

PLEASE - RSVP YES or NO where requested!

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**ARIZONA ROADRUNNERS
CHAPTER**



October 2012 Newsletter

Halloween is close and it is time to camp & party!

Officers:

President: Bob Bennett (520) 366-0551
Vice President: Nancy Flesher (520-298-9779)
Secretary: Dottie Watts
Treasurer: Gary Scholten
Wagonmaster: Ski Drobinski
South West Regional Director: Bob Bennett

Committees:

Newsletter: Nancy Flesher
Historian: **Vacant**
Sunshine: **Vacant**
Membership: Bob Bennett
Base Reps.: **Vacant**

Congratulations to Bob Bennett being elected and installed to the SMART National Position of South West Regional Director!

He is also appointed to be in charge of National Recruitment & Retention along with doing National Publicity.

Message from President Bob Bennett:

The National Muster was held in Goshen Indiana 10 through 15 September 2012. Everyone that attended had a great time. I was sworn in as the South West Region Director on the 14th of September and look forward the challenges the position has in store for me. Now its time to turn our focus and attention on our own Chapter Musters, the first of which will be held in Florence Arizona 30 October through the 3rd of November 2012. Elba and I look forward to seeing everyone again.

October 2012 Luncheon - ***CANCELLED*******

Due to medical situations Roger & Nancy we are unable to host the October Luncheon.

Luncheons for Nov & Dec 2012 – TBA – need Hosts

Just pick a restaurant, be sure they can handle up to 20 people, take the RSVP's notify restaurant of number of people coming and welcome people as they arrive.

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*****OCTOBER 2012 MUSTER – 30 Oct – 3 Nov 2012**
******RSVP Yes or No IMMEDIATELY if you are**
‘planning’ to attend and have not already contacted
Bob or Nancy.

Bob Bennett: elbob0@hotmail.com or call (520) 366-0551

Nancy Flesher: clossflesher@juno.com or call (520) 298-9779

Hosts: Roadrunners & Tumbleweeds

Dates: 30 Oct – 3 Nov 2012 (Arr. Tues. 30 Oct. & Dep. Sat 3 Nov.)

Bob added an extra day to this Muster so we can conduct a meeting, something we haven't done for a long times. We have several issues to discuss.

Reservation Form: Attached

Agenda: Attached

Theme: Halloween (bring a costume to wear or dress up funny).

Place: Rancho Sonora Inn & RV Park.

Cost: \$27.00 with full hook-up

Address: 9198 N. Highway 79, Florence AZ.

Resort Phone: 800-250-6817 or 520-868-8900.

Website: <http://www.ranchosonora.com/index1.html>

Cottages for rent – contact Park directly.

Directions: (See map @ <http://www.ranchosonora.com/maprv.htm>).

Hwy 10 From Phoenix: Going I-10 East toward Tucson, take the Casa Grande Exit #185. Turn Left back over freeway. Quick Right onto #387 - Go approximately 8 miles to Stop sign. Turn Right (East) on #87 to Florence (Approx 16 miles). In Florence, veer Right at Stop sign and merge onto Hwy 79 (South). Rancho Sonora is about 5 miles South on Right (look for coyote on top of mailbox).

Hwy 60 From Phoenix: Take Hwy 60 (Superstition Freeway) toward Globe. About 15 miles from Apache Junction you will take the Florence Exit to Hwy 79. Go South to Florence (about 17 miles). Continue through town on Hwy 79. Rancho Sonora is about 5 miles from the South end of town on the Right (look for coyote on top of mailbox).

From Tucson: Going I-10 West take Coolidge Exit #211. Proceed North to Coolidge, approx 18 miles. First traffic light in Coolidge at Coolidge Ave (Circle K on far corner) Turn Right (East). Go about 11 miles. (Road changes name to Kenilworth and finally Cactus Forest Rd) Rear entrance to Rancho Sonora RV Park will be on Left after cattle guard. For Inn, proceed to Intersection of Hwy 79 and Cactus Forest Road. Turn Left on Hwy 79 for approx 1/8 mile. Rancho Sonora main entrance will be on the Left.

From Tucson: Going North on Oracle the road will become Hwy 79. Follow Hwy 79 till you cross Cactus Forest Road (there is a flower garden on the NW Corner). Go approx. 1.8 mile. Rancho Sonora entrance will be on the left.

