

◆ The Eagles News ◆

Official Publication of The Gulf Coast Eagles, Southwest Florida Chapter of S*M*A*R*T*

Volume 12 Issue 4

Fall 2011

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President's Message: Hello Eagles!

Hope you have all had a great summer. Judy and I didn't get away on an extended summer trip this year, but did get in a couple of weeks at Highland Hammock and Hillsborough River state parks and another six weeks enroute to and from the **S*M*A*R*T National Muster** in Shawnee, OK. We made a brief stop on the way there to visit the Vicksburg Civil War battlefield.

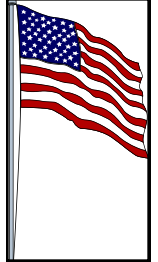
The nearly 200 RVs at the Muster impressed me, but senior members say the number is well below past Nationals and reflects **S*M*A*R*T's** waning membership. During the muster, **S*M*A*R*T** leadership outlined concepts for a member recruitment and retention campaign. Two approaches to bolster membership were outlined and will be fully defined in the next Traveler. All members are asked to share the values of **S*M*A*R*T** membership, such as **S*M*A*R*T** caravans, in our contacts with military RVers during our travels. Before leaving, we signed up for the 2012 **S*M*A*R*T** Maritime Caravan and for the September 2012 National in Goshen, IN. On the way back, we've spent a full week in Branson, MO, followed by four night stops in Memphis (where we signed up a new member at Navy Millington RV Park) and in Nashville, TN. As I write this, I'm looking out my coach window at the colorful Autumn-hued mountain sides around Pigeon Forge, TN. We've continued a music & show trip theme with a breakfast and a dinner show, which are part of the **GCE Chapter Fall Muster** activities. Several of the 21 Eagles' muster participants have taken in other shows at Dollywood. **Jerry and Martha Cole** has made this muster one to remember, from beginning to end. We have come to expect that from them, but owe them our sincerest thanks for their efforts and for a great time. The next Chapter event, the **Holidays Muster**, will be held in conjunction with the Lazy Days New Year's Bash in Suffner, FL from December 30, 2011 to January 2, 2012. If you plan to attend but haven't made reservations, you need to do so before **November 30**. Please contact Lazy Days [directly](#) for reservations & tell them you're with the Eagles **See application in this newsletter for details**. Also, mark your 2012 calendars for our February 20 > 24 Chapter Muster & the April 23 > 28 Southeast Regional Muster.

We're looking forward to seeing you and wishing you all the best until then.

Gene Benuzzi, GCE Chapter President



NO MORE E-MAIL ADDRESSES to worry about. Sign up for the **Eagles' Forum**. JUST US. It will allow quick communication amongst ourselves. Sign up now **PLEASE** at:
<http://gulf-coast-eagles.proboards.com/index.cgi?>



Congratulations!

The following members are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this fall.

Birthdays

- OCT: PJ Cooper, 2; Paul Cooper, 6; Darrell Painter, 12; Geri Day, 16; Maxie Roper, 24; Bill Armstrong, 27; Eileen DePaolo, 31.
- NOV: "Mikie" Scheuerman, 4; Thomas "Mac" McEntegart, 18; Rachel Rodrigues, 26; Shirley Waite, 26; Florence "Patsy" Jones, 27
- DEC: Gene Benuzzi, 8; Beverly Copeland, 16; Cecil Copeland, 26; Art Willis, 27; Michael Steflovich (LeDuc), 31



Anniversaries

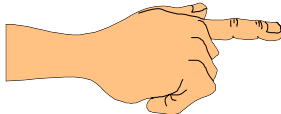
- OCT: Charles & Jean Richard, JR., 2; Bill & Geri Day, 27; Bill & Ulla Talbot, 31
- NOV: Ralph & Ilene Scogin, 17; Bill & Barbara Armstrong, 19; Gene & Judy Benuzzi, 28.



Please let me know if I make an error in either your birthdate or your anniversary date. I try my best to be accurate. Thank you,
Terry McDonald, Newsletter Editor

Bob & Shaaron McAndrew

INTRODUCING...



