

Huge NM auction draws crowd from six states

By TIM KELLER
The Chronicle-News

Nara Visa, NM – The auction goods were spread over so many acres Saturday that a security guard had to keep patrol on



Photos by Tim Keller

Colonel Swede L. Swedeen auctioned off acres of treasures Saturday.

a four-wheeler.

Veteran auctioneer "Colonel" Swede L. Swedeen assembled so much estate-sale merchandise that the handbills drew crowds from six states, including Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, and Iowa, in addition to New Mexico. By noon, the all-day sale had registered more than 50 bidders, many of whom sat patiently under shade trees waiting for their target goods to come on sale. There were more than a

dozen cars and trucks from the 1940s and 50s, along with others of later vintage. There was a 1954 Harley Davidson motorcycle, and a speedboat. There were several horse-drawn carriages, horses not included –

though when auctioning off a fire hydrant, Swedeen quipped, "We got a dog that goes with this."

Saddles, mannequins, quilts, antique gas pumps, a sawmill, a life-size wooden Indian – there seemed to be no limit to the merchandise. There was even an 1860 Civil War jail cell, complete with the original lock, key, and leg irons.

Posted to every available vertical surface were colorful metal signs of every size and vintage, more than 100 of them altogether. Some, such as gas station signs, were so big they'd take a large truck to remove.

Tables holding kitchen goods would span half a football field. There were more than a dozen old working clocks, alongside cutlery sets and serving dishes.

A 1929 mahogany drop-leaf dining table went for \$110, a large wicker basket filled with marbles for \$27.50. A handy gardening tool, "a Missouri Worm Shovel," brought \$10.

While Swedeen's wife, Marie, tabulated sales in the office, his daughter, Roxie Keen, stood by his side writing down all the sale data. Roxie's husband, Jim Keen, patrolled the grounds on the four-wheeler, perhaps over-qualified for the job: he's a Pueblo County (CO) deputy sheriff and highly-decorated 20-year veteran of the US Army Rangers and Green Berets. All he did Saturday



Vintage signs and tools were among the thousands of items sold.

was smile, though he did identify himself as a full-time coyote hunter: "Seven days a week I hunt coyotes, both the four-legged and two-legged kinds." He also runs cattle and performs his own vivid cowboy poetry.

With a headset microphone attached as he moved through the grounds, bringing the crowd with him, Swedeen spoke in regular English, not the speaking-in-tongues patois of other auctioneers. With so much merchandise to move, he

kept to the business at hand, limiting the jokes and banter. At one point he started in, then interrupted himself, saying, "Well, I'll tell the story after the auction's over – Campfire tonight!"

Indeed, a huge fire pit was already prepared; it was easy to imagine tall flames lighting tired faces around the circle after a long day in the sun. On the other hand, it wouldn't be hard to imagine that Swedeen had auctioned off the fire pit, too.

Trinidad Lake State Park weekend activities

Special to The Chronicle-News

Saturday, July 3 – 4p.m. "DOW Youth Archery Program"

Join Park Interpreter Pat Patrick in welcoming Division of Wildlife District Manager Bob Holder as he presents the Division of Wildlife Youth Archery Program. Activities include target practice, a fun shoot, a 3-D shoot, and instruction. Boys and girls are invited to attend, but must be accompanied by a parent. Instruction on the finer points of archery safety and shooting a bow will be presented. The DOW will furnish the equipment. No personal equipment will be allowed. This event is a great opportunity for youngsters to learn more about this rapidly growing type of outdoor recreation and try their hand at using a bow. Archery is one of the world's oldest sports. It is safe and fun when done properly. The program will begin promptly at 4:00 p.m. in the Carpois Cove Parking lot area. All vehicles must have a park pass.

Saturday, July – 3 p.m. Tales of the Fur Trade

Mountain man Jack Rudder will entertain all ages with tales of the western fur trade. Come and learn the history of the fur trade and the role it played in the development of the mountainous west. Join us at the amphitheatre and check out some of the real wildlife fur that gave life to the trade.

Sunday, July 4 – 7 p.m. Pickn' and Grin' 'Round the Campfire

Bring your own marshmallows for this family oriented program. Meet at the Amphitheatre to hear singer and guitar player Kevin Crosby and mandolin player/singer Mark Huston as they perform campfire tunes for the entire family. From traditional to the unusual, from gunslingin' to godspellin' from Appalachia to the Rockies. Remember to BYOM (Bring Your Own Marshmallows) or share some of ours.



