



Alfa Roadrunner Newsletter
Spring 2014



President: Dale Prichard

Secretary: Becky Godfrey

Vice-President: Jim Godfrey

Treasurer: Susan Prichard

Editor: Becky Godfrey

National Rally Rep: Dale Prichard

Travel Thought for Today:

The world is a book, and those who don't travel only get to read and experience a single page!

President's Corner

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Alfa Roadrunner Chapter, (sounds pretty neat doesn't it)?

Another Alfa Roadrunner Pre-rally and Alfa Owners Annual Rally has come and gone. As many of us have learned it truly is amazing, the people we meet, and the places we go. I have learned many new things in the past few weeks and been overwhelmed by the friendliness of all the Alfa owners we have come into contact with.

Susan and I have assumed the roles of Treasurer and President of the Alfa Roadrunner Chapter. This came a year earlier than expected due to health issues and ongoing recovery of Valerie Nelsen, after undergoing surgery earlier this year. It was with sad hearts that Joe and Val decided to vacate their offices earlier than planned. On April 6th nominations were held for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. New officers were voted in at the Chapter dinner held April 11th. Meeting minutes will be placed on the Roadrunner website later this month.

Your new officers are as followed:

President	Dale Prichard
Vice President	Jim Godfrey
Treasurer	Susan Prichard
Secretary	Becky Godfrey

In the coming months we will be seeking new ideas from our members and working to improve communications amongst our members. In one effort to enhance communications, I would encourage you to utilize the Roadrunner Yahoo Group as a communication tool.

[Link to Roadrunner Group Site](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Alfaroadrunners/info)

(<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Alfaroadrunners/info>)

Join the Group Site by using the above link.



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As we travel down the road, we will use this site to inform our members of new information found on the Roadrunner Web Site, such as events, places and new members.

[Link to Roadrunner Web Site](http://alfaroadrunners.net/)

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I look forward to working with and serving our membership. I welcome all comments, concerns and feedback at gatorcq@gmail.com.

Dale Prichard
President, Alfa Roadrunners

The Secretary's Goodbye (But definitely not a final goodbye) and a Treasurer's Hello:

I have enjoyed the past year as your Secretary and traveling the eastern US from Maine to Florida with my husband and our two four-legged girls (Da Girls). I am now excited and ready to serve the Roadrunner family as your Treasurer. I appreciate the trust you have placed in me and look forward to working with my fellow officers and each of our Roadrunner family members to enhance communications and friendships.

I so enjoyed getting to know many of you better at the rallies earlier this year and can't wait till we meet again. If we haven't yet met, I look forward to our paths crossing in the future. If you have any questions, concerns or changes in your personal information throughout the year, please drop me an e-mail so I can keep our records up-to-date and ensure each of you is a happy camper. To anyone traveling through South Dakota this summer, let us know when you are near Rapid City, Mt. Rushmore, Sturgis and/or Custer State Park where we will be volunteering. We would love to meet up with you for a visit and cool summer beverage.

Notes from Vice President and Secretary, Becky and Jim Godfrey:

We are so happy and pleased to assume our officer duties with the Alfa Roadrunners- thank you for your confidence. We will definitely try our hardest not to disappoint you! We feel so blessed to have met the Alfa Roadrunners...and hope to continue the relationships and conversations at the rally's/pre-rallies.

Also....one aside note....and just personal preference, we would absolutely prefer to have the Roadrunner Pre-Rally at the same location of the National Alfa Owners Rally.

A Note from our Past President, Joe Hughes:

So much fun at the Rally, Val and I are still talking about the wonderful job Mike and Lorraine did putting on the 2014 Annual Alfa Owners Rally. I know they had committees and lots of help,



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but it was their leadership that put it all together. Thank you Mike and Lorraine and a hardy “Well done”!

My year as President flew by. It seems that I was elected, received and reviewed the data files, started the process of planning the Pre-Rally, and bingo, when I finally figured out what I was doing the year was up. Being President is a wonderful experience. You get to meet “Newbies” before most everyone else. Yes, it is just an application and welcoming letter, but one cannot help but form an image. We were so fortunate to have had so many join our Roadrunner group during the year, and then to finally meet them at the Rally was truly rewarding.

