

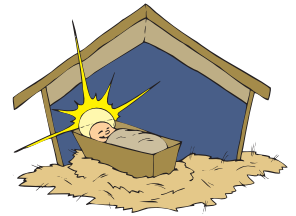


ECHOES

THINKING ABOUT MIRACLES

**A Christmas Devotional by Bob Shelton, Chaplain,
AYR Grand Canyon Chapter**

Have you ever thought about miracles? Do we think they are something that occurred only in Bible times? Do you ever hear someone talking about miracles today? As we approach Christmas and the Advent Season of preparation, we are mindful of an abundance of miracles that occurred around Jesus' birth. Take time to read Luke 1:1 through 2:40. As you read, note how many times a miraculous event occurred. Often, it was a reference to prophecy being fulfilled – a miracle in itself.



We are now approaching the year 2012 or approximately 2,012 years after Jesus' birth. Are miracles still possible in these days of high technology? Or did miracles only happen in Biblical times? I would like to share with you some things that we have seen occur that leaves little question to miracles in our present time.

We have seen within our Prayer ministry several miracle healings – one of the most significant ones was a lady in our neighborhood who had cancer of the esophagus and the stomach. She had so much surgery, including partial replacement of both her stomach and esophagus, followed by pain, chemo, radiation, etc. During part of the process, her husband said to forget the prayers; he had lost his faith. We began praying for the restoration of his faith, and in a few weeks, he recognized that he was not willing to give it up, and thanked us for keeping him in the prayers for his wife. Quick end to the story – the wife has had her health completely restored, and they recently went on a trip to China, which had been planned before her diagnosis. A miracle indeed.

Recently, a prayer request came from a wife who was 4 months pregnant and they had learned that their baby had a defective heart. They asked for prayers. The doctors had *-cont. on page 3*



REPORT FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS

We want to thank Nancy and Clark Lupton, our outgoing co-presidents, for all of their hard work, in continuing the work of growing the chapter.

We also want to thank the new and old officers for all of the time and effort they put into ongoing chapter work. Our new officers and committee chairs are listed on page 2.

We attended the San Diego AYR Reunion with 30 other Grand Canyon Chapter members this past September.

We were reminded of the song from YMCA *-cont. on page 3*

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We don't stop playing because we grow old,
we grow old because we stop playing. -Satchel Paige

BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER

- 2 Carmen Hemrick
- 5 John Adams
- 8 Kent Brownlow
- 12 Marna McClain
- 15 Mary Lipscomb
- 15 Peter Smargon
- 16 Carol Patterson
- 18 John Dabrow
- 19 Jim Seidl
- 21 Jim Lipscomb
- 22 Norleen Shelton
- 25 Peter Walsh
- 29 Irene St George
- 30 Don Hanna

JANUARY

- 4 Pamela Hegarty
- 5 Dee Johnson
- 7 Marilyn Bezanson
- 9 Stew Brown
- 10 Gene Sacha
- 23 Ellen Straney

MARCH

- 14 Jim Horst
- 15 David Bolton

FEBRUARY

- 2 Carol Peterson
- 3 Debbie Horst
- 7 Peter Gabel
- 8 Marge Heer
- 24 Elaine Dinwiddie



ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

- 18 Jim and Deborah Brewster

FEBRUARY

- 14 David and Marion Bolton

JANUARY

- 11 Sonny and Pamela Hegarty

The birthday and anniversary dates listed above are up to date as of information received by October 29, 2011. We regret any incomplete or inaccurate names or dates.



GRAND CANYON LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pete & Janet Smargon, Co-Presidents
psmargon@gmail.com

Dave and Marion Bolton
Co-Vice Presidents nmymca1@aol.com

Susan Hill, Secretary
susanhill429@gmail.com

Everett & Marjorie Heer
Treasurer/Membership
mheer1@cox.net

John Brooks, Immediate Past President
and EAF Chair
chilejuan@cox.net

Len & Audrey Covello, Health & Fitness
lenaud@webtv.net

Pres & Dee Johnson, International
pdjohnson575@cox.net

Bob Shelton, Chaplain
bobnorz@cox.net

Peter Gabel, Echoes Editor
ptgabel@gmail.com

Marian Bolton, 2011 Reunion Cmte
nmymca1@aol.com

Stew Brown, 2012 G C Rally Chair
stewspot@chaffee.net

Mary Lou Glass, Cluster Coordinator
mlglass@aol.com

CLUSTER CAPTAINS

- John Brooks, Southern Arizona**
- Stew Brown, Weidensall**
- Clark & Nancy Lupton, Northern Arizona**
- Jim Lipscomb, New Mexico**

