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## Hands of Peace Project - Update

The Hands of Peace project fundraising is ongoing. One hundred percent (100%) of all charitable donations go directly to the project administered by International Peace Garden. There is no overhead and everyone involved is a volunteer. Funding has been a challenge, but still continues to grow. Due to the budget restraints, government funding in the USA and Canada is not easily accessible, but avenues are still being pursued.

Support at the International Rally at Huron, SD was great. Individual WBCCI members donated \$1,181.00; Region 6 - \$700.00; Washington Unit - \$775.00; Region 12 Hobo Rally - \$450.00; Region 11 - \$250.00; and the Kansas City, MO Unit - \$100.00.

At the Region 7 "Festival of Tall Ships" rally in Duluth, Minnesota on July 24 - 30, 2013, SkyMed representatives Stan & Mary Schwenke presented the committee with a large check in the amount of \$5,000.00. Stan and Mary donated \$100.00 for every new SkyMed member who signed up at the Region rally and \$50.00 for every renewal which resulted in \$600.00. The rally raised \$746.40 through an auction of donated items. Young entrepreneur Melanie Costello set up a lemonade stand, raising \$30.00. Thanks to all for their support of the project.

A big THANK YOU goes to the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit and their members who generously donated a total of \$1,200.00 this past summer.

At the Wisconsin Unit Rally held at Marquette, Michigan, the rally participants donated a total of \$272.00 on the condition that Ed Emerick not tell the Badger story again at a Wisconsin Unit rally. There will be repercussions if he does not honour his word! The Wisconsin Unit also donated \$100.00. Thanks to everyone for a great rally and for your support of the Peace Garden Project.

Just recently, an anonymous donor gave a generous \$5,000.00 gift. More information on this donation may follow at a later date.

The Wisconsin Unit, Region 7, WBCCI and the Hands of Peace Committee lost a valued member recently -- that being Joan Lahr. Being instrumental in bringing forth the WBCCI International Peace Garden Monument project as a WBCCI project in her tenure as Region 7 president, she worked diligently on the project and as co-chair. Her valued input will be missed, but she will not be forgotten. There were donations in memory of Joan sent to the International Peace Garden for the project.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Harrower, chair



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## President's Message

UPDATES AND OTHER THINGS FROM LINDA

After the 2013 International Rally in Huron, Gail sent me her ideas on how, as Region 7 officers, we could improve the International Rally experience for our members. As some of you who attended Huron know, Gail & I 'worked our butts off' not only by attending meetings with the other Region officers, but by filling in wherever we were needed.

Gail jumped in with both feet to take over the unit directory and newsletter competition just a few months before the International due to the illness of the chairperson. The number of entries not only blew our minds, but reading how well our newsletter editors communicate with their members was a real eye opener. So thank you to Gail and to all the newsletter editors for your hard work in keeping us on track.

I love doing the Pet Show and the Style Show. What fun to have our members share 'their traveling companions'. As one International Vice President said last year, "I didn't know so many people came to watch the Pet Show." Surprise! It's a FUN EVENT!

So what would I like you to do? Get in there and volunteer. Sign up to help at the registration table. This is where you get to see everyone. Gail Harrower would love your help in publications. Annette Hooker would love to have you volunteer to be one of her models at the Style Show; just give Annette a call. I would love to have help with the Pet Show. Can you man the Pet Show table during registration, can you help check pets in at the time of the show? E-mail me: agre5628@aol.com

Now for Gail's recommendations:

#1. To assign each Unit a time to 'man' the Region 7 table during registration at the International Rally. I will be sending the times of registration to the Unit Presidents as soon as I receive them. So Unit presidents, now is the time to round up your volunteers by asking, "Who is going to Gillette" and "Who will spend an hour or two at the Region 7 Table?" Why do we have a Region table anyway? Mainly as a means of communication: a. Sign up for the Region Luncheon. b. For information on upcoming rallies, both Units & the Region 7 Rally. c. A place to scope out 'what's happening in other Regions'. (Unit Presidents: Get your rally information together and have it available at the Region table.) Be sure to visit the other Region tables.

Recommendation #2: Change the date of the Region Luncheon so that it happens by itself and not in competition with the other Region Luncheons/Breakfasts. That can only happen if we could join with one of the other 11 Regions. As some of those Regions held their business meetings that day it was hard to do this; so this year we are changing our get together to Sunday, June 29, 2014 with a brunch in Gillette. Special dietary requirements will be addressed, so please share with your members that they need to let us know if they have special requirements.

So much for the International Rally.

Now for information about the Region/National Event Rally in Winnipeg:

First, I hope every one of our Region 7 members plan to attend. After you hear what Gail & Bruce have planned for us, take it from me this is a rally not to miss. I really thought, do I want to go to Folk-a-Rama again? Then Gail starting filling me in on all we are going to do and see in the city of Winnipeg. So get your passports and your good walking shoes packed. I promise you a great time in the northern part of Region 7. And yes, get in there and volunteer to help at this National Event Rally sponsored by your Region. E-mail: airstream4478@gmail.com.

