

HOG WHISPERS...

Volume 10

Issue 3

September 2010

Arkansas SMART Hogs Newsletter

2010 Chapter Officers

President:

Ann Lowry

Vice President:

Marion Spivey

Secretary:

Eileen Wheeler

Treasurer:

Pat Maglievaz

2010 Appointed Positions

Muster Master:

(Need Volunteer)

Web Master:

Sandy Percy

Newsletter Editor:

Bill Corroum

Upcoming Events

8 - 12 Nov: Veterans' Day Muster. Outdoor Living Ctr. CG, Russellville, AR.

Hosts: Tom & Melva Arnold

8 Dec: **Christmas Luncheon:**

Western Sizzlin' Restaurant
500 Gregory Street

Jacksonville (501) 982-4456

Future Planning

Spring 2011: Hot Springs

Bill & Charolette Hards are thinking about a muster while Oaklawn Park is racing.

Anybody want to help?

Dates & CG info TBA.

Please Submit Items to:

Bill Corroum

bc1959na@centurytel.net

7 Foxboro Cove

Jacksonville, AR 72076

(501) 258-4479

Your input will be GLADLY accepted.

Arkansas HOGS Muster at Buffalo Point, AR



Arkansas SMART Hogs and guests gathered for a delicious dinner at the park restaurant during the recent muster at the Buffalo Point campground, overlooking the Buffalo National River. Then, they stepped outside for a group picture. Shown here, front row (l to r): Valerie Smith and granddaughter Meagan, Kathie Corroum, new chapter member Marti Ruiz, Joella Huddleston and Carolyn Eck (muster hosts) and Doris Case; back row: the second Smith's granddaughter Sarah, Pat and Glenn Foster, Bill Corroum, Fred Smith, Joe Ruiz, Sonny Huddleston and Christian Eck (muster gofers) and Jim Case. Not shown: A. C. & Dollie Autry, who had to depart the day before.

Don't forget to Check the Website: <http://www.arsmarthogs.com/1.html>

President's Corner

Hello Hogs,

I finally got back to Arkansas after being on the east coast for six weeks. Got to see lots of family members at my family reunion. On my return trip, I stopped in Jackson, TN, and overnighted with ex-Hog members, Charlie and Margaret Love. They miss everybody and said, "to tell all of you hello." They are looking for a class B RV to buy. They miss traveling and want to see all their old friends, especially their military friends.

Looks like the AR SMART Hogs' officers are having major health issues. We apologize for not being able to attend the last Muster. Marion Spivey was going to hold the meeting but some health issues that prevented her from attending. Secretary Eileen Wheeler was busy taking care of her mate, Kic, who's also having health problems. Treasurer Pat Maglievaz's husband, Andy, is having really serious health issues. All were unable to travel to the muster. All the Hogs who are well, we need your help in keeping our Chapter going. I hope to finalize the vote on our new bylaws that was interrupted by these medical problems when we gather for our Veterans' Day Muster in Russellville. Sure hope you can be there!

And, don't forget Retiree Appreciation Day at the Air Base right after the muster!

Look forward to seeing you at Russellville!

Ann Lowry, President

Hogs Summer Muster on the Buffalo National River

- Eileen Wheeler, Secretary -

On Aug 5-8, eight rigs rolled in at Buffalo Point Campground in Arkansas' newest National Park. Eighteen were present: **AC & Dollie Autrey, Jim & Doris Case, Bill & Kathie Corroum, Christian & Carolyn Eck, Glenn & Pat Foster, Sonny & Joella Huddleston, new comers Joe & Marti Ruiz (welcome!), Fred & Valerie Smith** and their 2 granddaughters. The hosts, **Huddlestons & Ecks** provided an evening dinner of chicken salad and pasta salad. They surprised us with homemade ice cream. It was a special treat on a hot summer night. Many enjoyed a program at the amphitheater on park wildlife put on by the Rangers. Pancakes and sausage was served for breakfast on Friday. Many enjoyed swimming, canoeing, and floating on inner tubes down the Buffalo River. The evening meal was brats on the grill, baked beans, potato salad and peach cobbler. Entertainment at the amphitheater was a band playing bluegrass and many old 'favorites'. Saturday began with a 'sausage ring' for breakfast. Swimming, water sports, and just relaxing rounded out the day. All enjoyed dinner at the Buffalo Point Restaurant overlooking the river. On Sunday morning, Joella Huddleston conducted a brief, but very meaningful devotional service after we enjoyed the homemade sweets that she and Carolyn Eck had provided. It was just the right touch to send us on our way after a wonderful visit with our friends.