AYR GRAND CANYON CHAPTER

2012 REUNION
OCTOBER 15-18, 2012





He covers the sky with clouds, he supplies the earth with rain, and maketh the grass grow on the hills. -Psalms 147:8

OUT WITH THE OLD . . . IN WITH THE NEW

As we leave our term as Co-Presidents of the Grand Canyon Chapter of AYR, we want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who made these past two years a TRULY WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE! One of the highlights of these two years occurred at the AYR Reunion in San Diego, where the Grand Canyon Chapter had 31 delegates, 9 more than any other Chapter.



The other highlight was the merger of the Weidensall Chapter with the Grand Canyon Chapter. That Chapter, now known as the Weidensall Cluster, has been a great addition to our Chapter.

They will be the host for our 2012 Chapter Reunion in Durango, Colorado. It is imperative for all of us to rally behind them to make this the best Chapter Reunion ever! What a great location ... watch for registration information.

We welcome Pete and Jan Smargon as our incoming Co-Presidents. Let there be no doubt, we are in for a fun and exciting three years with them at the helm! We have no doubt that all of us will provide them the same support and enthusiasm that you have provided us!

Thank you so much.

Nancy and Clark Lupton



CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT -cont. from page 1

Camp. "Make new friends, but keep the old, one is silver and the other gold." To us that is what the Grand Canyon Chapter and AYR is all about.

At the reunion we were reacquainted with a number of former colleagues from throughout the country and met many retirees we had never met before. They are now are friends.

We found out we have much in common besides working for the YMCA.

During our term of office we want to encourage members to attend cluster meetings and the annual reunion, even if they don't know anyone. When we joined the chapter 5 years ago we only knew a hand full of members, we now have many more friends than when we started and look forward to meetings.

By attending, you'll have a chance to laugh, learn and enjoy the fellowship of some wonderful people.

We especially encourage spouses of YMCA staff who have passed on, you will find a welcoming supportive group.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy and Healthy New Year.

Jan and Pete Smargon

DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE -cont. from page 1

indicated that the baby girl's heart was such that the baby may not survive the pregnancy, and if she did, she wouldn't survive after the birth. The medical staff suggested that they abort the child. After wrestling some days in prayer over such a consideration, the parents-to-be decided to carry the baby as long as God allowed, so that when the baby was born they could at least hold her and express their love to her. They wanted their friends to meet this little baby girl of theirs. When our prayer team began to pray for this child, we found that we were inspired by the parents' faith, and we have begun praying for a miracle. Our prayers are that God will mend that child's heart and that she will have a normal birth and live a normal life! A miracle has already taken place by the miraculous faith of these parents, who were unwilling to consider the nightmare of aborting their child.

It seems so meaningful, when we think of the miracle of Jesus' birth, to think also of the miracle of every birth, and why not a miracle birth for this child who has a defective heart. Our God is an awesome God! As our prayer team gathers monthly to pray and share answers to prayer, someone suggested that we keep track of the answers. We began doing that in March, and through November, we have accounted for nearly 200 answered prayers. Praise God! So, are miracles still possible? You bet, and as you celebrate the birth of Jesus this year, be mindful of the miracles that are in your life, and be grateful.

"Many people saw the miraculous signs Jesus was doing and believed in His name." John 2:23



In any moment of decision the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing.

-Theodore Roosevelt

AYR SAN DIEGO REUNION REPORT

Y retirees from all over the world (197 of them) came to the 2011 AYR Reunion in San Diego.

Thirty-one were members of the Grand Canyon Chapter, the largest gathering from any chapter.

Pat Ritter wrote a report of the reunion for the AYR National newsletter highlighting the work done by Grand Canyon Chapter members. (See the copy you received recently in the mail.)

Marian Bolton, Ed Glass and John Brooks were very active members of the planning committee. Marian was responsible for putting the program together, and she enlisted help from several other Chapter and Committee members, recruiting speakers, organizing entertainment and developing the work plan so people with responsibilities knew where they had to be, when they had to be there and what equipment was needed.