Second, It has been customary at the Region Rallies, that each unit prepares and serves a breakfast, lunch, or dinner. We have about 80% of our Rally goers that attend a breakfast. (I love my morning coffee and breakfast with friends but some of you like to sleep in.) In place of the breakfasts in Winnipeg, Units are going to be asked to help serve a dinner or luncheon. Gail will be sending more information on this to your Unit Presidents.

If I haven't thanked the Region 7 Units for the great breakfasts they served at both of my rallies, I thank you now.

Looking forward to a great 2014 camping season. See you down the road, Linda

P.S. We are STILL looking for an incoming 2nd Vice President for the Region. Will someone PLEASE step forward???? I have enjoyed almost every minute of my term. I love the members of our Club. I love working with and visiting the other Units & Regions. So I send out this challenge: Step up to the plate. Keep Region 7 the strongest and most active Region in WBCCI. We may be little but we're loud! You can count on help from me, Gail, & Pete. We are a GREAT team! Come join it!

Linda

## International 3rd VP Nominee

I received this e-mail from the Cocke's and I believe that I should share it with my Region 7 members. I recommended Jim and support him as a candidate for International 3rd Vice President. The Cocke's are full-timers, as am I since 2002. They understand our way of life and the joys of the Airstream Club. They love to travel, meeting new friends, and visiting new places. That is why I asked Jim & Debbie if I could share this e-mail with you. So here it is...

Linda

Jim Cocke and Debbie Wood #4822

Friends,

We want to share with you all this bit of personal news -- Jim is a candidate for International 3rd Vice President of WBCCI. Several people made a convincing argument to us for Jim's running for this office. We talked it over constantly between ourselves for a week. We talked with family and friends before deciding on this huge change in our life. It seems right to us.

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Reprinted from the October 2013 Badger Bulletin

## In Memoriam Joan Lahr

**June 2, 1940 – September 8, 2013**

The Wisconsin Unit was shocked and saddened by the unexpected and untimely passing of Joan Lahr as a result of complications of surgery.

Joan's name is writ large on the history of the Wisconsin Unit. She was Wisconsin Unit President in 2007, Region 7 President in 2010-2012, and served actively in other offices and committees in between. She was a "mover and shaker" in all she did for the unit and region.



Joan demonstrates skillet-throwing technique at the Wild West rally, Horicon, Wisconsin, 2007

Joan was an energetic contributor to the WBCCI, putting a lot of effort and enthusiasm into everything she did. She served in the following offices:

- 2004 - 2005 Wisconsin Unit Trustee
- 2006 - Wisconsin Unit First Vice President
- 2007 - Wisconsin Unit President
- 2008-2009 - Region 7 Second Vice President
- 2009-2010 - Region 7 First Vice President
- 2010-2012 - Region 7 President
- International Constitution and Bylaws Committee
- Chairperson of the International Merit Award Program.



Wisconsin Unit Breakfast, 2008 International, Bozeman, MT



Cheerleading practice, 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, Bozeman, 2008.



Region 7 Luncheon, Madison, WI International Rally, 2009



Clowning around at the Region 7 rally, Medora, ND, 2009



Region 7 rally, DePere, WI, 2010

We're going to miss you, Joan. Your untimely passing leaves a big hole in WBCCI and Region 7. So long—we'll see you down the road.

## Joan E. Lahr

June 2, 1940 - September 8, 2013

Joan Ellen Lahr (nee Ristow) entered eternal life on September 8, 2013, at the age of 73. She was a resident of Menomonee Falls for over 50 years and beloved wife for 53 years to Michael Joseph Lahr. She was the loving mother of Linda Jean Yuhas, Michael Joseph Lahr, Laura Jane Parsons and Mark Jon Lahr. Precious grandmother of Holly Parsons, Lauren Parsons, Heather Parsons, Dalton Lahr, Alexis Yuhas and Andrew Yuhas. She was mother-in-law to Michael Parsons, Andra Lahr and Paul Yuhas. Dear daughter of Hazel Ristow (nee Le Blanc) and the late Richard Ristow and sister of Richard Ristow, Janis Ristow and Jeane Ristow.

She was admitted to Froedert Memorial Hospital for a minimal procedure on September 6th passed away of natural causes and went to be with our Lord on September 8th.

Joan was a graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran High School class of 1957 and continued her education at Waukesha county Technical College with additional banking and management resource education. Joan was a dedicated mother to her children and grandchildren which included 14 years of Menomonee Falls 4-H Club leadership, followed by two years as leader of the Waukesha County Leadership Board. After her children left home, she joined The Associated Bank and was an Executive Assistant and Office Manager for 6 years. In 1993 she began employment with The Alliance for Children and Families as an Administrative Assistant to the Executive Vice President and was promoted to Director of Human Resources until her retirement in May 2006.