17 November 2012 LUNCHEON

Keep Saturday 17 Nov. available for our Luncheon.

Need a Host ! More information at a later date.

Future Chapter Musters and Luncheons: * means date is set

*30 Oct - 3 Nov 2012 – Muster @ Rancho Sonora RV Park, Florence. AZ

*17 Nov 2012 Luncheon

Nov 2012 Muster - TBA

Dec 2012 Luncheon & Muster - TBA

*9-12 Jan 2013 - Muster @ Auggie's Quail Trail RV Resort, Gila Bend.

*26 Jan 2013 - Luncheon - Location TBA

Feb 2013 - Muster & Luncheon TBA

March 2013 - Muster & Luncheon TBA

*8-12 April 2013 - SWR Muster, Paseo Robles, CA

*27 April 2013 - Luncheon - Location TBA

Future National & Regional Musters:

*8-12 April 2013 --- SWR Muster, Paseo Robles, CA.

*6-22 Sept 2013 ----National Muster, Sedalia, MO.

September 2012 Luncheon Report:

No luncheon was held due to a decreased number of members in the area.

2012 National Muster Report from Bob Bennett:

*The 2012 National Muster in Goshen Indiana was a big success. The Fairground facilities were fantastic. There were a little over 200 RV's presents at the National Muster and ample parking for the RV's and the toads was available for everyone. Two trams pulled by tractors provided transportation to and from the festivities. **Bob and Elba Bennett, Don and Sheri Minton, Sid and Iva Spurgeon, as well as Dottie Watts and Lee Hall represented the Arizona Road Runners.** A \$50.00 Wal-Mart gift card was donated to the Muster by the Arizona Roadrunners.*

*Not everyone, but all of the Roadrunners were fortunate enough to win door prizes. **Door prizes were won by Dottie** (serving plate), **Lee** (patio mat and table center piece), **Iva** (center piece), **Sid** (center piece), **Elba** (gift basket), and **Don** (patio chair).*

*Everyone had a great time and departed the Muster on the 15th to head their separate ways. **Don and Sheri** and **Sid and Iva** decided to stay for an extra day or two before heading out while **Dottie & Lee** and **Bob & Elba** worked their way over to Branson Missouri to take in some of the many shows offered up in Branson.*

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2012 National Muster Report taken from ARIZONA

Tumbleweed October Newsletter:

This was a fun muster! The **Southwest Region was well represented**. From Arizona, **representing the Roadrunners were** Bob and Elba Bennett, Don and Shari Minton, Sid and Iva Spurgeon, Dottie Watts and Lee Hall. **Representing the Tumbleweeds were** Jim and Sandi Anderson, Pat and Sally Kavanaugh and Bill and Korel Roberge. There was a **contingent from California** as well: the **Allens**; the **Browns**; the **Lantzers**; the **Simmons** and the **Wentz**.

Bob Bennett was installed as Southwest Region Director. **Sally Kavanaugh** was again named National Spouse Advisory Chair.

The amendment to 4.3 which clarified the definition of spouse was overwhelmingly approved.

Because SMART's membership has decreased significantly in the past several years thus decreasing income, **the Board of Directors made the decision to suspend printing of the Traveler in 2013 until such time that the membership numbers increase enough to sustain the cost of printing. The Traveler will be prepared and will be available electronically through SMART website** (WWW.SMARTRVING.ORG). This action allowed the BOD to create a balance budget for SMART's 2012-2013 fiscal year.

The BOD is again asking each and every member to **recruit** at least one new member in the coming year. **There are tools available on line to assist with recruiting. One of which is the two for one offer: new member pays \$45 plus the initiation fee of \$15 and his/her second year is free provided that, within 90 days, the new member joins and is active in a chapter. New spouse members may sign up for \$15; renewing spouses will pay just \$20.**

The other side of the coin is **retention** - our membership is aging and, due to health reasons, many members are not renewing.

Planning is well underway for **the 2013 National Muster which is scheduled for 18-23 September 2013 in Sedalia, Missouri**. There are a couple of tours and a golf tournament planned prior to the start of the National Muster. There is also a **caravan planned for immediately after the Muster to Branson, MO**. The applications for the 2013 National Muster, tours and the caravan will be on the website shortly.