Auctioned signs, carriages, and cars were arrayed over several acres.

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Trinidad Family Aquatic Center

2010 hours of operation and pool schedule

Monday-Tuesday
Closed

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
Swimming lessons: 10 am to Noon
Closed: Noon to 1 p.m.
Open swim: 1 to 5:15 p.m.
Family Swim: 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday
Lap Swim: 9 - 10:30 a.m.
Family swim: 10:30 am to Noon
Closed: Noon to 1 p.m.
Open swim: 1 to 5:15 p.m.
Swimming Pool Parties: 5:30 - 8 p.m. (2 1/2 hour limit)

The fees for the Family Aquatic Center are:
Children ages 2-18 – \$3
Adults ages 19-59 – \$5
Seniors age 60 and older – \$3
Non-Swimmers – \$2
Locker rental – \$1 per day
Swimming Passes*
10 punch pass – \$25
30 punch pass – \$70
60 punch pass – \$120
90 punch pass – \$140

* Passes are nonrefundable must present pass each time you come into pool! Not valid for swimming lessons or parties.

Swimming lessons \$20 per session (six classes total)
Pool Parties \$80 (Saturday and Sunday evenings from 5:30 to 8 p.m. (2 1/2 hour maximum) Interested parties need to call in advance to reserve dates and times.

For more information please call the **Family Aquatic Center at 719-846-2675 located at 1309 Beshoar Drive.**

During family swim children must be accompanied by an adult!

Visit our concession stand for tasty snacks!

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Marathon Water Heaters: \$425 (Must participate in SIEA Load Management Program. Some restrictions may apply.)

Good only on Energy Star Appliances and Marathon Water Heaters 40 gal. or larger. Must be SIEA member and submit for rebate within 180 day of purchase.

For more information contact the **SIEA Energy Services Dept. at 719-647-6242 or visit www.siea.com.**

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An Open Letter to Democratic Voters in Las Animas County

Dear Voter,

As the primary election draws near, you are the best character reference I can offer for you to consider when making your voting decision.

You know me and what I stand for. You know how I have demonstrated my values to you through the years. You know what skills I have and how they will benefit Las Animas County. The truth is, the only thing anyone can offer you is his reputation. The personal knowledge you have in your heart and mind makes you the best qualified to decide who is worthy of your consideration and, more importantly, your vote.

•Character •Integrity •Knowledge
•Judgment •Honor •Loyalty •Courtesy

These are the tenants in the Charge of the Colorado State Patrol. I submit to you that I should earn your vote. In the same way I devoted myself to the State Patrol and with the same due diligence, I will apply myself to the position of county commissioner. You need and deserve no less than my best effort.

I believe we can solve our problems, but it will require some tough decisions. I suggest we must form partnerships wherever possible. We will have to be creative and innovative in our approach to governance. Our success will require multi-dimensional, "out-of-the-box" thinking, and we will need brand new approaches to intelligent problem solving.

Your support and vote in this coming election are greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully,
Anthony Mattie
Anthony Mattie

INDIVIDUAL SKILLS VOLLEYBALL CAMP

For Grades K through 8

DATES: July 5-6, Monday & Tuesday

COACHES: Hoehne High School
Shelly Jones, Head Volleyball Coach
Beth Kreuzer, Assistant Volleyball Coach
Hoehne High School Volleyball Team

CAMP HELD AT: Hoehne School Gyms (both old and new)

The exact times may vary, but the following have been proposed for grades 3 - 8. For \$50	The exact times may vary, but the following have been proposed for grades K - 2: For \$30
July 5 - 8-9: check-in, meet, and greet 9-12: skills work 12-1: lunch 1-5: skills work and play	July 5 - 8-9: check-in, meet, and greet 9-12: skills work
July 6 - 9-12: skills and team work 12-1: lunch 1-4: skills and team work 4-5: wrap-up, evaluation, and discussion time	July 6 - 9-12: skills and team work 12-1: wrap-up, evaluation, and discussion time

Players will need to bring water bottles, sports drinks, any snacks and lunch if needed for the day. Coaches will be available to answer questions or help players as necessary. Players are expected to wear the appropriate gear: knee pads, shoes which have never been worn outside, socks, shorts, t-shirts, as well as any other personal needs deemed necessary by the individual (ways to keep hair back, braces, etc.)