The different Clusters in our Chapter all made prize baskets to give away during the drawings. Stew Brown was responsible for photographs and for the Reunion Evaluations. John Brooks headed up the Spirit of John 17:21 Awards committee and

coordinated the various presentations.

Jim Lipscomb made a number of the Spirit of John presentations as well as functioned as one of the electronic wizards that made sure presentations were seen and heard.

Nancy and Clark Lupton recruited Brad Fitch a Colorado entertainer who was the Kick-Off entertainment. Brad sang John Denver songs, some say better than John Denver. His performance made for a great first evening.

Jan and Pete Smargon coordinated the Grand Canyon Chapter Dinner Cruise around San Diego Harbor. thirty one of our chapter attended, and we had 57 members from other chapters who also took part. Dinner, dancing and beautiful harbor views made it a night to remember.

Marge and Everett Heer coordinated the finances for the cruise. Ed Glass put together the golf outing. And Pete Smargon functioned as the emcee at various times

All of our members seemed to have a memorable experience at the reunion.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GRAND CANYON MEMBERS RECEIVING AYR JOHN 17.21 PASSION AWARDS

A special moment is set aside for recognition of AYR members who are "intrepid and unsung" heroes known for their long and dedicated performance to a particular program or service component in their YMCA careers or for their outstanding and unrecognized efforts carried on in retirement in AYR over the past several years. These individuals are the heroes who changed our lives, stayed the course and never sought or received recognition.

PEG ANDREWS: George Williams Award for AYR lifetime achievement and excellence in leadership. George Williams founded the YMCA in London, England in 1841. The organization is now established in 160 countries around the world.

STEW BROWN: Sumner Dudley Award for excellence In demonstrating caring and vision in the discovery and growth in camping and outdoor education. Sumner Dudley's vision changed history by creating the first resident camp and the institution of the system of "leaders" which is represented in every YMCA.

LEN COVELLO: James Naismith Award for excellence in health and wellness. James Naismith, as part of a YMCA health program, created what is now a worldwide sports program – basketball.

See the October Echoes special edition for the introductory statements read at presentation during the San Diego reunion: www.retiree.org – click on "publications."





A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of his opportunities and an optimist is one who makes opportunities of his difficulties. -Harry Truman

GRAND CANYON MEMBERS "CHECK IN"

John and Ann Brooks have been on the road attending John's 50th HS class reunion in Iowa, the AYR Reunion in San Diego, meeting up with a group of retired Y guys in Palm Desert for a week of golf (John) and on to Kansas to see their Gkids sing and dance in the Swedish Hyllingfest Celebration. We also were blessed with our 8th grandchild, Isaac, on Nov. 4th in Tempe, AZ. Amy and Ryan's first.

Stew Brown recently met with the Messer Chapter (Illinois) for their 80th chapter anniversary. He spoke about chapter history, archives, and what to do with it. Then, a quick trip back to DIA from Milwaukee, and an even faster drive west on I-70 and over Independence Pass, and into Aspen, CO to attend the annual John Denver memorial concert, which is preformed by a group that worked with John or wrote songs with him. It's always an emotional event. Joining Stew were two of his sons, and a 7 year old grandson, who is already an avid fan of John Denver. In fact, he and his dad get front row center seats for both performances. They also stay in the same hotel as the performers and visit with them prior to and after the concert. Stew's grandson, Logan, knows them all by name, and they ask him which songs they should informly play and sing in the hotel lobby. What fun!

Pete and Thelma Gabel are in their ninth year of volunteer ushering at the University of Denver's Newman Center for the Performing Arts and Lamont School of Music ... enjoying about 60 events during the 2011 year.

Norma Hansen updates us on the Hansen children: Tod and Beth, are teachers, Amy is a registered nurse serving at Denver Health, and Linda is in the process of seeking a new path. A gaggle of 6 grandchildren, ages 23, 19, 13, 12, 10 and 8 keep life interesting.

Mary and Jim Lipscomb had an active Fall. After attending the AYR Reunion in San Diego, they had an opportunity to visit their Grandson who is a freshman at San Diego State University. He was very happy to share two meals together (he has been surviving on school food!). In addition, their son and his family came down from Ventura,

CA to stay with them at the reunion hotel. In October, we traveled East to the annual get together with Jim's two brothers. This has been an annual tradition for the last twenty years. While there we got a chance to visit some of our childhood places we were around, including Jefferson's Monticello, Jim's birthplace and grandparent's home in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Now its time to relax and prepare for Christmas!