SPECIAL NOTICE to Members (Active & Social) -- FROM BOB BENNETT:

This message was sent out to all e-mail members on 9 September 2012. Bob requests that it be again reviewed by members in preparation for the Chapter meeting at the Oct Muster. If you will be unable to attend the Oct Muster please send all replies and suggestions to Bob Bennett.

*We have not had a Chapter meeting in a long time. The next opportunity for a meeting will be at the October/November Halloween Muster in Florence Arizona. **The attachment (on Page 5) is an important matter that needs to be addressed. Another important subject is recruitment and retention.** It is not necessary to be an active Chapter member to weigh in on these two items. I'm requesting input from all of our members, active and social alike.*

*Active members, please come to the Muster prepared to discuss these important items. If you know you can't make it to the Muster, **please send me your ideas and recommendations.** I also need volunteers for the Surviving Spouse Assistance Program (SSAP) advocate assistants.*

I realize our social members will not be coming to the Muster, but that should not prevent you from sending an email or calling me on the phone. I am encouraging all of our social members to take a few minutes to provide some ideas on recruitment and retention. I'm also encouraging our social members to consider becoming SSAP advocate assistants. You don't need an RV to offer assistance to someone who is suffering from the loss of a loved one. The majority of our social members have suffered this loss, and they can attest to the need for assistance from a fellow SMART member during this time of sorrow. A visit to their house or simply a phone call to them can go a long way to easing the pain they are feeling during this time.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Bob Bennett

*S*M*A*R*T Arizona Roadrunners*

President/Membership Chairman

E-Mail: elbob0@hotmail.com

Phone: (520) 366-0551

(520) 236-8066

*S*M*A*R*T Southwest Regional Director*

ATTACHMENT IS PRINTED ON PAGE 5

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From: Smart 10236 [mailto:smart10236@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, September 09, 2012 5:36 AM

Subject: Surviving Spouse Assistance Program (SSAP) advocates assistance.....C. Eck sends:

Greetings all,

As follow-up to my request at yesterdays BOD meeting the following assistance is requested.

Will each Region Director screen your members assets and provide volunteer Advocate Assistants from each Region. Additionally it is encouraged that each Chapter provide an Advocate or a POC to also more closely assist in SSAP affairs.

These assistants would be utilized in contacting surviving members within the region and Chapter to coordinate and provide guidance and comfort not only at the time notified but also follow-up communications and visits. Members will be provided guidance in these procedures but simply put this is a matter of just being a supporting friend and member in time of grief and need.

The current primary SMART National SSAP team members (and always there to provide assistance and "helps") are.

Christian Eck.....SSAP Advocate Team Leader
May Jones.....Assistant SSAP Advocate Team Leader
"Dusty" and Marge Rhodes..... Advocate Team SSAP member
Nancy Closs-Flesher.....Advocate Team SSAP Member

Our 'workload' is mounting and that's a fact of life in the 2012 timeframe (so far) we have provided assistance to 23 member families. That in addition to several Region and National Muster seminars. Therefore, more dedicated and willing team members are sorely needed. In addition to the direct contact and support team members are encouraged to provide seminars at Region and Chapter levels to make our members aware of the program and the benefits of being prepared for the eventual need. Copies of the Surviving Spouse Assistance Program Check list are available online by viewing the SMART website www.smartliving.org

(Paragraph edited out)

(Paragraph edited out)

The surviving Spouse Assistance Program is a Good Samaritan effort on part of SMART to our membership pertaining to Military related death matters. This program is a free and no obligation assistance program and should be considered as a valuable Membership Benefit.

Many Thanks and appreciation for the consideration and assistance. (2 Sentences edited out)

Christian Eck
SSAP Team Member

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AZ Roadrunner Directory CHANGES:

1. **Greer, Jim & Tamiko:** New E-Mail: MGYSGTJEG@ME.COM
2. **Forrest, Sam & Gean:** New E-Mail: forest.stan86@gmail.com

News from and/or about Members:

1. **Bob & Elba Bennett:** Report is that both have greatly improved or recovered.
2. **Nancy Flesher and Roger Closs:** We both are still hanging in there with our medical issues. We still hope that this fall we will be able to start going to the Monthly Muster. Time and Doctor's will tell.

