

TOWN



NEWS

Dallas Chapter – February 2026

Monthly Meeting February 9th

6-7:30

Faith and Kay's Home

7816 Kristina Dr

Frisco, TX 75034

Come learn about MASA – A medical transportation company



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROSIE!

TOWN ACTIVITIES

Mark your Calendars!!

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**Weekday Hike, Friday Feb 20th 10 AM**

**Woodbridge Soft Trails in Sachse, 3-3 1/2 miles**

**3703 Woodglen Ln, Sachse, TX 75048**

**Shirley Meurer 972-890-2491**  
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**March 5th-8th**

**Camping at Inks Lake State Park**

**Contact Shirley Meurer to reserve your spot**

**972-890-2491 [sameurer@yahoo.com](mailto:sameurer@yahoo.com)**  
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**March 18th-22nd**

**Camping at Goose Island State Park**

**Contact Judy Shaw for more details**

**[jshawtx@aol.com](mailto:jshawtx@aol.com)**  
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**March 26th-29th**

**Camping at Huntsville State Park**

**Contact Nancy Lee to sign up**

**[nlee002@tx.rr.com](mailto:nlee002@tx.rr.com) 469-264-4643**  
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**April 16th-18th**

**Camping at Dinosaur Valley State Park**

**Contact Sharon Fahlberg to sign**

**up [sfahlberg@aol.com](mailto:sfahlberg@aol.com) 214-991-1234**  
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**Kayaking/Rafting Trip on the Rogue River in Oregon**

**Contact Shirley for details 972-890-2491**  
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**April 30th -May 3rd**

**Camping at Daingerfield State Park**

**Contact Marie Waterman to sign up**

**214-733-3222**  
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**Saturday June 6th from 1-5 PM**

**Pool Party**

**Join us at Karen King's for a relaxing day in the country.**

**247 Barnes Bridge Road, Sunnyvale, 75182.**  
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**Saturday, June 27th 10-4 PM**

**Day of fun on Cedar Creek Lake**

**2182 Hickory St., Mabank, TX 75156**

**Hosted by Mary Nester and Mar Burris**

**RSVP to 214-316-8960**  
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**Monthly Meetings 6pm – 7:30pm**

**2nd Monday of the Month**

**Contact Shirley to host**  
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First Hike of 2026

Robbie, Mary, Marie, MJ, Shirley, Dale, Cathy and Deborah enjoyed a hike at Arbor Hills and lunch at Cowboy Chicken on the annual TOWN First hike of the year.



Ever wonder how you would handle a medical emergency out in the wild or in another country? Or what would happen if your insurance company deemed your ambulance ride a non-emergency? Or you slip and fall on a cruise ship and break your back in Honduras as Faith did.

MASA has an answer. MASA is a Medical Transportation Company. Most people aren't aware of how insufficient their health coverage is until it's too late. Unfortunately, accidents do happen, and they can place financial burdens on your family. We believe no one should have to worry about unexpected bills during or after an emergency. Our mission is to provide industry-leading medical transportation solutions for our members and to protect you with compassion when facing life's biggest emergencies.

Come to the February meeting and learn what they have to offer. Food and drinks will be provided by MASA. An RSVP would be appreciated.

Kay.gowdy@gmail.com or faithmaukcasale@gmail.com

MASA

<https://masaaccess.com/>

There will also be a short presentation from the Neptune society.

Neptune Society

<https://neptunesociety.com/>

Possible new trips!

[Mason Mountains Wildlife Management Area](#). If it looks interesting, you're in luck! I've scheduled a tour for October 2, 2026 at 9am. It will probably last until at least lunchtime. The Kerrville TOWN group was there recently and didn't leave until 1:30. Apparently it's a fascinating place! You may have read about it as the place where TCU is trying to reintroduce the horny toad.

The plan would be to camp at [South Llano River State Park](#). Looks like it's the closest state park with camping. It's about an hours drive to MMWMA. Wednesday through Sunday camp out is suggested.

If you'd like to take the tour but don't want to camp, the city of Junction is about 5 miles away. The Sun Valley Motel is basic and clean. Phone number is 325-446-2505. Or search for others in the area

SLRSP is really beautiful with a lovely river that's perfect for paddling or floating. There's also fishing, hiking and geocaching. Plus, it's a dark sky park. Very dark!

Also, about an hour away, is [Devil's Sinkhole State Natural Area](#). Entry is a guided tour by reservation only. It's an evening tour to see the bats leave this massive hole in the ground. It is an amazing experience. Highly recommended!

Please contact Melissa Brown with the answers to these questions:

mbrown.mbrown@gmail.com 254-582-1528

1. *Are you interested in attending the tour at Mason Mountains?*
2. *Are you interested in camping at SLRSP or would you stay elsewhere?*
3. *Are you interested in visiting Devil's Sinkhole*

No deposit is needed at this time.

Italy anyone?

Sharon has put together some possible itineraries for us to think about. Please review and be ready with your questions at the next meeting.

Note from Sharon: Interested in a multi-sport, cultural adventure in Italy?

September is a great time to visit Italy, weather is perfect and tourism is lower than the summer. As many of you know my step-son and Italian wife live in northern Italy. They have volunteered to pull together a variety of possible itineraries for those of us who might be interested in an Italian adventure. I have outlined some of their suggestions below and possible activities.

Before I get too far into the planning process, I need to know, if anyone is interested. If there is interest, we can get together and determine the best itinerary, activities and confirm dates and pricing. This is a very customizable trip with an opportunity to see Italy through the eyes of a local. Of course, price is based on the variety of activities we choose, and the length of time we stay.

Interested? Email Sharon at sfahlberg@aol.com or text at 214-991-1234. There will be a limit to the number of travelers due to van size and ease of travel, etc.

Possible destinations:

1. Naples, Amalfi Coast and Sicily - This trip moves through southern Italy, combining coastal landscapes, and island environments. It includes time in Naples, the Amalfi Coast, and a transfer to Sicily with stops in Palermo and the eastern coast. Days alternate between hiking, walking with time on the water for kayaking, snorkeling or swimming, shopping and cultural opportunities. Food is informal and regional but can include a street food crawl sampling pizza in Naples, Limoncello and lemon dessert tasting on the Amalfi Coast, and even a cannoli workshop. Cultural experiences could be guided tour of Pompeii or Herculaneum, Taormina Greek Theater at golden hour, or Monreale mosaics from Palermo.

2. Venice, Dolomites and Lake Garda, Spa Day - This trip starts in Venice with a kayak through the canals and then shifts north into the mountain and lake environments. The central part of this trip is focused on the Dolomites and involves hiking at varying levels often supported by lifts. The final segment is spent around Lake Garda with time on the water and a planned spa experience. Food is regional and can include a cicchetti crawl, prosecco and apple strudel tasting. Enjoy cultural experiences such as the Peggy Guggenheim collection, St. Marks Basilica and glass or mask making in Venice.

3. Florence, Siena, Tuscany and Gran Sasso - This trip combines urban centers in central Italy with rural and mountain areas. Activities include walking hiking, e-biking through vineyards, food and wine tasting and some museum visits. The final part of the trip is more remote and a little more physically demanding than the earlier part. The contrast between cities, agricultural landscapes and high mountain terrains is the feature of this trip. Food again is regional but can include a gelato tasting crawl, truffle and olive oil tasting, and charcuterie board workshop. Cultural experiences include visits to various artisan studios and guided walks.