Nancy Lupton was the oldest competitor in the 2011 "Running of the Bulls," a 5 K event around Lake Estes on September 24. There were 236 participants in this years event. The proceeds from the event support "Partners for Youth." Nancy usually competes in the annual "Crop Walk," but that event this year was the day before we departed for the AYR Reunion in San Diego. Guess what she was doing?

Linda and Pete Walsh spent a wonderful summer in New England. We took a tour of Springfield College on a beautiful mid 70's degrees day. What a relief from Arizona's summer heat! S. C. brought back a lot of great memories. We enjoyed six weeks with our east coast family near Cape Cod, spent a week on Nantucket Island and visited friends in Maine. (S.C. Class of 1969)



OUR THOUGHTS GO OUT...

One of our members **Dale St. George** passed away on September 11, 2011. Please keep his wife, Irene, in your prayers.

Mary Tikalski writes that a Memorial Service for former Director of the International Division, YMCA of the USA, **John O'Melia** was held on Saturday, November 12, 2011.

Gene Sacha had knee replacement on Oct 17 and will have the other knee replaced on Dec 5th. Our best thoughts, Gene.

Through Jim Lipscomb, we learn that **Ann MacCullough** of the NM Cluster is battling cancer. Please keep her in your prayers. *-cont on page 7*



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND REPORT

John Brooks, Grand Canyon EAF Chairperson

Our national chairperson for EAF, Dale Ventres, has reported that we are making progress on matching gifting to the EAF Fund of 2010 thus far this year but are still lagging behind. Thus, a reminder to all our members to send in your check for this year as you process your year end gifting plan. Dale also reported that several EAF grants were made to our retiree's this past year whom have experience an emergency and needed financial support from their AYR family members. Although we never want to think that we might need a grant, it is nice to know that as a member of AYR national, that EAF is always there to assist. As a chapter member if you personally need or if you know of a member who could use this support please let John Brooks, Chapter Chairperson or Pete Smargon, Chapter President know.

Stats for our Chapter as of Mid September: 27 gifts for \$2425 or an average gift of \$90. Last year we had 33 gifts for \$2925 for an average of \$88. On a national level in 2011 we have 491 gifts for \$50,424 compared to 759 for \$74,459 in 2010. We are praying for an abundant 4th quarter response.

Our Chapter has several members who usually give at year's end and I will be contacting them as a reminder. How great it would be if every one of our chapter members gave this year - no amount is to small.



WORLD SERVICE REPORT

**Pres & Dee Johnson, Norma Hansen
Grand Canyon World Service Representatives**

YOUR SUPPORT AND RESPONSE URGENTLY NEEDED

As of mid-November, 2011, World Service contributions from the Grand Canyon Chapter membership have totaled \$2,875 from 18 giving units. This compares unfavorably to last year's contributions of \$4,240 from 30 giving units, representing participation this year, to date, of just 68% of the cluster giving units from last year.

With only 1½ months left in the year, won't you consider making your gift, if not already done so? Your options are two-fold:

1. Note the amount of your World Service gift on the appropriate line noted on your chapter membership renewal form being sent out in the near future by Everett Heer, chapter treasurer.
2. Send your check directly to the Chicago

National Office:

Mary Tikalsky, YMCA of the USA

101 No. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL. 60606

Make checks to: YMCA of the USA World Service - indicate "Grand Canyon Chapter" on memo line.

The Grand Canyon Chapter had 30 giving units out of 63 membership units last year that contributed to the chapter's gift to YMCA World Service. Can we approach that number this year?

Let it be so!



WORDS OF WISDOM ?

obtained at <http://www.nicefacts.com>

You guys line up alphabetically by height." *Bill Peterson, Florida State football coach*

"I get to go to lots of overseas places, like Canada." *Britney Spears, Pop Singer*

"Most cars on our roads have only one occupant, usually the driver." *Carol Malia, BBC Anchorwoman*

"Football players win football games." *Chuck Knox, football coach*

"If it weren't for electricity we'd all be watching television by candlelight." *George Gobel*

Weather forecast: precipitation in the morning, rain in the afternoon." *Detroit Daily News*

"We are trying to change the 1974 Constitution, whenever that was passed." *Donald Kenard, Louisiana state representative*

"You guys line up alphabetically by height." *Bill Peterson, Florida State football coach*

"I get to go to lots of overseas places, like Canada." *Britney Spears, Pop Singer*

"Most cars on our roads have only one occupant, usually the driver." *Carol Malia, BBC Anchorwoman*



CLUSTER NEWS

Cluster News is presented by Mary Lou Glass, Cluster Coordinator who says...