Let me know all about the fun things you are doing and the great places you have seen on your travels so I can put it in the Newsletter.

Happy and Safe Travels to all !



*BE 'SMART' and STAY 'S*M*A*R*T' !*



Nancy Flesher (SMART #700)
S*M*A*R*T Arizona Roadrunners
Vice President/Newsletter Editor
E-Mail: clossflesher@juno.com
Phone: (520) 298-9779



ARIZONA ROADRUNNERS CHAPTER



REGISTRATION FORM

Tuesday 30 October thru Saturday 3 November, 2012

4 nights - (departing Saturday 3 November, 2012)

RANCHO SONORA RV PARK in Florence, AZ

<http://www.ranchosonora.com>

Registration Deadline: October 15, 2012

Mail this Registration Form to Bob Bennett, Acting Wagonmaster, P.O. Box 805, Hereford, AZ 85615. **ALSO**, e-mail your attendance to elbob0@hotmail.com or phone (520) 236-8066, and Nancy Flesher at clossflesher@juno.com or phone 520-298-9779.

Parking Fee with full hookups: \$27.00 per day, **\$108.00 for four nights** & is payable upon arrival at the RV Park. If you arriving or departing other than the above dates, please indicate: _____

SMART #: _____ Member: _____ Spouse: _____

Chapter Name _____ Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

Number in Party: _____ Guest Names: _____

Type & Length of RV: _____ Slide Outs: _____

Do you **require** 50 amp service? _____ Do you **prefer** 50 amp service? _____

If available, indicate need for **handicapped parking?** **Yes** or **No** (circle one)

*The following statement must be signed by all participants prior to the event as required by S*M*A*R*T National Headquarters:*

For services rendered to and received by those signed below, in their participation of the S*M*A*R*T activity names above, the undersigned hereby releases, and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless SMART, INC, all officers, directors, employees, agents and their successors and assigns from all liabilities, injuries, obligations, claims, demands, losses, damages, judgments, penalties, expenses and disbursements including reasonable attorney's fees of any kind and nature arising out of, or in any way related to the activity listed above, S*M*A*R*T is NOT responsible for the actions of any participating company, or agent, with regards to their role in organizing, planning, or for any other service they may provide for the benefit of the named person or activity. All persons must be 18 years or older, and must sign the required application.

Member: _____ Date: _____ Spouse: _____ Date: _____

Guest: _____ Date: _____ Guest: _____ Date: _____

‘TENTATIVE’ OCTOBER 2012 MUSTER AGENDA

Please bring your own plates and utensils to each function.

Rancho Sonora RV Park in Florence, AZ

Tuesday 10-30-12

- 1300 Check In
- 1600 Happy Hour (bring heavy hors d'oeuvres to share)
- 1800 Games and Visiting

Wednesday 10-31-12

- 0800 – 0900 Coffee
- 1000 – 1130 Pumpkin decorating contest
- 1200 Lunch on your own
- 1300 – 1530 Halloween decoration party in meeting room
- 1630 – 1730 Happy Hour (come dressed in costume) and selection of best/scariest Halloween costume
- 1800 – 1900 Pot luck dinner (keeping Halloween theme in mind)
- 1930 Card/table games and Visiting

Thursday 11-01-12

- 0800 – 0900 Coffee
- 1000 Roadrunners – Free time
- 1000 Tumbleweeds – Chapter Meeting
- 1200 Lunch on your own
- 1300 Tumbleweeds – Free time
- 1300 Roadrunners – Chapter Meeting
- 1600 Happy Hour (Bring snack to share)
- 1700 Dinner on your own (Perhaps eat out at a local restaurant)
- 1900 Games and Visiting

Friday 11-02-12

- 0830 Potluck Breakfast
- 1000 Continue Chapter Meeting(s) if necessary
- 1000 – 1200 Games and Visiting
- 1230 Lunch at a local restaurant
- 1400 Games or Free time
- 1600 Happy Hour (Bring snack to share)
- 1700 Dinner on your own (Perhaps eat out at a local restaurant)
- 1900 Games and Visiting

Saturday 11-03-12

- 1000 Police area and depart campground.