Bob is our illusive but industrious web master. He and his wife **Shaaron** joined us at Pigeon Forge allowing some of us to finally meet him in person. Without **Bob** we would have no web site to introduce our chapter to potential members. **Bob** spends countless hours volunteering behind the scenes keeping our site up to date & improving it. Need to double check something in a recent newsletter—go to the website. Trying to remember what a new member looked like, go to our website.

Have you visited the *Gulf Coast Eagle's* web site recently? *Gulf Coast Eagles*: [-http://www.military-rving.us/GCE/Eagles.html](http://www.military-rving.us/GCE/Eagles.html) . The web master, **Bob McAndrew**, keeps improving it.

Latest additions:

Short clips of some of the entertainment enjoyed by the Eagles' at Pigeon Forge
 A **Photo Directory** of all our members. (Editor's note: if your photo is missing please send one to me)
PROBOARD—our own forum to communicate **internally**. This needs to become a **MUST** on your Favorites/Bookmarks. No more keeping up on umpteen e-mail addresses. One click let's you speak to one & all. A place to get FLASH updates from our officers, musters hosts, Sunshine Lady, etc..

CHECK THIS FEATURE OUT: <http://gulf-coast-eagles.proboards.com/index.cgi?>

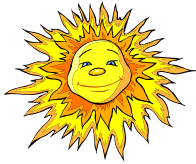
Muster Schedule 2011>2012

*no activities scheduled for arrival & departure dates



<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hosts</u>
December/January 30 > 2	Lazydays RV CG Seffner, FL	Ruth & Jim Schilk , 941-661-8586 Terry & Joan McDonald , 941-722-9464 Piggy backed onto Lazydays annual New Year's Rally
February 2012 20 > 24	"M" RV Park Moore Haven, FL	Gene & Judy Benuzzi , 941-815-8283 Floyd & Judy Harden , 407-962-6852
April 2012 23 > 28	SMART Southeast Region Wekiva Falls RV Resort Sorrento, FL	Muster Master John Tesmer 813-990-7288 johntesmer@aol.com

Jerry's Campfire warmed the chilly evening



SUNSHINE REPORT

Sunshine Lady, Eileen DePaolo

Phone: 352-504-7337; e-mail: etdep38@hotmail.com

2 Former members passed away this October: **Ed Bleyer**

Unfortunately no picture of **Ed** was available. He remained

connected to the Eagles til the end by reading our newsletter, per his request.

Annie Laurie, the **Chapter's Crafts Lady**—for years it was not a muster without a craft class by **Annie**.



2012 New Year's Bash (Muster)



Lazy Days RV Park, December 30, 2011 > January 2, 2012

6210 County Road 579, Seffner, FL 33584

From I-4 on County Road 579 (exit 10) Turn N. on 579 & proceed approximately one quarter mile. Turn W. (left) into Lazy Days RV Park.



Muster Registration: Contact the Rally Park directly-DO NOT contact your muster hosts.

RV Park Numbers: Local: 813-246-4777 Toll free: 1-800-905-6627

Registration Office Hours (EST) Monday -Friday: 8:00am to 6:00pm; Saturday: 8:00am to 5:00pm;

Sunday: 9:00am to 5:pm

HOSTS: Jim & Ruth Schilk (941-661-8586); Terry & Joan McDonald (941-722-9464)



TENATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday—30th 2 PM > 4 PM Eagles' Social @ our group area

5 PM > 8 PM Lazy Days' Happy Hour w/Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer, & entertainment.

Saturday-31st Free Breakfast & Lunch @ Lazy Days' Café (main bldg.)

2PM > 4 PM Eagles' Social @ our group area

5 PM > 0100 AM Lazy Days' New Year's Blast w/Full Dinner, entertainment, 12 AM party.

Sunday-1st 10 AM Large Brunch

5 PM—New Year's "New Year's Soup" @ our group area



"Dollywood" Oct. 2011 Muster



COME & GET IT



Armor leads the Attack



Move on manure spreader



Why such small spoons???



My! A gentleman!