"Not a lot of cluster 'news.' -- I guess we all are worn out from plans and attendance in San Diego."



New Mexico Cluster

Jim Lipscomb, Captain

The New Mexico Cluster had a good representation at the San Diego Conference. They have not been together since that time. Jim and Mary Lipscomb enjoyed their October visit to Virginia.



Northern Arizona Cluster

Clark and Nancy Lupton, Captains

Northern Arizona Cluster is having a get acquainted and planning meeting on November 22, 2011 at the Dillon BBQ restaurant located in Peoria, AZ in the Phoenix Metro area. Plans are under way for a Cluster Christmas Party at the home of Janet and David Hughes in December.



Weidensall Cluster

Stew Brown, Captain

A Christmas luncheon at the Country Buffet is planned for the Weidensall Cluster: the Country Buffet, 7475 Park Meadows Pkwy in Lonetree (303-799-0471) for 11:00 am on Tuesday, December 6, 2011. Ed & Mary Lou Glass have returned to their Arizona home till the Thanksgiving/Christmas holidays then will return in January to spend the winter in Arizona. They said they raced out of town before the big snow but will probably enjoy the white stuff during the holidays.



Southern Arizona Cluster

John Brooks, Captain

Eight members of our Cluster attended the 2011 National AYR Reunion in San Diego this past September including Rich and Susan Hill, Pres and Dee Johnson, Jack and Marge Bagge and John and Ann Brooks. Since then it appears that many of our members have been on the road traveling and visiting family. The Cluster plans a golf outing prior to Thanksgiving (22nd of Nov) and we will gather at Pete and Linda Walsh home in Vail the weekend of December 9th (actual date to be set) for a Holiday get together.

It was also discussed at the National Reunion that our Cluster will join the North Cluster of AZ in Feb. 2012 for a combined meeting of the two clusters and perhaps take in one of the theaters shows for an afternoon performance. Confirmation of the dates will be out soon from Clark and Nancy Lupton, North Cluster Chairs for this year.



MEMBERS "CHECK IN"

–continued from page 5

John Dabrow writes "hello" to my friends in the Grand Canyon Chapter. For those who didn't know, I've had an infection in my right knee replacement for 7 years and the pain was so bad that I finally decided to have my right leg amputated on July 13th of this year. I'm no longer in any pain which is the greatest thing about what's happened. I am in hopes that I will be back to being a traveler and getting back to the Lake of the Ozarks, back to Wichita, Kansas, try to get back to the East coast and try to be the person I was before all this happened



www.yretiree.org

It contains lots of useful and interesting information:



AYR - GRAND CANYON CHAPTER 2012 REUNION - OCTOBER 15-18

LOCATION: Strater Hotel, Durango, Colorado The Strater Hotel dates back to the 1880's, one of the major historic buildings in downtown Durango, refurbished by Hilton, it's atmosphere, furnishing, and service will take you back to the "turn of the century" a hundred years ago. What fun! Check their web site for photos and hotel details: www.strater.com

DATES: We've selected these dates to get a greatly reduced hotel rate, as the "Colorado Aspen color season" is just ending. But travel Colorado the week before to enjoy those golden colors if you haven't seen them previously. You're in the right part of the state for an awesome show.

ARRIVE: **Monday, October 15th.** Between noon and 1:00pm, Ed Glass will organize an afternoon golf round at the city course: price: \$49.00 - carts included. See www.golfhillcrest.com

Non golfers can take time to wander around downtown Durango, visiting the many shops.

GROUP DINNER: At 6:30 pm, we'll meet in a special dining room for a group dinner. You'll have an opportunity to pre select your main entrée of beef, fish, or vegetarian. We'll also enjoy this time together getting reacquainted. Dinner is included in the reunion fee. Drinks will be extra.

