



HOG WHISPERS...

Volume 11

Issue 4

December 2011

Arkansas SMART Hogs Newsletter

2012 Chapter Officers

President:

Jim Franks

Vice President:

Jim Case

Secretary:

Kic Wheeler

Treasurer:

Hollis Kinder

Must Master:

Fred Smith

2010 Appointed Positions

Web Master:

Jim Franks

Newsletter Editor:

Bill Corroum

Upcoming Events (Tentative)

(See Fred's MM Item, Pg 3)

Apr: Planning a Rolling Muster to Shreveport and Natchez or Vicksburg.

5-7 Jun: Mountain View. Hosted by Ann Lowry & Hollis Kinder.

2-6 Jul: No Host at N. Little Rock. Visit & see fireworks.

Nov: Vets Day. Need volunteer.

Also, discussions about lunch get together every month or so at various locations w/o Rvs.

Please Submit Items to:

Bill Corroum, Editor
bc1959na@centurytel.net

7 Foxboro Cove
Jacksonville, AR 72076
(501) 258-4479

Your input will be
GLADLY Accepted.

Merry Christmas!

With the approach of the Christmas season, our attention turns from camping and visiting with our RV comrades to our families and other friends that we usually see during the holidays. We pause to thank God that He brought us into this world as Americans, and that we can enjoy all the freedom and privileges that brings. We should also pause to ask His divine assistance in solving some of the tremendous problems our nation faces as we enter the New Year.

We surely can look back on a great year with the Arkansas Hogs and other SMART groups. We had several excellent chapter musters, and some of our group traveled the country in SMART caravans. We had good turnouts at both the Regional and the National musters - and thoroughly enjoyed both of them! Thanks are in order to Ann Lowry and the other chapter officers and volunteers who made this possible.

We are confident in our outlook for 2012 under new leadership that features Jim Franks as our president with some fresh ideas and great energy. Our new muster master, Fred Smith, has put together a tentative muster schedule that should really be entertaining and educational for all members. You can read their comments in the next few pages.

As we close this year, I'd like to wish all of our members a very Merry Christmas with all the blessings you so richly deserve. I hope that the coming year will bring you and your family great blessings, good health and prosperity. Keep the Shiny Side UP!!

Bill Corroum, Editor

President's Corner

Editor's Note: Our president for the past two years, Ann Lowry has done a great job of keeping our chapter together and operating through some rather tough times. She deserves a rest from writing her comments for this column. And, besides, our president-elect has a few things to say:

President Elect Notes

First, I would like to thank all of you for your vote of confidence in the last election and want to tell you I will do my best to meet your expectations during the course of the next year. My goal for the Arkansas SMART Hogs is to make this the most pleasurable year for each of you since you first had sex!!! I know this is a lofty goal but you deserve it.

I believe you have elected a team who has the "Can Do" spirit and we want to explore the possibilities and make them happen. We are off to a good start with a muster in the planning stage for Mountain View in May or June. Our impromptu brain storming session at the attitude adjustment at the muster last Thursday gave me a real positive feeling for what the group wants to do. I learned about the rolling muster and really like the concept. It was mentioned it might help the people hosting the muster if we shared some of the cooking duties so as not to over load the hosts. Since most of us are retired, it would be nice to incorporate your bucket list and travel to places in other states. I would encourage each of you to get your ideas to Fred ASAP so we can get our plans in the Traveler and then make them happen.

Also, I thought I heard you would like to get back into the mode of doing some community projects like feeding the homeless vets as we did with the USS

Razorback Base on Veterans Day. I think these are good projects to incorporate into our musters combining fun with doing good deeds. I would like to see people incorporate projects like this in their muster plans so others can be prepared to contribute at the event.

I do plan to keep the Web page up and running. I have asked Bill to remain as the News Letter Editor and I am hoping to continue to have the News Letters posted there. I think I can learn how to be a webmaster if we keep it simple. In that way we can keep the cost down and make it possible to keep everyone informed about the happenings in the club.

