

Spring 2008 Newsletter

Roadrunner News

Alfa Owners Club

Roadrunner Chapter

Pre-Rally 2008

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President's Letter

Dear Fellow Roadrunners

Quartzsite is behind us again. Unfortunately, Wagon Masters Dan and Arlene Harris and Co Wagon Masters Gene and Penny Ryder were unable to attend due to illness. I am happy to report they are all fine. The coffee gurus Ann and George Mallow did an outstanding job pulling it all together at the last minute. See the write up in the newsletter. If you love talking and meeting new friends at a campfire under a million stars mark this campout on your calendar for next January. Clayton and Diane Jones will be your Wagon Masters.

The Alfa National Rally in Montgomery Texas, at the Lake Conroe/Houston, North KOA, is fast approaching. The Rally Master, Bill Ratteree says that everything but the Antique Car Show is a go. He still hopes they can work out a date conflict. All 200 spots are filled with 44 of them being Roadrunners.

Bill Heath will be bringing some inventory with him. It will include red shirts, white men's and women's T-Shirts with logos, Roadrunner flags, hats and visors, pins & decals. The Roadrunners wear the red shirts at National for the Welcome Dinner, Chapter Night Dinner and the Farewell Dinner. If you would like to purchase a red shirt or other inventory items, send Bill Heath an email at sdheath77030@aol.com with the sizes and M. or F. in order for him to arrive with a semi accurate inventory.

The Roadrunners Rolling Rally will start heading north after the National. See article in this newsletter.

No one has volunteered to host the Fall 2008 camp out. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to be a wagon master. There is much expertise to assist you in planning this event. Please contact me if you are interested!

That's it for now!

SeeYa at National or the Pre Rally or both.

Sheila Heath
President
Alfa Roadrunner Chapter

National Board

National Board of Directors Meeting

No information available to report.

Garth and Jackie Thomas, National Board Representatives

Business

Request for member input

In an attempt to improve the value of your Newsletter, we need your input. Chapter members are encouraged to share their experiences, maintenance tips, product evaluations, etc with the Chapter. Please consider writing down your thoughts and sending them to the editor. Any and all ideas will be considered.

Rally and Camp Out Reports

Quartzsite Rally

What do you get when you add together the following ingredients - a horizon full of cactus, a HUGE tent, lots and lots of shopping, an evening sky full of stars, breath-catching sunsets, deep quiet, getting back to the basics of RVing, an abundance of tasty food, and, best of all, great companionship? You get the Roadrunners celebrating their annual rally at Quartzsite, Arizona.

The Quartzsite Rally is the least structured of the Roadrunner events. The focus for most of the participants is the Annual Quartzsite Sports, Vacation & RV Show, which translates for most of us as time to "shop until you drop." As anyone who has ever attended this rally can attest, Quartzsite has everything you could ever want for your rig with the added fun of discovering those special items you didn't know you could possibly want or need.

The rally was held at the "Alfa Site" in La Posa North-BLM from January 21 to January 26, however, a few of the 20 rigs arrived prior to the 21st and stayed beyond the 26th. Dry camping in the desert is such an enjoyable and refreshing experience, most people hate to see it end.

When both the planned Wagon Masters and co-Wagon Masters (Dan & Arlene Harris and Gene and Penny Ryder) took ill at the last minute, George and Ann Mallow stepped up to the plate and took upon themselves the reins as hosts for the rally. We thank them for the wonderful job they did to make this a gathering everyone enjoyed.

George and Ann put together a delicious Wagon Master dinner on Monday night which featured hobo stew; and, at the crack of dawn every morning saw to it that a pot of hot coffee and fresh donuts were there for everyone out of their rigs bright and early to enjoy sunrise in the desert.

Each afternoon, at about 4 PM, people gathered around the fire ring for Happy Hour and enjoyed the 'oh, so yummy' selection of appetizers provided by everybody. Happy Hour was a great time to get acquainted with new friends and reacquainted with friends we haven't seen for a while. It was also the perfect time to compare shopping notes, hear about which perfect item people bought for their rigs and what people might go back to buy the next day. It also became an opportune time to hear about or see what people have

done to customize their rigs. (Yours truly was very impressed by a motor home with hardwood floors throughout and another motor home with a 42" LCD TV that retracts into the cabinet behind the sofa.)

