

Touted as "The Largest Rockabilly Car / Motorcycle Show and Music Festival in the State of Arizona" it can easily be believed. The 2019 event took place February 15-17, at Lake Havasu State Park. The venue is beautiful, on the shore of Lake Havasu. You get the views of the water and mountains of California as you gaze across. The weather couldn't have been better for the day.

The parking lot was packed when we arrived. Organizer Kennie shared that an estimated 30,000+ visitors attended over the 3 days. There were definitely a lot of people there at any given time, but the location is big enough that {to us} it never felt over-crowded.

The first thing you are greeted with as you enter the event site is row after row of great cars to inspect, ogle, photograph, admire, reminisce over, wish for, etc. The motorcycle portion of the show was smaller than the autos, with 'just' 126 bikes registered, but it is a growing segment of the event.

On the other hand, there were 896 autos on display! That's far too many vehicles to write about

each one. So we just chose a few to mention ... There are more pix in the [online photo album](#) to view. A 1902 Ford Model A was the oldest vehicle on site. That being said, the 1929 REO Flying Cloud was an equally rare sight. A 1941 Harley-Davidson Servi-car was among the bikes.

Vendors included HoggDogs, Purple Slice, Mother Road HD, and Kong Pinstriping [sponsored by Law Tigers]. Soldiers For Jesus MC Havasu also had a booth. It was great to meet some of them after recently sharing their Yucca Toy Run story in our January issue. There were 162 vendors, offering a wide variety of goods & services including.... apparel, metal signs, hats, frozen spark plugs, artwork, massage, insurances, essential oils, home services such as a Realtor, exterminator, & solar systems; and more. There were of course NUMEROUS outlets to find rockabilly attire - for guys & gals! You could even do a hair & makeup 'Rockabilly Makeover'.

The Food Court was extensive... offering a wide variety of options for most anyone's preference.

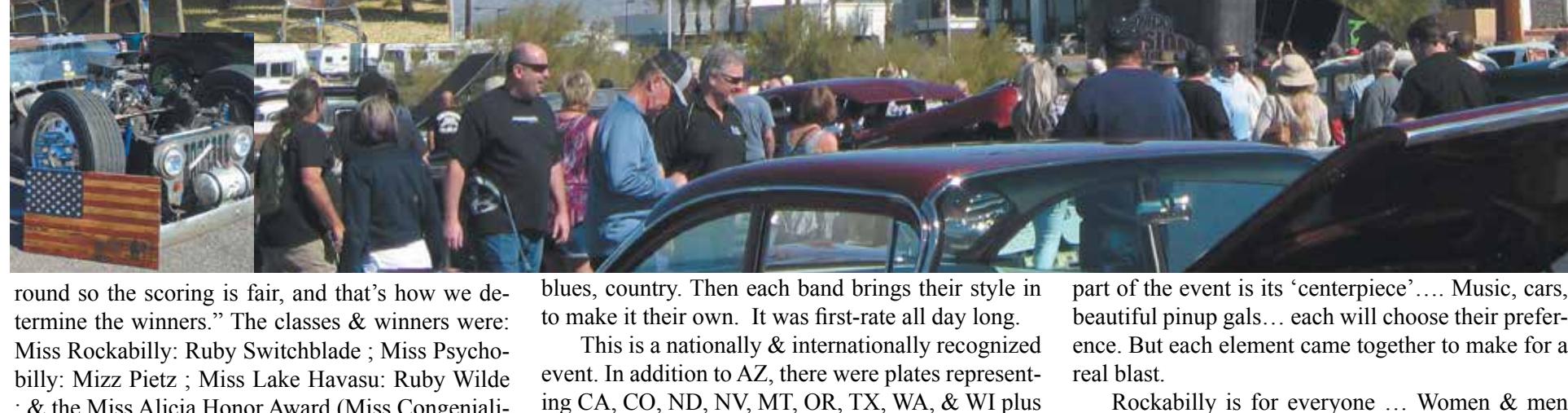
Activities and additional entertainment includ-

ed a Kids Zone with big inflatables. There was a climbing wall, a zip line, and a face painting booth. The Motocross stunt show out in the parking lot had some really talented jumpers taking to the air.