Again, Susan and I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve the Arkansas SMART Hogs and look forward to getting to know each of you better. We are always open to new ideas so do not hesitate to let us know how you would like to see the club operate. Since we are perhaps the least experienced RVer's in the group, we are bound to make some errors so speak up, help us make it right, and lets move on and have some fun.

Hope to see you at many fun Hogs activities coming up this year.

Jim Franks
President Elect

Muster Master Comments

So far this year we have two musters that are “go”, and several that we’re working on. Several people have stepped up and volunteered to host a muster. It looks like that we will have another good year of fun and travel.

2012 S*M*A*R*T Hogs Muster Schedule Currently planned Hog Musters

1. **June 5, 6, and 7:** Ozark RV Park, Mountain View, AR –Ann Lowry and Hollis Kinder – Assisted by Glen and Pat Foster. Call 1-866-692-7578 for camp ground reservations and mention SMART Hogs.
2. **July 2 - 5:** No Host get together at North Little Rock, AR., Downtown River Side RV Park, to watch fireworks over the river and socialize. Everyone makes their own reservations @ 501-340-5312 (six months ahead, Jan 1st would be ideal). Today, 12-21-11 I talked with the campground host and she said that we could call now, and she would put our names onto a list to be entered into the reservation system on the 1st of Jan. When you call be sure to say that you are with the SMART Hogs.
3. **November:** Veterans Day Muster will be over the second Sunday in Nov. Location, dates and HOST to be determined. Still in early planning stages.
4. **Oct or Nov:** LRAFB retiree day. – Actual date to be announced. Maybe schedule dinner at a local restaurant after the close of the activities.
5. **December:** Christmas Luncheon – need a volunteer to coordinate location and date.

Ideas for additional Musters and social gatherings.

1. **April?** – This is in very early planning stages and dates, route, and stops **very subject to change**. Rolling muster – meet in Little Rock, travel to Hope AR (see item three below), Shreveport LA (national rose garden, 8th Air Force museum, etc). Then to SMART Cajuns “Y’all Come”, then to Natchez MS, Natchez to Vicksburg MS via the Natchez Trace? Maybe 2 days at each stop. Or any other suggestions for sites to visit. Need a volunteer to scout out campgrounds, route and sites/entertainment, dates of the Cajuns Y’all Come, and when the roses @ Shreveport will be in bloom.
2. Anyone interested in a theme Muster. Such as, 20th Anniversary of the SMART Hogs in February, St. Patrick’s Day, Valentine’s Day, Halloween or whatever day?
3. Stay at Hope AR fairgrounds (the meeting room/kitchen is free if over ten? rigs are registered) and visit old Washington AR during festival days. Flowers and lots of Arkansas history (homes of early settlers with guides in period dress, early print shop and newspaper presses, very fine gun collection, and reportedly the biggest and oldest magnolia tree in the state).
4. Need ideas for muster sites in Arkansas, and southern Missouri or anywhere else the chapter members may be interested in.
5. Monthly or every two month luncheon. Different location each time so that the travel evens out for everybody. Preferable there and back on the same day. Need someone to coordinate this gathering.

Please look these plans over and let me know if you can help on any of these activities. If you have ideas about other things for our chapter to do, I would love to hear them. See you soon!

Fred Smith, Muster Master

Lake Charles Muster Highlights, October 2011

The Muster at Lake Charles State Park at Black Rock, AR began Monday 10 Oct. Most everyone arrived on Sunday. Present were the hosts: **Ralph & Edye Jungels** and co-hosts **Glenn & Pat Foster**. Attendees were **Kic & Eileen Wheeler**, **Ann Lowry**, **Fred & Valerie Smith**, and **Joe & Marti Ruiz**. After the welcome hour the hosts provided a grilled dinner of hamburg-ers & hot dogs cooked by friends **Rick & Rita Bozwell**. The meal was complete with 2 kinds of potato salad, baked beans, Glenn's cake and lemon bars.