We hope to see everyone at our next muster at Outdoor Living Center Campground in Russellville, AR, Nov 8-12, as we honor America and observe Veterans' Day 2010.

Don't forget to Check the Website: <http://www.arsmarthogs.com/1.html>

Dinner With Ralph and Edye



Having a muster doesn't necessarily require a lot of planning. The Arkansas Hogs had an impromptu mini muster on July 22. The only preparation was finding a reason and making some phone calls. The Jungels from NE Arkansas had to drive 150 miles to meet family coming in at the Little Rock Airport. So they made a few phone calls and set up a meeting time (6:30 p.m.) and a place (Chili's Restaurant in Jacksonville) and *voila*, a mini muster was set up. There were 15 present from 5 surrounding cities. In attendance. It was a wonderful warm gathering. So musters do not have to have weeks of planning, be elaborate or costly. Just getting together and visiting with friends is priceless!

(Contributed by Eileen Wheeler, Secretary)

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY - 2010

"Hanger 1080" Little Rock AFB

0800 - 1300

The info on lots of programs for retirees, Freebies, Discounts, Specific details on Med Group, Exchange, Commissary deals will be coming out soon.

Make plans to join us with your Recruiting Hats ON!!

Don't forget to Check the Website: <http://www.arsmarthogs.com/1.html>

Common Sense for Rvers

Ron Jones, U. S. Army (Ret)

As fulltimers, we regularly stay in areas where we have no idea of the potential safety problems that exist locally. From crime rates to local unrest, people traveling can easily find themselves in the middle of trouble. Common sense plays a large role in staying safe.

Here's a different way to think about it... You are at home (in your RV) but your RV is not (at home). Therefore, it's easy to become complacent about your surroundings. You are typically inside especially during the evenings so you are surrounded with familiar things - you are home.

Consider Our Situation

We have a large motorhome. It looks fine. It is our home. It cost as much as a home. It is impressive to others. I am sure there are some people who think that because I have this very nice RV, I must have considerable wealth and carry it with me. I don't, but they don't know that.



The Author & His Latest "Wheels"

We often boondock (dry camp) and, always with permission, do this at Wal-Mart, Flying J, Rest Areas, and numerous other places. We typically do not use a campground unless we need their services. Interestingly, we have been in some campgrounds that looked pretty "seedy"—i.e., while driving through, I really wasn't sure if I wanted to stay there. Regardless of where you stay, there are some precautions you can take to make yourself and your RV a bit safer. Consider the following...

- Lock your doors and windows. Lock your RV's compartments. Lock your tow car.
- If you have an electric step, put it in at night and lock it with the switch so that it will not automatically go out if the door is opened.
- On a motorhome, if you have a step cover for the inside step-well, put it out (over the well) at night. This creates somewhat of a barrier should the door be forced opened.
- When boondocking in a commercial parking lot, park under a light with your door facing the front door of the store.
- Put your curtains down. Don't make it easy to see in.
- Don't leave your computer on the dash where it is visible.
- Don't leave computer cables and wiring showing under the front curtain on the dash.
- Don't leave your GPS attached to the windshield.
- Never open the door to a stranger. Answer any knock on the door by sliding open a kitchen or other window and talking from there.
- If it's the police, ask them to hold up their badge, get a badge number, and then ask them to please point to the police car. Police rarely walk any more.
- Call the local police to see if it is really the police. Dial 411 on any cell phone to get local directory assistance.