As with anything in life it is the people that make it worthwhile. I would encourage everyone to step up and contribute some “Sweat Equity” to our Roadrunner group. You will be rewarded tenfold for your contribution of time with many new friendships that will last years.

I am sure that Dale, Susan, Jim and Becky will do a great job. There is a lot of talent in our Roadrunner organization- people who have been there ...done that. We can all learn from each other’s experience. All of us working together can really make a difference. Safe Travels to all.

Regards,

Joe Hughes

Last, but certainly not least, A Note from our Previous Treasurer – Val Nelsen:

Since I first went to a Road Runner rally in 2010 in Tucson, I have learned to love the Alfa owners and their active lifestyle. We have had several rallies since then, and each one has been special. Pahrump, Nevada opened up a whole new image of Death Valley, and taught us to love Redrock Canyon and some parts of Las Vegas. In Gold Canyon in 2012, Joe became Vice-President, and I became Secretary, a job I especially liked because I enjoy writing and putting words together. Some of you may have noticed I like talking, too.

The first year the Road Runners were in Casa Grande, 2013, Joe moved up to President and I moved over to Treasurer. We took all the books back to Michigan and worked long-distance from there. That winter turned out to be difficult physically for me, and I am afraid your President became acting Treasurer also. We worked together, but honestly Joe was doing double duty. Because of the physical uncertainty for me, and a few other logistical problems, Susan and Dale Prichard have graciously taken over as Treasurer and President. I thank them for their positive attitude and think they will do a wonderful job.

Thank you all for being supportive and wonderful caring friends! I will continue to love the Road Runners, and plan on next year being fun and relaxing!

Val Nelsen, Past-Treasurer

Secretary Report



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Alfa Roadrunner Meeting Minutes

Location: Palm Creek RV Park, Casa Grande, AZ, April 11th, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Hughes at 7:20 pm. Joe displayed and explained the contents of our 3 Chapter Baskets to be donated as gifts at the Annual Owners Farewell Dinner, April 12th, 2014.

Joe also passed around a boot to collect funds to be donated to the Casa Grande Fire Department in appreciation of their repeated performance during our time at the 2014 National Rally.

OLD BUSINESS

Slate of officers for 2014 was presented as:

President: Dale Prichard
Vice President: Jim Godfrey

Secretary: Becky Godfrey
Treasurer: Susan Prichard

A vote was taken of the members in attendance and was unanimous. A motion to accept the slate was made by Jim Collard and seconded by Sarah Allen.

Joe Hughes passed out copies of the financial report as of April 11th, 2014. Current Net Worth (including inventory) is \$6498.96. Current active membership stands at 163. Mr. Hughes asked for volunteers to audit the books. Sarah Allen, John Kurz and Norm Nesbit volunteered.

An announcement was made by Marvin Grier regarding the Rally Golf outing scheduled for April 12, 2014 to be at the Pro-shop by 7:30 am for a shotgun start.

Susan Prichard read the meeting minutes from Business Meetings of April 6th, 2014 (available at www.alfaroadrunners.net). A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Jim Godfrey and seconded by Sid Zielke.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe thanked Mike and Lorraine Lynch for their stellar performance as Wagon Masters for the 2014 National Rally.

A thank you gift was presented by Dale & Susan Prichard to Joe Hughes and Val Nelsen for their service to the organization

Motion to adjourn was made by Skip Huffman and seconded by Jeff Horvath at pm.7:50 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Susan Prichard
Secretary 2013



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2014 National AOC Rally Commentaries: paraphrased from some of our members

We were first timers at the Casa Grande Rally but already members of Road Runners and SeeYa groups so had met many of the Alfa friends along our journey. The rally was a great time and we enjoyed many of the events, especially the woman's luncheon. The laughter yoga lesson was very enjoyable. Palm Creek provided an excellent variety of food served by friendly Palm Creek staff. Mike and Lorraine did such a fantastic job. We enjoyed ourselves and will be back next year wherever it turns out to be. **Wayne & Kathy Taubman** – Roadrunners - 2002 Alfa See Ya. #70120

