

RURAL TEXAS TOURISM LLC

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Bring on Any Weather--The Best Little Cowboy Gathering Returns to La Grange to Celebrate the Tradition of Cowboy Culture March 7-9



Logo created by
local Rebekah Zatopek



Trick Roper Kevin Fitzpatrick



Brazos Bottom Cowographers



Jody Nix

“If you don’t come early and stay late, you’re gonna miss something. And don’t worry about the weather—you’re not getting stuck--we just go indoors as we did with 7 inches of rain last year!” That’s the message for the public from the originators of the captivating 5th Annual Best Little Cowboy Gathering-and they aren’t kidding. This celebration of cowboy culture (*with proceeds going to youth scholarships*), held at the Fayette County Fairgrounds (one mile north of La Grange on Highway 77) has become not only a tradition but an educational venue to those that may have not ever embraced that “cowboy persona.”

A full day of activities has been added to this rapidly growing event that is earmarked with incredible music, trick ropers, fiddling, cowgirl ball, all star swing band, horse clinic, the “Best Little Cook-Off in Texas”, the Brazos Valley

Cowographers, Single Action Shooting Society, Cowboy Art, Exhibit Booths, church wagon exhibits cowboy art, dutch oven cook-off, and loads of children's events, food, arts and crafts. If you know nothing about the history, culture, and climate of the cowboy, you'll leave with some lasting memories through music, demonstrations, and activities for all ages—and all at a small cost for the entire family that can't be beat.

On Thursday, March 7 gates open at 5:00 pm and Landon Dodd plays from 7:00 pm into the night. This one day admission is a nominal fee of \$12.00. Friday, March 8, gates open at 10:00 am (for a one day admission of \$20.00) and starting at noon, Jeff Woolsey plays inside the Fair Pavilion (Old Roundup Hall). Beginning at 3:30 pm, Lone Star Swing will keep the festivities rolling along and at 7:00 pm on the main stage, Tommy Hooker performs with Jake Hooker following at 8:00 pm at the dance hall (good music runs in the Hooker family!).

The Saturday, March 9th festivities begin with gates opening at 9:30 am and be prepared for a cooking class. The every-popular Texas Parks & Wildlife's favorite Dutch oven chef, Tim Spice is featured at 10:00 am. Expect to learn about horses (and perhaps polish up your tactics as a trainer) when joining the inspiring and educational Dan Keen Horse Clinic. At 11:00 am, prepare yourself for old time law and order when the Brazos Bottom Cowographers are featured. Get ready for more fun as 11:30 rolls in with K. R. Woods following by the English Brothers at 1:00 pm and world class trick ropin' on horses with Kevin and Will Fitzpatrick.

Highlighting the weekend will be an exciting hour of a "Jody Nix Fiddle Extravaganza" with 10 fiddle players (yes, ten!) charming the audience with their extraordinary talent—a truly good Texas time for all and yet another way to spotlight the great cowboy culture. Two stages will be running beginning at 4:00 pm—Wander inside the dance hall to catch up with Billy Mata and the Texas Tradition plus Grammy winning piano player Floyd Domino and horn player John Doyle. Witness a nine-piece Bob Wills/Asleep at the Wheel style orchestra that you just won't forget. Ramblin' back outside will be Darrel McCall and Tony Booth joined by guest Georgette Jones, (daughter of both Country Music Hall of Fame Legend George Jones and Tammy Wynette), singing some old favorites that would make her mother proud. A very nominal fee of \$20.00 is the admission for the entire day.

If you get hungry from all of the dancing, fun, and excitement both Friday and Saturday, you don't have to leave the grounds--enjoy a delicious Texas meal at 5:30 PM which will hit the spot. In addition to these meals, throughout the weekend there will be a BBQ contest sanctioned by the Lone Star BBQ Association covering 5 different categories including beans, margaritas, chicken, ribs and brisket. Another great venue featured will be a Dutch Oven Cookoff, which includes categories including main dish, bread, and dessert. New for this year, will be The Best Little Chicken Ranch Soup category for our Dutch oven chefs to outdo each other. Expect to see some very serious competition and fun.

Self-contained RVS can park for free on the grounds. Food concessions will be available and catered meals are presale only through the website or Eventbright. “Come early and stay late regardless of the weather is the biggest impression we want to leave for everyone. We are thrilled to have such a great event that reaches all ages right in the heart of Central Texas and continue to reach out to the next generation in discovering the cowboy and are so thankful to have these proceeds go towards youth scholarships,” states Jon Quinn. Visit the highlight reel on YOUTUBE and for any general information regarding the Best Little Cook-Off in Texas, booths, activities, vendors, the horse clinic, RV space, entertainment, sponsorship or tickets, visit www.bestlittlecowboygathering.com or call Beverly Quinn at 979-249-3033. Two or three day passes for the March 7-9 Best Little Cowboy Gathering with meal tickets may be purchased at reduced rates by buying in advance at Le Petite Gourmet Shop located at 134 N. Washington Street, www.bestlittlecowboygathering.org, by mail, or at EVENTBRIGHT.

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Cathy Chaloupka
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