There's a small charge for directory assistance. If it is truly an emergency, dial 911.

- If someone approaches your coach and asks for gas/food/shelter/car repair money or says their spouse is sick/dog just got hurt/child just fell, tell them you will be happy to call the police to ask for any type of local charitable service that provides this sort of help.
- Many automatic satellite dishes have a built-in light shining on the dish. This can look like a beacon at night. Simply turn off the power to the controller inside. The light will go off but the dish should continue working. You will have to turn the power to the controller back on to stow the dish.
- Use your rear camera monitor to see what is happening behind your RV.
- If you see or hear people messing with your tow car, hit the "Panic Button" on your keyless clicker while standing inside your RV. If it won't signal the car through the rear of your coach, reach out the bedroom window to do this.

Don't forget to Check the Website: <http://www.arsmarthogs.com/1.html>

Is All This Necessary?

Let me close by stating that I have never had a single problem in any location, in any RV, anywhere. There have been no break-ins nor attempted break-in that I am aware of for any RV I have owned in the last 20 years.

I have been approached on a few occasions by individuals who were asking for money for some reason (gas, groceries, fuel, doctor, pet, etc.). However, I have been approached with the same question more often in gas stations and on the street than I have in the RV. My consistent response is that I would be happy to call the police and ask them for any type of local charitable service that provides this sort of help.

We do not seek out questionable locations or areas to park our coach - even if it is just one overnight. We have called the state police and asked for information about any potential or history of "problems" in particular rest areas. They were candid and I greatly appreciate that. We try to stop a few hours before dark. We can better judge the area in daylight and leave if we are uncomfortable.

The only incidents (but not problems) we have had while parked were the rare but occasional vehicle or motorcycle driving by with the loud muffler or the radio blaring. Once or twice, we have had what we assumed to be high-school kids blowing their horn as they were driving by our parked coach. However, all of these incidents were rare, happening less than a handful of times during the hundreds of nights we have been out.

Questions or comments? Contact Ron Jones at info@rvstuff.org. Visit his website at <http://www.aboutrving.com/> for more information or to order one of his 'must have' RV book titles.

Ron Jones has been camping on wheels since 1962. He and wife Sandy are fulltimers and meander just about everywhere in their diesel pusher. They present seminars on the RVing lifestyle at rallies, shows, and other gatherings nationwide. Ron was a columnist for Coast to Coast and has been featured in all major RV magazines including Motorhome and Highways. He is a regular contributor to the Good Sam Website (Weekly RV Tips and CyberSam). Ron has written eight books including co-authoring "All the Stuff You Need to Know About RVing," the recently released "Fulltiming for New and Used RVers," his newest, "RVing to Alaska," and was a collaborator with Sandy on "Wrinkle-Free RV Laundry".

Copper Wire (From a SMART Cajun Friend)

After digging to a depth of 10 feet last year, New York scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100 years and concluded that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Soon, a California archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet and a story in the *LA Times* read: "California archaeologists, finding 200 year old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a hundred years before the New Yorkers!"

One week later, a local newspaper in Louisiana reported, "After digging as deep as 30 feet in his pasture near Carencro, LA, Boudreaux, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Boudreaux has therefore concluded that 300 years ago, Louisiana had already gone wireless".

Just makes a person proud to live in Louisiana, don't it?

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A Tough Lesson

Email Message From a Friend

I drove myself and two co-workers to lunch and backed into a parking spot in the rear of the lot. This positioned my SUV with the passenger side doors facing away from the rest of the lot and to the end of the lot. I had a Sony digital camera lying on the console of my truck. Upon returning from lunch and entering the vehicle I noticed nothing wrong or missing from the vehicle.

On the next day, I needed the camera and could not locate it. After searching feverishly for two days, questioning anyone who had been close to my truck, and exhausting every possible location I could have put it, I began to have that sinking feeling I lost it or someone stole it. My new Garmin GPS had been in the truck the whole time, so I felt as if someone had entered my vehicle they would have taken it also.