Hi all, I'd like to say I had a great time at the Rally. I attended the Camp Freightliner Chassis Class and learned a lot of new things about my chassis. Now if I can get the Freightliner chassis web page up and running, I'll be a happier camper. I was kept busy looking at coaches that had problems or owners that just had questions about their coaches. There's nothing I like better than to talk about the Alfa coaches? On that subject, I'd like to apologize to all the wife's that sat at the same table as me and had to endure all of the tech talk about our Alfas. I would also like to thank those that gave me the opportunity to look at their motor homes. I very seldom get the opportunity to look at other model year coaches other than my 06, so it was good to see the differences in the model years.

One of the things I discovered was that the 04 coaches I looked at had their knife switches reverse labeled. The only 04 coach that was labeled correctly was an Alfa 04 Gold. I believe I looked at four 04 SeeYa coaches and one 03 coach, that had their knife switches labeled incorrectly and most had one of their knife switches closed, which was the wrong knife switch. My conclusion is, if you have a 04 SeeYa coach, I'm betting that your knife switches are labeled backwards (Sorry can't help myself, had to include some tech talk). **Vonis Spencer**, South Loafers - 06 SeeYa #3825

For me, the rally was the best of times and the worst of times.I had been calling my wife, Debby, who was bringing the car up from Tucson and finally got a call back from her saying that she had been in an accident, was ok,that her injuries consisted of fractured ribs and sternum. She had some painful days until her fractured sternum was surgically splinted and still has some pain from her ribs. She has begun recuperation. Having been in constant contact with Debby, our daughter and the medical staff at the hospital, I knew that there was nothing that I could in Tucson but sit in Debby's room and watch TV, so I decided to stay in Casa Grande and enjoy the camaraderie and embrace of so many good folks that I may see only once a year, as well as take advantage of the learning experience provided by Camp Freightliner and the other valuable seminars at the rally. I must admit to feeling guilty, and sad, as I enjoyed the two golf outings and the great food and service at Palm Creek without Debby....**Randy and Debby Sherow** - '08 LSXL Gold 4660 - Roadrunners

I thought the rally was great, we met a lot of new people (which is, what it is all about). Clinic on Friday was most informative and interesting. **Jim & Celine Carroll** – Road Runners - 05 SeeYa 73576



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We had another wonderful time at this year's National Rally at Palm Creek in Casa Grande. The resort is terrific, and having the Freightliner Boot Camp prior to the rally was awesome. The vendors and seminars proved to be very interesting. Of course, the Palm Creek staff was wonderful and the meals were delicious. Many thanks to Mike and Lorraine Lynch, along with the rally co-rally masters, for doing such a terrific job with organizing this year's event. Looking forward to next year! **Denise Gray** – Roadrunners – 2004 Alfa Gold

We wanted to send off a few words about our experience as First Timers at the Casa Grande Rally 2014. We both were uncertain about what to expect at the Rally but as new owners, we decided to give it a go. I guess that I was hoping to meet some like-minded folks and to maybe find someone who had incorporated a computer station and printer location so we could better utilize our space. Steve was hoping to learn more about some of the systems and how to troubleshoot some electrical concerns (thank you, Dale, for your assistance in these areas!). Plus we had work scheduled to be completed by the Alfateers and Joe, the Glass Boss.

Any expectations we may have had for the Rally were far exceeded. The camaraderie among the Alfa owners was sincere. Everyone was so comfortable to be around that it was like being with friends and family the entire time.

The Coach Tour gave us so many ideas of what to do with our motor coach, immediately, and in the future. We are looking forward to a custom made credenza with two computer stations and finally have figured out how to display some photos!

Palm Creek RV Resort was fabulous. They went out of their way to accommodate our needs and we hope to return in the not so distant future. All the meals were absolutely great, well presented and delicious. The only drawback was that we stocked a full pantry and never made a dent in it. Happy trails, **Winnie & Steven Howland**

A Sampling of Fun at an Evening Joint Social Event:





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And.....a Note from the Roadrunner Wagon Masters

Alfateers provided outstanding support again this year for the 2014 ALFA ANNUAL RALLY. Jon Goldstein and his team did 120 jobs on 50 rigs during the week's event, a convenient service for these folks who were able to attend the rally events while their coaches were being serviced without having to travel all the way to California.