Now to sit and enjoy



The Cook Seconds the motion



The Prez & The 1st Lady

The supper was GREAT Martha!! And so say ALL OF US



Desert Too, WOOOOO

GASP
Couch 4 U
Tonight

What's with this "All of Us" agreeing Kemo Sabe

What'd I do to be sent over here???



Why such small spoons??

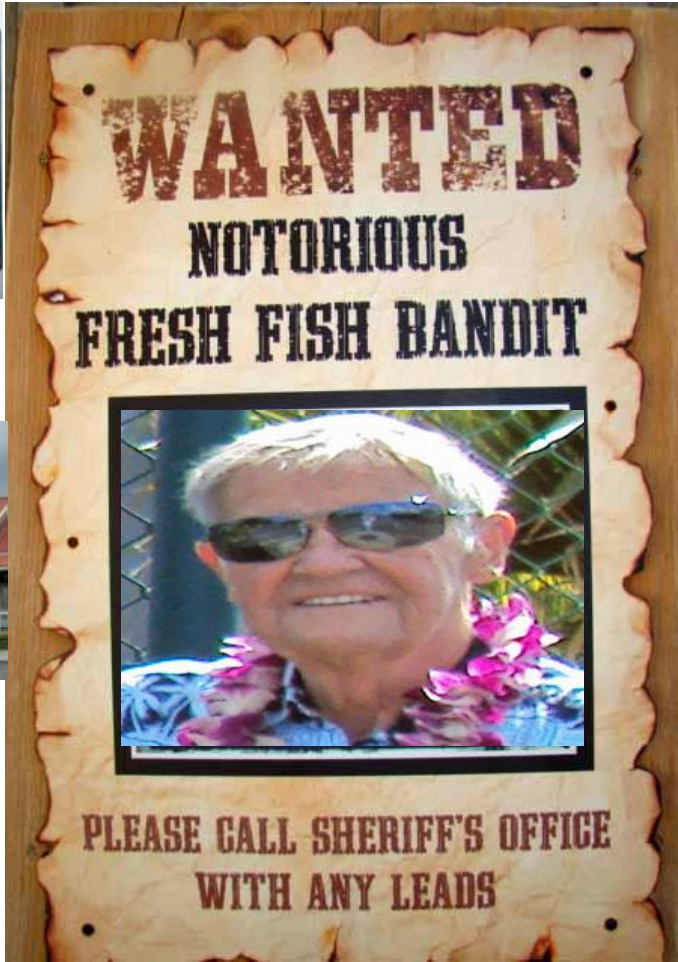
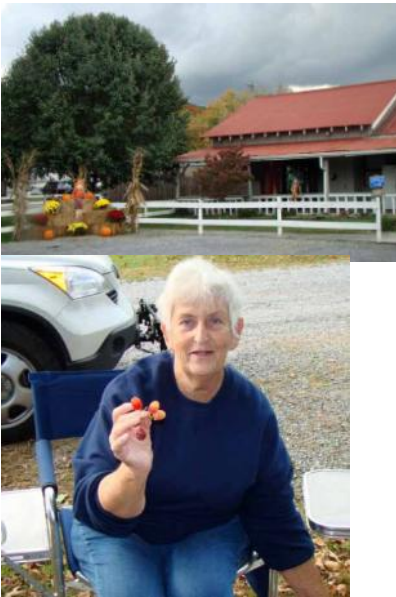


Boy, did we have an enjoyable time. Don't you wish you had been here?



Quiz Question:
Why is he trying to block his wife's face? Ans.: next issue





Out hostess shows how she is eating a healthy breakfast.
Quiz Que.
What is in her left hand?



