirls. Later in the evening, around 5 p.m. a passel of ladies will entertain you with their barrel-racing skills. On Saturday, May 6, breakfast will be available a short walk from the campgrounds, for a modest charge, and our annual parade will begin at 10 a.m.. This is a small-town parade featuring one or more sheriff's posses, ladies with flags, children on floats, a funny group of "firemen" showing their stuff, and a group of men and women dubbed the Corkhill Wild Bunch, who've come from all over and meet every year to march in this parade and see this rodeo. Rodeo action begins at 1 p.m..

On Sunday breakfast is available at 7 a.m., a rodeo church starts at 9 a.m., and rodeo begins at noon. On all three rodeo nights, dining, dancing and live music is available at the Timberline Bar and Grill, a short walk from the campgrounds. Stonyford is so small that once you've settled in to your camp, there's no need to drive again until you leave.

Tickets are available now at our website: www.stonycreekhorsemen.org. Or, you can get them at any of these area locations: Stonyford General Store, Stonyford; Carl's Feed, Willows; Boot Barn, Chico, Anderson & Yuba City; Bucke's Feed & Grain, Orland; Marie's Lakeshore Feed, Clearlake; Rainbow Ag, Lakeport; Ace Hardware, Arbuckle; AgriSource (Parts Dept.), Maxwell; and Hust Bros., Colusa (formerly, Colusa Motor Sales).

Pre-rodeo tickets purchased online or from any of the businesses listed above are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 7-12 years and older— children 6 years and under are free. Tickets purchased at the gate are \$15 and \$7. So get'em early and save money!



Figure 1. On Rodeo Weekend These Campgrounds Will be Full. Photo by Roy Stewart