Dinner time at Lake Charles muster with (l-r) Glenn & Pat Foster, Kic & Eileen Wheeler, Edye & Ralph Jungels (hosts), Ann Lowry, Fred & Valerie Smith and Marti & Joe Ruiz.

On Tuesday morning we had Pat's homemade breads and bran nut muffins and Edye's cinnamon pecan rolls and cinnamon coffee cake. Following breakfast we enjoyed a 2 hour guided tour of the historic Powhatan Court House (originally built in 1888) and adjacent buildings (an old home, city jail, schoolhouse and a post office). The evening meal also provided by the hosts was spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, Edye's fresh apple cake and Pat's peach pie made from scratch. The evening was spent sitting around the campfire and visiting. The evening weather was exceptional. Wednesday morning began with sausage gravy, biscuits and more breads and muffins. Then we were off to Walnut Ridge, AR to tour the Custom-Pak (blown plastic) Manufacturing Plant. We saw them making chain saw cases,

power tool cases, lawnmower wheels, mailboxes, plant watering cans and more. The machines are massive and the process extremely interesting.

We then drove to the Parachute Inn where we ate lunch inside of a real "Boeing 737". It was quite an experience and very enjoyable. Then we went to the Walnut Ridge Army Flying



The Hogs gather for lunch. Shown here: Kic & Eileen Wheeler, Glenn Foster, Ann Lowry, Fred Smith, Restaurant Manager Ann, Ralph Jungels and his friends Rick & Rita Bozwell.

School Museum, on the grounds of what used to be an Army Flight Training facility from 1942 to 1945. Very interesting tour - enjoyed by all. Thursday morning we continued to enjoy the baked goods of our hosts. After breakfast President Ann Lowry presided over the business meeting for the chapter. The 2012 officer candidates were announced and ballots were mailed. The results will be announced at the Veterans Day Muster. Installation of the officers will be at the Christmas Luncheon 6 December. Thursday evening's farewell dinner was held at a little restaurant in Lynn, AR called the Sportsman's Inn. It proved to be popular and the food was very good. Coffee and rolls were offered Friday morning as some said their farewells.

Eileen Wheeler, Hog Secretary

Minutes of the Arkansas SMART HOGS Meeting St. Charles State Park, 13 October 2011

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by President Ann Lowry. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Eleven people were present: Ralph & Edye Jungels, Ann Lowry, Joe & Marti Ruiz, Glenn & Pat Foster, Kic & Eileen Wheeler, and Fred & Valerie Smith.

A motion was made by Glenn Foster to accept the last minutes as posted on the website. Valerie seconded it. In Kathie Corroum's absence, Ann Lowry read the 3rd quarter Treasurer's report. Edye Jungels made a motion to accept it, and a second came from Pat Foster. Both motions were accepted.

There was no old business.

Under new business Ann Lowry read the nominating committee's list of 2012 officer candidates. They are as follows: Jim Franks, President; Jim Case, Vice President; Kic Wheeler, Secretary; Hollis Kinder, Treasurer; and Fred Smith, Muster Master. Ballots have been sent out and are due back by 5 Nov. to tally up at the Veterans Day Muster. It is 8-11 Nov at NLR Riverside RV Park. Personnel at the Inland Maritime Museum have offered to let us use their kitchen and dining facilities for our gatherings at the Veterans Day muster. A motion was made by Pat Foster to donate \$100 to them for that use. Fred Smith seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

November 19th is Retiree Appreciation Day at LRAFB and will be at the Thomas Community Activity Center from 0800 to 1400hrs. Volunteers are needed to man the recruiting booth.

December 6th is our Christmas Luncheon at Hanger 1080 on the Air Base at 1100 hours. Secretary Eileen Wheeler read several thank you cards from people who received our gift cards at the SC Region and the National Muster.

There being no further business Fred Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Valerie Smith made a second to the motion. The meeting ended at 10:15.