A day later, I approached my truck from the passenger side and noticed there was a hole right under my door handle. My first thought was, "someone has shot my truck!" I thought about it and inspected it a little closer and the "light" slowly began to dawn. I phoned a friend who owns a body shop and asked if he had any vehicles with damage to the doors that looked like a bullet hole. "Yes, I see it all the time. Thieves have a punch and place it right under the door handle, knock a hole through, reach in and unlock it, just as if they have a key. No alarms, broken glass or anything."



I called my insurance agent and explained it to him, saying I was puzzled that they left my GPS and all other belongings. Here is where it gets scary! "Oh no, he said, they want the break-in to be so subtle that you don't even realize it. They look at your GPS to see where "home" is. Now they know what you drive, go to your home, and if your vehicle isn't there they assume you aren't and break in your home." He says they will even leave a purse or wallet and only take one or two credit cards. By the time you realize there has been a theft, they may have already had a couple days or more to use them. This is another reason they want the break-in to go unnoticed. I didn't realize my situation for two full days! They even give you the courtesy of re-locking your doors for you. I guess they don't want it to be broken into by other thieves! Had they found your check book, they could have taken checks from the middle section so they wouldn't be noticed.

Please remove from your GPS unit your home address as "home" ASAP! Use a nearby intersection as your "HOME". Thieves would have to guess among many houses for your real home. Park your vehicle in a highly visible place. **DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN SIGHT INSIDE THE CAR.** Walk around your car, daily if you are in a shopping center or other parking area. Report thefts immediately to your bank w/missing check numbers, credit card agencies, police, and insurance companies.

I hope this is beneficial to you and helps you keep your valuables in your possession and your vehicle from damage. Most importantly, it may keep the thieves from showing up at your home!

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The Binnacle List

Our personal prayer list is getting might long! It seems Kathie and I are getting to the age when a lot of our friends, including some in the Arkansas HOGS chapter, are facing more medical challenges than before. 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*

Bob Bogard's ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) has progressed to the point that he and Genise have sold their motor home. She said that the VA Medical Center has been super in providing equipment and support for Bob.

Lew Dellinger has completed a series of radiation treatments for lung cancer. He is to have an evaluation soon to determine if the tumor has shrunk. He's feeling well at this time, but they are considering a shift to a smaller motor home.

Ida Duffy's ability to talk had been partially restored at last report. Her surgeon who had severed the nerve to the larynx was able to insert a "block" that allows her to use one side of the vocal chords vibrating against it. So far, no singing, which is dreadful for Ida!

Andy Maglievaz has been diagnosed with Leukemia. After a long stay in Conway Medical Center, he and Pat flew to the cancer center at M. D. Anderson in Houston. After an in-depth evaluation, he was told to continue his chemo-therapy and blood transfusions at home. There was nothing they could do for him that could not be handled by his oncologist at home. Pat was able to rent an apartment close to the Conway hospital, move their belongings with the help of their daughter and church members and dispose of most of the things that wouldn't fit in the apartment at a "garage sale". Believe me, Andy and Pat have been "through the mill" this summer!

Marion Spivey has had some heart problems that led to a short stay in the hospital, followed by another quick trip to an Emergency Room. She's cut back on most of her many activities, serving the needy and her church, pending a further evaluation by a cardiologist.

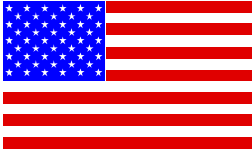
Kic Wheeler is still experiencing a lot of pain in his extremities. He's under the care of a good rheumatologist in Little Rock, who has prescribed several different medications that hopefully will get him back on his feet. At this point, he and Eileen are planning to downsize from their beautiful Country Coach motor home to one that she can drive. Any help would be appreciated.

