



Arizona Roadrunners Chapter

Feb. 2024 Roadrunners Newsletter

ARIZONA ROADRUNNER OFFICERS:

President: Erwin Greven
Vice President: Don Minton
Treasurer: Jeannie Greven
Secretary: Vacant
Webmaster: Shari Minton
Wagon master: Erwin Greven

COMMITTEES:

Newsletter: Erwin Greven
Luncheons:
Sunshine: Shari Minton
Membership: Erwin Greven

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Hello AZ Roadrunners,
Here it is time for another newsletter. We just completed another fun muster at the River Sands RV Resort in Ehrenberg, AZ. We had 7 rigs show up. It was a little cold but the resort let us use the clubhouse for our activities, they upgraded our sites to pull throughs, close to the river and next to the clubhouse. During the day, everyone went off in different directions to see the sites. We visited the Blythe Intaglios one day, the next day Jeannie and I spent most of the day at the Palo Verde Ecological Reserve on the Colorado

River just north of Blythe bird and wildlife watching. Some drove out to Quartzsite 20 miles east. There is also a small historical museum in Blythe, which was very nice. We all went to lunch in Blythe at a Mexican Restaurant and had a great time.

At our joint meeting with the AZ Tumbleweeds, we had a new SMART member, Robin Babcock, join us. He was camping in Quartzsite, and had not been to any SMART function before then. At happy hour and the potluck, I invited Patrick Shipp, a Navy veteran camped next to me, to join us. He is thinking about joining SMART; he summers in Minnesota.

At the meeting there ended up being a lot of discussion about the chapters' future musters and the regional muster. Our musters are always a joint muster except for the Christmas/holiday parties. We have been seeing a decline in participation in our musters and Rich Caruso and I

were wondering why. We used to get 10 to 15 rigs regularly; the muster at Wickenburg only saw four rigs sign up. We had seven at Ehrenberg. So far, for the Tucson muster at Casino Del Sol we have 10 signed up. I have had no response to doing the April muster in Wickenburg.

There were many reasons speculated, and we know that people have sold rigs, have doctors' appointments and other commitments, or just aged out of having RV's.

That said, I have attached a muster survey to this newsletter. Please, please fill it out; we want to know what the membership thinks about the musters we have put on. You do not have to put your name on, if you do not want to. We only ask that if you belong to both chapters that you only fill out one survey. I hope that this survey will show us the direction to go with musters. I will post the results in an upcoming newsletter.

The other discussion was the Western Regional that we are expected to put on in 2024. I had done all the preliminary legwork and all that was left was to sign the contract. Then the border crossing shutdown to Rocky Point occurred, and everything was put on hold. The border is now open again, so at the meeting the two chapters decided to

go ahead with a small Western Regional Muster in March.

There was also some discussion about making our musters longer, going from 3 nights to 4 or 5. Then it was brought up that maybe the AZ chapters should try to setup an event muster like the Cajuns chapter does down south to try and draw the migrating SMART members in the fall.

Our February muster is on track and we have ten rigs signed up.

2024 chapter dues are due \$12

You can mail them to our treasurer
Jeannie Greven
1229 N Via Alamos
Green Valley, AZ 85614

2024 Muster Schedule

Feb 4-7th 3 nights
Casino Del Sol RV Park
5655 W Valencia Rd
Tucson, AZ

Call 855-765-7829 for reservations
Military rate is \$65.58 includes tax,
full hook ups including cable TV.
They have enough open sites for us,
but they would not hold any for us.
So call as soon as you can.

Agenda: This will all be weather dependent since we do not have

access to a room, we have access to an outside picnic area. We can adjust things as necessary.

Feb 4: 4pm happy hour

5pm heavy appetizers

Feb 5: 10am meetings

Explore and lunch on your own

4pm happy hour

5pm potluck

Feb 6: Explore on your own

Happy hour 4pm

Dinner at the casino 5pm restaurant TBD

Feb 7: Safe travels home

Mar 25-28th 3 nights

Western Regional muster

Encore Fiesta Grande RV Resort.

1511 E Florence Blvd.

Casa Grande, AZ 85122

520-426-7000

The Western Regional is back on.

When you call to make your reservations, tell them you are with the SMART group. The military rate is \$168.90 for the 3 nights including tax. The first night March 25th I have setup an optional event. So that the people coming out of Mexico do not have to go to look for a grocery store for the usual heavy appetizers, the RV Resort has a music concert with a lasagna meal for \$30 per person.

The concert is an Everly Brothers tribute band. Meal is at 5:45pm and the concert starts at 7pm. If you do not want the meal and just want to go to the music, it is \$25. We can try to have a 5pm happy hour if everyone is setup.

There will be a \$25 muster fee.

April 28- May 1

Desert Cypress RV Park, Wickenburg

If there is interest, we will set something up. So let us know.

So far, there has been no interest in this muster.

Sign up for the musters on the SMART website smartrving.org

SMART Caravans 2024

Grand Canyon and Beyond

April 11 – May 5 2024

The Great Atlantic Canada Maritime Experience

June 15 – Aug 27 2024

Veterans Unite in Branson

Nov 6 – Nov 15 2024

SMART Caribbean Cruise

Feb 8 – 17 2025

Find all the information about the caravans at the SMART website www.smartrving.org