

## **A DREAM COME TRUE**

### **CONSTRUCTION OF THE SASS COWBOY MEMORIAL CHAPEL IS NOW UNDERWAY!**

By Palaver Pete, Member, Cowboy Memorial Chapel Committee

When Cowboys set their minds to do something, that something ***gets done!*** Seems like yesterday, but in reality it's been a couple of years now that the SASS© community has pulled together to collect funds to build a Cowboy Memorial Chapel at Founders Ranch. What started as a dream for two Cowboys has now become a reality. That dream has materialized, and work has started on ***our Chapel!*** Thanks to contributions and donations from our generous Vendors, Merchants, Affiliated Clubs, and individual SASS Members, sufficient funds to start construction are on hand. Let's give ourselves a big 'high five' and an even bigger 'well done!' The Cowboy Memorial Chapel is now underway!

***A Vision—A Dream—A Reality!*** Long Jim Hancock, SASS Regulator #47369, and Maurice 'MO' Lasses, SASS Life #65309 had a dream: Our Cowboy Town needed a Chapel. What's a Cowboy Town without a Chapel they asked? The two men approached the Wild Bunch seeking approval to construct the Chapel at Founders Ranch. The Wild Bunch approved the concept without hesitation. As soon as approval was received, the two Cowboys went to work. First task was to form a committee—the second task was to start a fund raising drive. The work ahead was not going to be easy, but the vision and the dream they inspired was immediately embraced by the SASS community.

***The Chapel Committee:*** One of the first members to volunteer was Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907. Cree and the Vicar's wife have traveled near and far, from one Cowboy Church to another passing the hat for the cause. It would be impossible to correctly estimate the total amount of money collected by Cree and the Vicar's wife, but it was truly significant! Joining Cree and Yours Truly, was none other than hard working Singin' Sue,

SASS#71715, whose notable work included obtaining an RV rental for a week's free use by some lucky Cowboy—that Cowboy turned out to be Ranger Braxton, SASS#54528 and his lovely Wife, Ms. Kitty Elle, SASS#86213. This good looking couple can be easily recognized walking around the Founder's Ranch Campus—they are the ones with the biggest smiles on their faces. Thank you Singin' Sue!

The Fund Raising is still in progress, but thanks to the generosity of our membership, sufficient funds are on hand to start the construction, and today you will see that work in progress as you visit the Chapel site. The Chapel project seems to have embodied a new spirit within SASS reflected by the volunteerism of not only the Chapel Committee, but also the construction crew that framed the Chapel. The Crew, led by Johnny Jingoos, SASS#8494 consisted of: Will Shootem, SASS#29892 (that's Joe Alves of Pioneer Gun Works), High Court Drifter, SASS#85438, Key West, SASS#85439, Doug Yer Grave, SASS#55244, and Big Lou, SASS#7632. These Volunteers traveled from California and Oregon to do the Chapel framing before the start of End of Trail. If you happen to run into any of these Cowboys, be sure to give them a big 'thank you!'

Well Pard that completes a Chapel update for now, but keep in mind that funds are still needed to complete construction and to establish a maintenance fund for the Chapel within the SASS non-profit charity umbrella. Your donation at Cowboy Church will help—you're a Daisy if ya do.