The traditional dinner cooked by Jon and his crew had an interesting twist this year. When we were at Alfateers last spring, Richard said they would cook Carne Asada, but when we checked with Jon, he said hamburgers and hot dogs. Even though he is no longer with us, Richard had his way and an excellent Mexican dinner was served and enjoyed by many! We were glad that Richard's wife, Teri and their son, Ricky were able to join us for dinner.

In a memorial to Richard, Jon presented a video about him and his devotion to his family, Alfateers and their customers. The room was packed with his many friends. He will be greatly missed.

Alfateers provided \$2500 dollars for service on our rigs as door prizes showing again their total support for our Annual Rally.

A surprise this year was the presence of Alfateers' prototype conventional trailer. Built in their shop over the past year, this beautiful trailer, named Bulldog, in honor of Richard, was unveiled for the first time at the Rally. Jon hopes to manufacture it as the first step to building RVs again. We wish him luck.

Alfateers presence at our Annual Rallies is definitely a bonus for all of us!

Mike and Lorraine Lynch

CAMP FREIGHTLINER ROUNDUP

Mike Cody was the special speaker for Camp Freightliner (CF). In all 75 persons attended Camp Freightliner. Each owner was presented with a notebook outlining his or her chassis specifications.

We were presented with instructions as to how to get easy access to "Access Freightliner" online. Access Freightliner online is a website where owners of Freightliner (FL) chassis can instantly locate chassis information, wiring diagrams, and the various parts required to create a FL chassis.



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Mike (pictured above) did an excellent job of instructing each and every person in class, even though he sometimes looked asleep.



As you can see in this photo the students are waiting for the start of class.

ALFA ROADRUNNERS QUARTZSITE RALLY 2014 (Provided by Dale Prichard):

Well another Quartzsite rally has come and gone. When Susan and I arrived there was 26 rigs lined up. What a site to see. As we approached our landing area, we spotted many people already out and about. The wagon masters were busy setting up, organizing and greeting everyone as they arrived. As the day progressed groups of people milled about greeting old acquaintances and introducing themselves to new ones. By the time Happy Hour arrived everyone had been introduced.



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Susan and I met many new Alfa owners and new first time Roadrunners. Some of whom had traveled as far away as British Columbia.



The morning always began with coffee and donuts. However the first thing was getting coffee. Sharon and Sven did a wonderful job of getting the coffee ready and on the table by 7 AM. Next came getting the morning fire going.



And then rest....



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As always there was the Big Tent event held in Quartzsite. This year was no exception, as many of us came home with something new.



Solving problems:

During this time we helped solved various problems on the rigs. We were busy checking out and helping our members.





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Desert Outing:

Nothing is like taking a trip to the desert bar. The desert bar is located about 8 miles from Parker, AZ; five of these miles are on a dirt road.



Did I mention that the desert bar is in the desert?

Pancake breakfast

Of course what is a Quartzsite Rally without our special Pancake Breakfast?



Bud and Sven were at it serving up their wonderful pancakes. Bud, picture above is one of the original Roadrunners.



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Sheriff Dinner

The last dinner was the sheriff's dinner. During the rally one member is selected as the sheriff. The sheriff's name is not revealed until the last day. The sheriff spots and compiles notes on people breaking the law. In this case, it was Sheriff Anita Herrick's laws that we were breaking.

We are proud to say we raised \$137.50 in fines (donated to the Quartzsite Food-Bank) and a carload of can goods. Yeah Roadrunners!



Exit Time

But as the week wore on, it was time to pack up and get rolling. Slowly the rigs started to pull out. One by one they were seen rolling out. We started out with over 30 rigs at the rally....then the only thing left was....