As empty nesters, Mike and Joan began their love of travel which extended throughout the U.S. and the French West Indies. After 9/11, Mike and Joan decided to purchase an Air Stream RV and spent the last several years gallivanting throughout the United States. Never idle and always using her strong professional gifts, Joan served and organized WBCCI (Wally Byam Caravan Club International) Air Stream rallies for various regions throughout the U.S. Her first position was Trustee of the Wisconsin unit in 2004/2005. In 2006, she was elected to First Vice President and then was President in 2007 for the Wisconsin Unit that showcased her strong organizational and communication skills. From 2008 to 2010 she was 2nd and 1st Vice President of Region 7 and President from 2010 to 2012. Under her leadership as President of the Wisconsin Unit, and as Region 7 President, she inspired her committee chairpersons to succeed and she won numerous Merit awards during her tenure. She put her heart and soul in the club and in doing so was able to accomplish much in these positions.

In addition to her strong business side, Joan was equally gifted creatively. Her children fondly remember her arts, crafts and painting projects. Her most recent endeavor was jewelry making. She enjoyed making jewelry for all the girls in her family. Joan was a timeless classic. Joan passed down a love of cooking, gardening, camping, enjoying nature and physical activities to her children and grandchildren. Joan was known for her practical, reliable and warm nature and will be deeply missed by her mother, siblings, husband, children, grandchildren, relatives and friends.

Please join us in a celebration of Joan's life at Schmidt and Bartelt Funeral Home located at N84W17937 Menomonee Avenue, Menomonee Falls on Friday, September 13, 2013 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, September 14, 2013 at St. James Parish, located at W220N6588 Town Line Road, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 at 11 a.m. with a luncheon served immediately afterwards.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to The Wounded Warrior Project ([www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org)). The family wishes to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers.

*3rd VP Nominee, Continued from Page 2*

We know you through WBCCI. We've learned almost all we know about caravanning and RVing from you. We've traveled Alaska twice, the southwest, and the northwest of USA on WBCCI caravans. You taught us how to hitch up and balance our trailer. You taught us how to travel, and convinced Debbie to learn to tow. You started us playing ukulele. You are a big part of what we love about living life on the road as full-timers.

We know how much WBCCI has added to our lives and to the lives of many of our friends. Whether at caravans, unit rallies, region rallies, Internationals, we've loved being a part of this tremendous group. WBCCI provides so many benefits to us. And we see the Club looking for willing leaders at many levels.

We've gladly given of ourselves in the past nine years to help the Club. We have enjoyed many different roles at local, regional, intracub, and international level. But we eschewed biting off something as large as International office and didn't presume we should take it on.

Until now -- Jim turned in his resume and letter of interest well ahead of the Nov 1 deadline and understands he is a candidate for WBCCI International 3rd VP.

We're excited about having a chance to give back to the Club, respecting both the Club's heritage and potential. We hope you will share in our anticipation and preparation for these exciting times.

Whether in Rayne LA (mid-Winter IBT), Orlando FL (HamCation), Sarasota FL (AlumaFlamingo), Miami FL, or the Florida Keys (FL State Rally) this Winter and Spring, or Gillette, WY next summer, we hope to see you before long. We wish we could be more places at one time, or move timemachine style between east and west coasts.

We look forward to seeing you down the road,  
Jim and Debbie

## REGION 7 ACTIVITIES

### MINNESOTA UNIT ACTIVITIES

February 16 11:00 - Valentine Party, at Jake's City Grille,  
12365 Singletree Lane, Eden Prairie, MN  
Hosts: Jim & Kathi Treston - 763-862-6425  
Chris & Kay Olsson - 763-786-4217

### NORTH DAKOTA PEACE GARDENS UNIT

May 9-11 Rally at Governor's Inn, 2050 Governors Drive,  
Casselton, ND Luncheon (11:00am - 3:00pm on 5/10/14)  
(Business meeting @ 1:30pm)

June 12-15 - Westward Ho Rally, Location:Red Trail  
Campground, Medora, ND

September 11-14 Fall Installation Rally, Centennial  
Campground at the Fairgrounds, Aberdeen, SD

### WISCONSIN UNIT ACTIVITIES

April 25-27 - April Camp Out - Wisconsin Dells KOA,  
Wisconsin Dells, WI

April 26 11:30 Luncheon & Business Meeting, Moose Jaw Pizza  
& Dells Brewing Co



# Region 7 Luncheon



1131 Church Point Hwy  
Rayne, LA

**Wednesday, January 8, 2014**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Contact: Gail Harrower by January 6, 2014**

**Cell: 204-781-1987**

**US Cell: 956-246-7698**

**[airstream4478@gmail.com](mailto:airstream4478@gmail.com)**