Eileen Wheeler, Hog Secretary

A Touching Christmas Story

A married couple had been out shopping at the mall for most of the afternoon. Suddenly, the wife realized that her husband had "disappeared".

The somewhat irate spouse called her mate's cell phone and demanded: Where the world are you?

Husband: Darling, you remember that Jewelry shop where you saw the Diamond Necklace and totally fell in love with it. But I didn't have the money and I said "Baby it'll be yours one day".

Wife, with a smile blushing: "Yes, I remember that my Love".

Husband: Well, I'm in the Bar next to that shop.

Veterans Day Muster in North Little Rock

The Arkansas Hogs gathered at the Downtown Riverside RV Park in North Little Rock to observe Veterans Day, from 7 November through 11 November 2011. **Bill and Kathie Corroum** were the “official” hosts, but assistants **Fred and Valerie Smith** did all the work. (This was due to the Corroums being “RV-less” while the damage to their coach is repaired, following the accident in September). Thus, they were relegated to the role of commuters to their own muster!

In addition to the four hosts we had: **Christian and Carolyn Eck**; Richard and Mary Engel (guests of the Corroums), **Glenn and Pat Foster**; **Jim and Susan Franks**; **Bill and Charolette Hards**; **Sonny and Joella Huddleston**; **Richard and April Jones** with April’s mother, **Elizabeth Smith**; **Ann Lowry**; **Hollis Kinder**; **Pat Maglievaz**; **Marion Spivey**; **Lee and Gayle Thomas** and **Kic and Eileen Wheeler**.



Elizabeth Smith shows a picture of her that was taken during her service in World War II.

On the first evening, Valerie Smith served a delicious dinner that, featured pork roast, in the dining facility of the Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum. What a great place to prepare and serve a meal: fully-equipped kitchen with plenty of tables and chairs, table cloths, tableware and eating/serving utensils. Hats off to the crew of the *USS Razorback*, the de-commissioned submarine that’s the centerpiece of the museum. Our own **Jim Franks**, who once served aboard this boat, is a member of the crew that has restored her and now spends many hours in the upkeep and continual improvements to the displays. We also had the use of the dining facility for our pot luck meal on the second evening.

On Friday evening, the leader of the sub crew asked if we might be available to help during their bi-annual meal for homeless veterans of the Little Rock area. Of course, our Hogs volunteered - to the very last person. **Christian Eck** and **Jim Franks** cooked hamburgers and hot dogs, many of our ladies helped prepare the side dishes and several worked on the serving line. Between 50 and 60 veterans were served, including several female veterans who are housed at the St. Francis House in Little Rock. It was a heart-warming experience.



Carolyn Eck, Eileen Wheeler and Ann Lowry serving dinner.

Other activities included a complete tour of the museum and the *Razorback* by **Jim Franks**, a trip to the Little Rock Junior League’s Holiday House (shopping opportunity for the ladies), a tour of the new



Congressman Griffin talks with Christian Eck and other Hogs.

Jacksonville Museum of Military History, the observance of Veterans Day, and dinner at Cregeen’s Pub. On Friday, we were also treated to a pancake and sausage breakfast by our hosts.

The program for Veterans Day was conducted at the new Veterans Memorial in North Little Rock. It featured an address by Congressman Tim Griffin, himself an Army vet. There was an opportunity for all of us to visit with Congressman Griffin, other veterans and the leaders of North Little Rock.

The Binnacle List

Our personal prayer list is still mighty long, but some of the Arkansas HOGS who were on previous Binnacle Lists have improved substantially. Thanks for your thoughts and prayers that have helped to make this happen! Below is the latest information that we have on members who are facing medical or personal challenges. They need our help: either in person, in prayer, or both! Please help our comrades. Remember:

*Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts
Of those who make this earthly pilgrimage with us.
So, be swift to love,
And make haste to do kindness, always. -Anonymous*

A. C. Autrey, although not really ill, has suffered psychologically after the death of his beloved Dolly. He told me he's doing much better as the holidays approach, and he is making plans to attend some musters this year.