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PROPOSED SEPTEMBER RALLY IN COLORADO SPRINGS – Godfrey’s, as Wagon Masters:

We currently have reserved 10 sites for a September Rally at Garden of the Gods Campground in Colorado Springs, Colorado for September 23rd through September 28th. There is plenty to do to fill the time while we are there. Following are some thoughts:

- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
- Pikes Peak Cog Railway (since 1891, world’s highest cog railway, ascends Pikes Peak 14,115 feet)
- Pro-Rodeo Hall of Fame
- Historic Manitou Springs (eat, shop, and play)
- Garden of the Gods
- Manitou Cliff Dwellings (discovered 1881)
- Cripple Creek and Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad, Cripple Creek, CO
- Mollie Kathleen Gold Mine (descend a vertical mine shaft 1,000 ft. (Cripple Creek, CO)
- Seven Falls (Seven cascading falls)
- **And....of course, a round of golf – 18 holes**

Please let us know as quickly as possible if you are interested in attending this September Rally – we would like to have a rig count as quickly as possible. Also, and more importantly, we are looking for a couple to volunteer as Co-Wagon Masters for the rally to help with some administrative and coordination issues.

More updates and email blasts to follow regarding the September Rally efforts!

On a Side-Note: The Co-Wagon Masters for the 2015 National Alfa Owners Rally have been finalized but details of when and where are still in the planning stages. More information will be sent in future email blasts and newsletters.

Co-Wagon Masters:

Tom and Maureen Mathison
Kathy and Wayne Taubman

Marvin and Marian Grier
Jerry and Jean Maddux

“Many, many thanks to these volunteers “!



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An Opportunity to Shine, Have Fun and Volunteer (From Val Nelsen and Joe Hughes): Today we volunteered for the 2014 Balloon Festival. We will probably be assigned to the Balloon Discovery Center to teach Hot Air Balloon principles. As always they need volunteers for all kinds of things ...even balloon chasers. For a few hours of work before or during the balloon festival you will get free dry camping, (all premium parking is already gone), but a honey wagon and fresh water is available daily for a charge. Work assignments are made in June and July, so the timing is perfect. This year everything can be done on the Albuquerque Balloon Festival website.

If interested, Google, “Albuquerque Balloon Festival” to complete the volunteer registration form and submit.



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ALFA ROADRUNNER SURVEY RESULTS: We recently sent a survey to our e-mail capable members via Survey Monkey and below are the results:

1. Did you enjoy the last rally you attended?
 - a. *55 Responded, Agree = 14, Strongly Agree = 29*
2. Did you enjoy the events at the rally?
 - a. *53 Responded, Agree = 25, Strongly Agree = 28, NA = 2*
3. What did you like about the Rally?
 - a. *46 Responded*
4. Would you prefer to have the pre-rally at the same location as the National Alfa Owners Rally?
 - a. *52 Responded, No = 1, Yes = 42, Does not matter = 9*
5. Would you prefer to have a pre-rally or post rally?
 - a. *53 Responded, Post Rally = 3, Pre Rally = 23, Does not matter = 27*
6. Would you consider being a Wagon Master or Assistant Wagon Master or just an attendee?
 - a. *50 Responses, Might consider WM or Asst WM = 10, Attendee Only = 40*
7. If a Roadrunner Sew On Patch was available for \$5.00 plus S&H. Would you purchase one and how many?
 - a. *50 Responded, Interested in Patches = 30, No Interest = 20*
8. If a Roadrunner Flag was made available, what would you pay?
 - a. *47 Responded, \$20 = 2, \$15 = 13, \$10 = 14, No Interest = 18*
9. How many nights would you like to have for the pre/post rally?
 - a. *51 Responded, NA = 4, 3 nights = 20, 4 nights = 21, 5 nights = 6*
10. Would you or your spouse have an interest in an RV Driving course at the rally?
 - a. *48 Responded, Yes = 18, No = 30*

An Appeal to the 10 of you who might be interested in being a Wagon Master or Assistant Wagon Master for a future rally, we need your help now. We are in need of Wagon Masters for the Quartzsite Rally, January 17 – 25, 2015.

In Addition we need Asst. Wagon Masters for Roadrunner Pre-Rally, date & location TBD.

Please contact Dale Prichard at gatorcq@gmail.com to discuss either option further. Thanks