

August 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Wagon Mound Celebrates “Bean Days” on the 2016 Labor Day weekend

By Brenda Gonzales, member, *Wagon Mound Bean Day Association*

Our 106th *Bean Days* start Friday Sept 2nd, at 6:00 pm, with more than ever to do and celebrate!

Activities include three days of rodeo, a big parade, a car show, mud bog races, dances, kid’s games, free “open mike” musical performances in the park, and our traditional free *Beans & Barbecue Lunch* serving more than 1,500 people.

This year’s parade theme is: *Communications Around the Santa Clara – La Familia*.

It is told that In 1909 Higinio Gonzales and crew cooked beans in wash boilers behind the schoolhouse for the *Mora County Farmers Harvest Jubilee*. The next year, folks renamed this harvest gathering, and although beans are no longer grown by the tons in this area, a ranching and farming way of life continues, as does the fiesta known as *Bean Days* -- come and join the fun.

Bean Days activities on September 2 through September 5, 2016 are many -- these are some:

- The action starts Friday night, September 2nd, at 6:00 pm with the traditional “firehouse bean cleaning party”, a hamburger & hot dog fundraiser dinner, and a FREE street dance featuring *Peter Vigil Y Los Hermanos*
- Three big Rodeos: Saturday 2:00 pm, Sunday 2:00 pm, and Monday (Labor Day) at 2:00 pm
- Food and merchandise vendors downtown Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday
- Veterans Memorial service, Saturday at 9:00 am at *Wagon Mound Veterans Memorial Park* on Highway 120
- Car Show – our 4th annual Open Car Show on Saturday, entries at 10:00 am, Car Show at 11:30 am, Calhoun Street & Railroad Avenue (near the park.) Trophies will be awarded, and a “People’s Choice Award”
- Softball tournaments on Saturday and Sunday mornings until dusk
- “Open Mike” during *Music in the Park* Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm.
- Breakfast at the firehouse, Sunday from 8:00 to 10:00 am
- Amateur horseshoe tournaments, Sunday at 10:00 am
- Mud Bog Races Sunday at 11:00 am (Driver’s signup at 10:00 am)
- Services on Sunday at 11:00 am at the Baptist church and Mass at 11:30 am at *Santa Clara Catholic church*
- Dance to *Peter Vigil Y Los Hermanos Band* on Sunday night from 9:00 pm to 1:00 am, at the school old gym
- Food at the *Santa Clara Parish Hall* Monday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Bingo 2:00 pm, raffle ticket sales all weekend
- Parade through downtown Monday morning at 9:30 am, typically one of the largest in New Mexico
- Kids events including street races and other games, Monday morning (right after the parade)
- Traditional FREE delicious Beans & Barbecue lunch, Monday in the Village Park from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm
- Live music in the village park Monday from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm

Bean Days is a time to enjoy many opportunities for participation, entertainment, and reuniting with family and friends -- or for just visiting for the first time. Pick up a free *Bean Days Program* for details on all activities.

Wagon Mound is located in northeast New Mexico, on I-25 at the intersection of State Hwy 120 (387 exit). Look for “the mound that looks like a wagon and team” on the historic *Santa Fe Trail*. Free Camping at the *L J M Village Park* is available on a first come basis (no facilities available at any of these locations). Additional camping locations and motels are available in Springer (25 miles north), or in Las Vegas, NM (40 miles south).

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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