



Convention and Visitors Bureau

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**Local Abilene Man, Don Henry, Does His Part to Help Abilene Economy
National Cushman Club of America Votes Abilene for 2013**

ABILENE, TEXAS - On Thursday in Sturgis, South Dakota, Abilene supporter and Cushman Club enthusiast, Don Henry invited the National Cushman Club of America members to meet in Abilene. The board and membership voted to convene in Abilene in June 2013. With the assistance of Don and Judy Henry, Jennilee Latimer, Sales Director for the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau and other Big Country area members, Abilene was well promoted during the five day event.

Don Henry, having served as the president of the state and national clubs and current past president and financial officer wanted Abilene to host the national meet. Henry passionately solicited the bid and asked the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau to assist in the process. "It is people like Mr. Henry that make a positive difference in Abilene's economy. Abilene would not have this event without Don Henry's desire to bring it to Abilene and his willingness to host the national meet in 2013," says Nanci Liles, Executive Director of the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Hosting the national meet will also take the support of the Big Country Area Cushman Club. Several members also traveled Sturgis to vote for, and support Abilene's bid. Texas has not hosted the national meet since 2004, and this is Abilene's first time. This year (2010), marks the 28th Cushman Club of America national meet.

The National Cushman Club of America will meet at the Expo Center June 23-27, 2013. The national meet will bring in 1,200 people for five days and generate \$660,000 to the local economy.

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