John and Martha Averett are much better, also. John is back on a more normal diet after his recovery from his esophagus problem. Martha is over her broken "tailbone" and has had an injection treatment for her back. She expects to be 100% before long.

Glenn Foster reports that he's doing well and on the road to recovery, following a bout with pneumonia that caused a hospitalization.

Lew and Ruby Dellinger are both doing much better and are in good shape for the holidays.

Howard Martin reports that he's doing much better in recovering from the blood clot in his right lung. He's still on Cumadin and still needs a walker. He also said **Marguerite** is doing much better. She is able to handle her own daily activities. The care giver comes each morning to help her get dressed and have breakfast. Evening meals are prepared by one of their nearby daughters and grandchildren.

Ralph McClure continues his recovery from the devastating stroke. Nell said he is walking pretty well now and his speech has improved.

A Pictorial Essay of Where We've Been

SMART National Muster in Shawnee, OK



Ida Duffy, Carolyn Eck and Juanita Rohde (partly obscured) take a break from muster activities.



Ann Lowry, Hollis Kinder, Susan & Jim Franks and Charolette Hards at Happy Hour.



Jim Franks, Charolette & Bill Hards, Valerie Smith at the same Happy Hour.

Retiree Appreciation Day at LRAFB 19 Nov 2011

Next came Retirees Appreciation Day at Little Rock AFB. The Hogs were represented by Fred & Valerie Smith, Kic & Eileen Wheeler and Bill & Kathie Corroum. There were many organizations represented in the Thomas Recreation Activities Center and a good number of retirees accumulating information about various topics to make their life easier and more enjoyable. We had several potential members sign the list requesting more information about SMART & the Arkansas Hogs.



Retirees Appreciation Day: Chaplain (Capt) Garrell Carlton signs the list with (l to r) Kathie Corroum, Fred Smith and Eileen Wheeler of SMART Hogs.

Chapter Christmas Luncheon Golden Corral restaurant, North Little Rock 6 December 2011



Past National President Christian Eck thanks outgoing Hogs officers: Ann Lowry, Eileen Wheeler, Kathie Corroum and Ralph Jungels.



Christian then installed 2012 officers: President Jim Franks, VP Jim Case, Secretary Kic Wheeler, Treasurer Hollis Kinder & Muster Master Fred Smith (and his handler).



Then it was Chow Time!



Franks & Hards enjoy a huge repast.



But we had plenty of gifts for three Base families who were in need. Here Bill Hards starts to load them up for the trip to Family Services. This effort was arranged by Marion Spivey.

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Eileen Wheeler, Hog Secretary

Ponder This: A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops.

On my desk I have a work station

COMEDY CORNER

HOSPITAL REGULATIONS require a wheel chair for patients being discharged. However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet, who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital.

After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator.

On the way down I asked him if his wife was meeting him.

'I don't know,' he said. 'She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown.'

The Baptist Cowboy

A COWBOY, who just moved to Wyoming from Texas, walks into a bar and orders three mugs of Bud. He sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When he finishes them, he comes back to the bar and orders three more.

The bartender approaches and tells the cowboy, "You know, a mug goes flat after I draw it. It would taste better if you bought one at a time."

The cowboy replies, "Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is in Arizona, the other is in Colorado. When we all left our home in Texas, we promised that we'd drink this way to remember the days when we drank together. So I'm drinking one beer for each of my brothers and one for myself."

The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there.

The cowboy becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way. He orders three mugs and drinks them in turn.

One day, he comes in and only orders two mugs. All the regulars take notice and fall silent. When he comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, "I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your loss."

The cowboy looks quite puzzled for a moment, then a light dawns in his eyes and he laughs.

Oh, no, everybody's just fine," he explains, "It's just that my wife and I joined the Baptist Church and I had to quit drinking."

"Hasn't affected my brothers though."