TUESDAY - OCTOBER 16TH: Complimentary buffet breakfast at the hotel, then the experience of your life time, a round trip ride through the most awesome wilderness scenery in the country, on the DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD. It's a full day adventure, with departing the train in Silverton for lunch on your own. Train fare is \$86.32 per person When you register for our reunion, you'll have a chance to register for the railroad trip. A 10% discount will be applied if we have 20 or more passengers. Check the WEB site: www.durangotrain.com

Supper Tuesday evening is on your own, and a list of local restaurants will be provided in your registration packet.

WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 17TH: Complimentary breakfast at the hotel, then car pools to MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK (bring your Golden

Eagle pass for free admission). Visit the TOURIST CENTER first to get maps and plan your day. You can sign up for detail tours of the park, or just "do it on your own". Lunch is on your own at one of the Park's dining locations. And your car can return to Durango when you have completed your plans. Check out the Park's WEB site for exciting details: www.mesaverdenationalpark Supper is on your own once again. Enjoy it with your fellow members, sharing comments on your past two days of "Colorado Adventure."

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 18TH: Complimentary breakfast at the hotel, followed by our long anticipated ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING and presentations by distinguished AYR members which could include: *Len Wilson* AYR President; *Bob Hastedt* Y Retirement Fund AYR Liaison; *Pres Johnson* World Service; *John Brooks* EAF Update; *Pete Smargon* Grand Canyon Chapter President presiding.

A **buffet lunch** will be provided at 11:30 to enjoy in our meeting room or make sandwiches, and catch a "brownie" for your early start home. Cost of the lunch is included in our reunion fee.

REUNION FEE: *Basic charge:* \$10.00; *Served Supper:* \$40.00 *Buffet Luncheon:* 20.00 *Total reunion fee: \$70.00 per person*, to be paid when registering (refundable up to October 1) **HOTEL RATE:** \$117 per night, per room, double occupancy. Includes complimentary breakfasts.

RAILROAD FARE: \$86.32 per person subject to 10% discount if we have a group of 20 or more

COMMENTS: Your planning committee has strived to be in consideration of the various charges and services, and while this "adventure" is perhaps costing a little higher than usual, we want you to experience the BEST of DURANGO, the historical heritage, and Colorado adventure.

Plan and save now for this special experience. And if you have comments for "the committee": Stew Brown - stewspot@chaffee.net, or 719-539-6744, or 14080 CR 261-H, Nathrop, CO 81236.





**AYR – GRAND CANYON CHAPTER – 2012 FALL GATHERING
Official Registration Form for October 15-18, 2012**

Please Print

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

E-mail: _____ **Phone:** _____

GC Cluster or Chapter (if a guest): _____

YES or NO (circle) We want to take the Durango & Silverton RR trip.

I plan on joining the golf outing: (circle) husband wife

**Meal choice for Monday evening: ___ Chicken ___ Salmon ___ Vegetarian
(enter number for two people if couple)**

Registration deposit if \$20 per person, refundable up to October 1, 2012 (if you need to cancel) and should accompany this registration. Balance is due by October 1st. Total fee: \$66.00 which covers conference fee, Monday dinner and Thursday lunch.

You will be advised in making your personal reservations with the Strater Hotel and we will make the railroad reservations, but you will pay for these on your own.

Send your registration and \$20.00 deposit (per person) to: Stew Brown, 14080 CR 261-H, Nathrop, CO 81236 Make checks payable to: Grand Canyon Chapter.

..... cut and send in above form with deposit

MORE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- There may be a few minor changes due to our early promotion, but all who are registered will be notified of any changes.
- For example, the Durango & Silverton RR hasn't set their 2012 dates and rates, but I hope to secure the number of seats we may need, using 2011 prices. We also get a 10% discount on our tickets if we have a minimum of 20 people. The RR ride is optional, because some of our members have done that before.
- We want everyone to attend the opening dinner at the Strater Hotel, so we can get reacquainted, go over the plan for the gathering and meeting, and enjoy a full evening of fellowship.
- We added, this year, the closing day buffet luncheon in order to not pay \$200 for renting the meeting room. It will be served at the close of the meeting, and "take away" boxes are provided to take your lunch on the road.
- We will be sending our meeting information to other chapter newsletter editors, the AYR WEB site, and AYReports, with the invitation for any and all to join us for this unique fall adventure.
- **PLAN TO ATTEND – GET YOUR REGISTRATION IN QUICKLY TO HELP WITH OUR PLANNING** and we can take advantage of savings.