



WHITE SANDS PANHANDLERS Chapter Newsletter with Meeting Minutes

MAY 2023 CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

INTRODUCTION

The April Meeting scheduled for March 13 at The Hangar Grill in Milton FL was not held because not enough Members were present to conduct business. Members present were Chuck & Carol Kuzma, Paul & Margie Moniz, Bob Zeller, Lisa Lyons and 2 Guests of Lisa's, Michael and Michelle Swift.

To bring all members up to date on the financial state of the chapter, the Treasurer's report For May was prepared by Carol Kuzma, Treasurer.

Beginning Balance as of March 31, 2023		\$1,024.19
<u>Expenses</u>		
Regional Muster Gift Basket	\$ 56.98	
Total Expenses		\$ 56.98
<u>Income</u> (monies received)		
New Member dues, Sabatino and Northup	\$ 20.00	
Total Income		<u>\$ 20.00</u>
Closing Balance as of May 22, 2023		\$ 987.21

BUSINESS

There are no Secretary and Committee Reports, and no new or old business was discussed. All chapter reports will be presented at the next Chapter Meeting. Chapter Meetings are held at every Chow Call and Chapter Muster.

SC REGION MUSTER

On May 9-12, The South-Central Region Muster was held at Anchors Aweigh RV Resort in Foley AL. There were approximately 35 rigs and 55 SMART Members that attended with some members, that no longer travel by RV, staying at local Motels and attending throughout the duration of the muster.

Our White Sands Panhandlers Chapter had the following members that attended: Carmen & Elaine Ciardello, Jesse & Anita James, Chuck & Carol Kuzma, Paul & Margie Moniz, Mike & Cheryl Schmitz. Also attending were new chapter members (that joined during the muster) were Michael (Army) & Jri Northup and Dan (Navy & Air Force) & Gale Sabatino. Both are presently living in Navarre FL. When you see them at a future event, be sure to give them a SMART hug and a hearty welcome them to the chapter.

There were many activities at the muster that included: golf, candle decorating, an RV Maintenance presentation, Card Bingo, Hand and Foot tournament, Bean-bag Baseball, Skip-Bo Tournament and Corn Hole Tournament, a men's luncheon buffet and ladies' high tea at The Gift Horse Restaurant in Foley. Two dinners were catered by The Gift Horse Restaurant and featured a variety of selections from their buffet. Two breakfasts were provided by chapters attending. The Arkansas Hogs and White Sands Panhandlers each prepared a breakfast meal. A keyboard and Saxophone player entertained during the catered dinner prior to the Closing Ceremony on Friday.

An enormous number of door prizes, drawings, gift prizes and giveaways were won by attendees throughout the muster. The final cash prize drawings of \$200, \$150, \$120 and \$100



L to R – Chuck Kuzma, Ed Pate, Charley Le Blanc

you haven't been able to see in quite a long time and rekindle friendships and recall memories, perhaps, long forgotten.

FUTURE MUSTERS AND CHOW CALLS

If you were unable to attend the

Region Muster, you missed a great event and hopefully you'll be able to attend either the SMART National Muster this fall in Amana, Iowa, the information and registration information is on the SMART Website, or the next SC Region Muster when it is announced. Hopefully, we' be able to see each other once again at the next Chow Call or Chapter Muster.

A new revised Chapter Schedule of Activities for 2024 and 2025 Is being prepared and will be distributed shortly. However, as detailed below, there are some changes that will affect upcoming chapter activities:

- a. The location for the **September 14th Chow Call** has been **changed to** Mugshots Grill & Grill, 4955 US Hwy 90, Pace, FL. Mugshots is located in the old Ryan's Buffet (where the chapter used to hold Chow Calls. Broussard's Bayou Grill on Navarre Beach is closed. The time remains 11:00 am.
- b. The location for the **October 3-5 Chapter Muster** has been **tentatively changed to** Twin Lakes Camp Resort, 580 Holley King Road, DeFuniak Springs, FL. After visiting Southwood RV Park in Mobile, it was decided not to use this park because of condition of park and its facilities. Registration for this Muster will be sent out shortly.
- c. The location for the **November 9th Chow Call** remains **unchanged** at Hideaway Pizza in Crestview, FL, with arrival at 11:00.
- d. The location for the **December 4-7 Chapter Christmas Muster** has been **changed to** Anchors Aweigh RV Resort, 19814 County Rd. 20, Foley, AL. The previous location, Camellia RV Park, Formerly Southwind RV Park, is now a private campground for permanent residents, and no longer accommodates overnight or group camping. Registration for this Muster will be sent out in a few weeks.
- e. The location for the **February 8, 2024, Chow Call** has been **changed to** Sonny's BBQ, 6702 N. Ninth Ave., Pensacola, FL. Sonny's is located directly across the street from the previous location, Chow Tyme Chinese Buffet. The reason for the change is two-fold.

were awarded at the closing ceremony. Carol Kuzma was one of the lucky winners of the drawing and received \$150.

As you can see in the photo. Many of our SC Region Members enjoy displaying their SMART participation Swingers/Hangers. Displaying Hangers on special occasions is part of our military heritage of wearing medals on dress uniforms. The number of Hangers seems to coincide with grey hair. This was the only picture that was available to put in this newsletter. Everyone was having too much fun and enjoying themselves to take pictures.

What made this Regional Muster, as with all Chapter, Regional and National Musters, is the opportunity to see friends that

First, it's nice to try new locations occasionally. Second, because of recent reports and observations of deteriorating food quality and unsanitary conditions in the restaurant, the decision was made to try a new location.

As always, if anyone knows of a location for a muster or chow call that they would like considered for our chapter, please contact our Chapter President and Muster Master, Paul Moniz, 850 723-0241, monizp1@bellsouth.net, and let him know. We are always looking for new locations and venues for our activities. We are always open to new ideas, locations and activities to keep our chapter members actively involved and enthused. REMEMBER, it's your chapter, HELP KEEP IT THE WAY YOU AND OTHERS WOULD LIKE IT TO BE. And not necessarily the way it has always been.

MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITING

The latest Chapter Member Roster is attached with this Newsletter. As you will notice in the roster, the number of actively participating members is slowly decreasing for a variety of reasons, all valid and expected. This is seen as the number of active members decreases, the number of our valued Honorary Members increases. Both Active and Honorary members are part of our SMART family, but Active Members is what keeps the Chapter alive and vibrant. To maintain our activity level and vibrancy, attracting and recruiting new member is vital to the health of SMART and our chapters nationwide and that of our club. To do this, all each of us would have to do is recruit one new member. Wouldn't it be wonderful if that would happen.

CONCLUSION

The Officers and Committee Chairs would like to express our appreciation for the support we have received from all of you look forward to continuing to serve our chapter to the best of our ability. It will be the continued support we receive from the chapter that will allow us to best serve all of you and to and allow all of you to serve the chapter. Together, White Sands Panhandlers Chapter will continue to grow and prosper.

Approved by:

Paul Moniz, President