The Pinup Pageant took place during band breaks. Pinup It's Classic Americana. There's more out there to learn about it than I'd imagined. Interest level covers the spectrum from just enjoying the clothes to adopting pinup as a lifestyle. This year's LHC Rockabilly Reunion Pinup Pageant was the 11th annual. It included 10 ladies, each hoping for top honors. Emcee was Ms Dixie Rebelle, a professional pinup model & event planner.

There were 3 rounds, each taking place on Saturday; with winners being announced on Sunday. 1st was a classic 'getting to know you' round. Each gal introduced herself & answered some questions. 2nd round was the swimsuit competition. 3rd round included posing with cars in the show. Among the prizes are cold hard cash, Gretsch guitars; plus, next year's event posters will feature one of these ladies.

According to Dixie, "We have random judges each



round so the scoring is fair, and that's how we determine the winners." The classes & winners were: Miss Rockabilly: Ruby Switchblade ; Miss Psychobilly: Mizz Pietz ; Miss Lake Havasu: Ruby Wilde ; & the Miss Alicia Honor Award (Miss Congeniality): Heather Riot.

Pinup Pageant contestants must be at least 16 years old. Anyone interested in more info or to enter for next year can email

pinuprockabillyreunion@yahoo.com.

There was also a kids class in the Pageant. All told, about a dozen kids participated. Some were outgoing, others were shy. There was a lot of support from the audience. Little Miss Rockabilly was Bonnie, Little Miss Psychobilly was Rayne, and Little Mr. Greaser was Pretty Boy Floyd.

And of course we haven't even gotten to the MUSIC yet! Whether you're at the bandstand or making your way around the venue it's hard not to dance or tap your toes. Rockabilly incorporates rock & roll, swing, jump, boogie woogie, rhythm &

blues, country. Then each band brings their style in to make it their own. It was first-rate all day long.

This is a nationally & internationally recognized event. In addition to AZ, there were plates representing CA, CO, ND, NV, MT, OR, TX, WA, & WI plus Alberta in the car show. Visitors traveled in from Chile, Canada, & Mexico.

Kennie sent out thanks to all their Sponsors...

Allusions Hair Center {Lake Havasu City}, Kokomo {LHC}, e-tix, Russ Brown motorcycle attorney,

Emerald Aire Heat & A/C, Boat Brokers & RV, Blind Pig

Tattoo & Piercing, High Life Pomade Hair Dressing,

Dragonfly Cycle Concepts, London Bridge Resort,

Evapo-Rust, Viking Bags, Shock Top Belgian White,

Michelob Ultra, Budweiser, & Bud Light; plus the

Rockabilly Hall of Fame and Rockabilly Productions.

Images of 'Rosie the Riveter', the movie 'Grease', and TV's 'Happy Days' all come into play here. It was fun to step back in time and enjoy the memories. It would be hard to determine just what

part of the event is its 'centerpiece' Music, cars, beautiful pinup gals... each will choose their preference. But each element came together to make for a real blast.

Rockabilly is for everyone ... Women & men of all ages, as well as kids, get in the mood by putting on their retro threads. But whether you decide to dress the part or 'come as you are' you'll find a fun-filled time waiting for you at the Lake Havasu Rockabilly Reunion. Next year's dates are set. Mark your calendar for February 14 - 15 - 16, 2020. This event keeps getting bigger each year & Kennie hinted that, "We have a few new things up our sleeve."

We hope you can make the scene!

Betsy & Bruce

See more pix by clicking the title online to visit our photo album.

Learn more about this event by visiting their website at www.lakehavasurockabillyreunion.com.



While checking out the vehicles in the show, we came across 'Miss Scarlet' with her family.

Lunch during the Rockabilly Reunion was at our favorite food vendor HoggDoggs. {Owner Mark is pictured here with sister & assistant Tina.} Our veggie burgers were delicious. Our Cousins who lunched with us were impressed with the Salmon Burger and traditional HoggDogg lunches.