Some folks shop for the most unique souvenirs



Always one wise guy who has to work on his coach & making the rest of us look bad

Highlights of Dollywood Visit



*Eat your heart
out guys
She accepted
my invitation
to come to
Florida*



Muster Masters Jerry and Martha Cole

Our Big Breakfast Out



**Fish,
I know
about**

**A Kid's
game**



**Fish,
nothing
fish.**

**card
isn't it?**



Gulf Coast Eagles February 20-24, 2012 Muster
“M” RV Resort, 17192 US Hwy 27, Moore Haven, FL 33471

Your Muster Hosts: Gene & Judy Benuzzi and Floyd & Judy Harden

GPS Coordinates: 26.86171N; 81.21299W (US Hwy 27 & “M” RV Entrance Road Intersection)

Directions: *From North* – I-75 S to US 301, left on Rte 98 toward Bartow, left on Rte 60 to Lake Wales, take Rte 27 S for approx. 82 miles to campground on right. *From Southwest* – I-75 N to Rte 80 E (Palm Beach Blvd) to Rte 78 E to Rte 27 N for approx. 6.5 miles to campground on left. *From West* – Rte 17 E from Punta Gorda, right on Rte 74 E, right on Rte 27 S for approx. 5 miles to campground on right.

Reservations: Individual camping reservations required. Please call **863.946.6616**

Camping Fee: \$20.00 per night. Please inform receptionist you are with the **Gulf Coast Eagles**

Muster Fee Payment: Please send check for **\$7.50 per person, (\$15.00 per couple)** to:

Judy Benuzzi, 17307 Lake Worth Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33948 (Phone 941.629.9171)

Sign-Up receipt deadline is February 10th. Later telephone sign-ups may be possible, space permitting

PROJECTED SCHEDULE

Monday-February 20

3:30 – 4:30 PM

Social Time

5:30 PM

Dinner: Turkey BBQ on a Roll, Chips, Slaw, Hot Beverages

Tuesday-February 21

8:30-9:30 AM

Breakfast: Pancakes, Sausage, Juice, Hot Beverages

AYL*

Lunch on Your Own

2:00 PM

Social Time:

5:30 PM

Dinner: Baked Lasagna, Bread, Salad, Wine, Hot Beverages, Dessert

Wednesday-February 22

8:30-9:30 AM

Breakfast: Sausage Gravy & Biscuits, Fruit Cup, Juice, Hot Beverages

10:00 AM

Board Meeting

10:30 AM

General Membership Meeting

AYL*

Lunch on Your Own

5:30 PM

Dinner: Chicken, Mashed ‘Taters, Gravy, Veggies, Hot Beverages

Thursday-February 23

8:30-9:30 AM

Breakfast: French Toast, Sausage, Toast, Juice, Beverages

10:30 AM – 2:30 PM **Meet at Clubhouse:** Depart for Roland Martin Marina Big “O” Airboat Eco Tour, (Staged Hourly 8-Person Boardings.) **Fee:** \$27.00 per person. Others, When Not Touring, Can Do Lunch at The Marina Tiki Bar or The Galley Grill, Stroll, or Just Lounge About

5:30 PM

Meet at Clubhouse: Depart for Buffet Dinner at the Historic Clewiston Inn. Several Choices of Entrees, Salad, Vegetables, Corn Bread, and More..

Friday-February 24

8:00-9:30 AM

Continental Breakfast: Coffee & Muffins, Served Under the SMART Flag at the Benuzzi’s

Goodbyes, Farewells and Wishes for Safe Journeys for All!

*AYL: At Your Leisure



GULF COAST EAGLES



NATIONAL SMART NUMBER _____ NATIONAL DUES EXP. DATE _____

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE S*M*A*R*T TRAVEL CLUB TO BE ELIGIBLE TO JOIN A CHAPTER

LAST NAME FIRST MI SPOUSE

STREET ADDRESS – P.O. BOX CITY STATE ZIP CODE

TELEPHONE (w/area code) CELL PHONE (optional) E-MAIL

MILITARY SERVICE, BRANCH ACTIVE RETIRED

BIRTHDAY (m/d) SPOUSE BIRTHDAY (m/d) ANNIVERSARY (m/d/y)

SIGNATURE

Please enclose \$ 10.00 Annual Dues (01 January through 31 December)

Make check payable to: **GULF COAST EAGLES CHAPTER**

Return to Chapter Treasurer:

Ruth Schilk
1406 Carswell St.
Port Charlotte, FL 33953
Tel. (941) 661-8586

-----Below Completed by Chapter-----

Received Date

Signature Chapter Treasurer

Signature Chapter Secretary

C# _____ DATE _____