Former Members Who Are Still In Our Hearts

Marguerite Martin is actually doing a little better than she had been on daily activities, but the memory is still declining. Howard is assisted by a care giver and two nearby daughters, but he does all the cooking and cleaning. A care giver comes to help dress and bathe her and do all the other care giver functions. Howard is still in good shape.

Butch and Geri Smith. After suffering a stroke while driving the tow car, Butch has been relocated to a rehab facility in Shreveport, LA, where he is progressing slowly. Geri has mostly recovered from her injuries and has moved to Fort Smith to be closer to her family and friends. She travels to Shreveport frequently to be with Butch for short visits.

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ARKANSAS SMART HOGS
Veterans Week Muster 2010
Russellville, AR
8-12 November 2010



EARLY BIRD EDITION



8 Nov., Monday

All Day.....Members and guests arrive. **Welcome Aboard!**

1630.....Attitude Adjustment Hour (Pavilion).

Bring a Hors D'oeuvre (Odd-number Sites) and drink of your choice (All).

1800.....Dinner provided by hosts. (Club House) (Bring your drink, plate & utensils).

After dinner, games and cards (Club House).

9 Nov., Tuesday

0730.....Coffee. (Bring your cup.) (Club House).

0830.....Breakfast casseroles & fruit provided by hosts. (Club House) (Bring your cup, plate & utensils).

Free day for meeting, greeting and visiting. See the brochures of the local area attractions available in the park office.

Lunch on your own.

1600.....Attitude Adjustment Hour (Mt. Nebo). (Based on Weather) Sunset is Approx. 1705.

Bring a Hors D'oeuvre (Even-Number sites) & drink of your choice (All).

1615.....Car pool to Mt. Nebo State Park for Sunset viewing and Attitude Adjustment Hour.

This is intended to be a "view sunset" and social time.

10 Nov., Wednesday

0730.....Coffee & coffee cakes. (Bring your cup) (Club House).

1000.....Car pool departs for Lake Dardanelle State Park Aquarium

1630.....Attitude Adjustment Hour (Club House.) Alternate day for Mt. Nebo.

Bring a Hors D'oeuvre (Odd-number Sites) and drink of your choice (All).

1800.....Pot Luck dinner. (Pavilion) (Bring your drink, plate & utensils).

After Dinner....Games and cards (Club House)

11 Nov., Thursday

0730.....Coffee and Biscuits & Gravy. (Bring your cup.) (Club House).

1000.....Chapter Meeting (Club House)

1400-1500.....Prepare for Veterans Day Parade and Festivities.

1600.....Veterans Day Parade

12 Nov., Friday

0730.....Coffee and coffee cakes. (Club House).

Whenever.....Hugs, kisses, fond farewells, "Keep the Shiny Side Up", etc. as all depart for home.

Fair Winds and Following Seas... GOD BLESS YOU!



Reservation Form

Arkansas Hogs Muster 8 - 12 Nov 2010

**Outdoor Living Center, Russellville, AR
10 Outdoor Ct, Russellville, AR 72802-8995
I-40, Exit 81 - Exit 81
(479) 968-7705**

Name _____ SMART# _____

We plan to attend the Veterans' Day muster. We'll have _____ people.

The fee of \$7.50 per person, \$15 a couple is enclosed.

We plan to arrive on _____ Nov 2010.

Please submit as soon as possible but no later than 25 October 2010 to:

Tom & Melva Arnold
10 Outdoor Court
Russellville, AR 72802-8995
(479) 857-4813 or (479) 857-1213
Tommelva@earthlink.net

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING:

In consideration of the undersigned person(s) participating in the above muster, the undersigned hereby releases and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless SMART, its officers, directors, employees, agents, successors and assigns from any and all liabilities, claims, losses, damages, injuries, and reasonable attorney fees which arise, result from, or relate to, any of SMART or ARKANSAS SMART HOGS activities, or the negligence, omissions, lack of care of its officers, directors, employees or agents.

SIGNATURES: (All attendees must sign, please.)

1. _____ DATE _____

2. _____ DATE _____

3. _____ DATE _____