Tuesday night we gathered until a star-filled sky for an old-fashioned weenie roast and Friday's closing night event was a potluck Sheriff's dinner. Potlucks seem to bring out the very best people have to offer and Friday's dinner was no exception. There was a super abundance of great food for everyone to enjoy.

As we sat around the fire, all of us held our breath as we waited to learn who the Sheriff was and quietly pondered what we might have done to garner his attention during the week; and, we all had lots of quarters in our pockets...just in case. The Sheriff turned out to be George Minder, and as with all rally sheriffs, he had, indeed, been most observant all week. Few of us missed getting a fine and the fines were given for such imaginative things – the largest TV, the dirtiest car, the biggest cowboy hat, over spending, under spending and much more – all tickets were given with light-hearted fun and lots of laughter.

Even though we had suffered a couple of days of rain during the week, it hadn't dampened anyone's spirits and we all felt the days had slipped by very quickly. All too soon the rally was over. As people scattered with hopes of meeting again at the Pre-Rally to the National and/or the National Rally, everyone knew that we had shared a wonder time together in the desert of Arizona.

Rally Attendees:

Art & Carol Bailey
 Tim & Barbara Campbell
 Joe & Betty Choate
 Charlie & Vicki DuBose
 Clayton & Dianne Jones
 Stu & Mary Knapp
 Daniel & Sharon Lee
 George & Ann Mallow
 Gilbert & Betty Martinez
 Earl & Jeanne McKay

Jim & Shirley Ellis
 Don & Jacqueline Foreman
 Bill & Sheila Heath
 Larry & Rosalie Heuer
 George & Robin Minder
 Michael & Susan Radford
 Don & Patty Rowe
 Walter & B.J. Salm
 Jack & Jerri Sedio
 Dayne & Linda Sharek

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne Jones

Future Events

Date	Campground	Location	Wagon Masters
April 11-15, 2008 Pre-Rally	Lake Conroe KOA (Havens Landing)	Montgomery, TX	Rich & Karen Hugo Garth & Jackie Thomas Owen & Terry O'Neill
April 16-22, 2008 National Rally	Lake Conroe KOA (Havens Landing)	Montgomery, TX	Bill & Sheila Heath Jim & Dorthey Collard
End of National to ?	Montgomery, TX to Banff, AB	Rolling Rally	Bill & Sheila Heath

[Alfa National Pre-Rally](#)

There is less than a month until the Roadrunners Pre-Rally 2008 in Montgomery, Texas. We have 37 coaches signed up for the rally and we are looking forward to a great time. We have planned a special southern-style dinner for the final dinner of our rally. Be sure and bring those quarters – the sheriff will be on the lookout throughout the rally for those who “violate the rules.”

The pre-rally is a great opportunity to make new friends and renew old friendships and have time to see the surrounding area before the activities of the National Rally begin. There is a lot to see and do in the general vicinity of Lake Conroe including shopping, golfing, fishing, sightseeing, and just hanging out with friends.

Directions for the Rally Site – take Hwy 105 west out of Conroe/I-45 for 13 miles. The Lake Conroe/Houston North KOA will be on your left.

We will be there to greet you!

Richard & Karen Hugo

Post- National Rolling Rally

The 2008 Roadrunners Rolling Rally will be leaving Montgomery Texas on April 24, the day after the Alfa National is completed. Seven rigs will be starting the rally and it is anticipated that five or six will make the whole journey north to Banff Alberta with arrival planned for May 27.

Our journey will take us though Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, British Columbia and Alberta, with a dozen stops along the way. Since we are headed north in the spring, we will have to be flexible to account for any weather patterns that are not conducive to travel and camping. We are looking forward to visiting Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks and many other exciting locations along the way.

Bill Heath

Event Coordinator

For Wagon Master information, please contact Jim Collard at jim@collardscorner.com or 970-219-4745.