



## Issue 16

<http://region7.wbcc.net/>



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## Region 7 Rally



photo by Cathy Ruebel

By: Gail Harrower, 1st Vice Pres  
The "Antique Car Run"  
Region 7 Rally was held at West Rich RV Park in Spicer, Minnesota from August 8 - 12, 2012. Early parking took place on Tuesday, August 7th. Those who came early were able to go on a boat cruise of Green Lake on Wednesday morning. The day was cloudy and a bit rainy, and yes, Green Lake actually does turn green when it rains -- we saw it with our own eyes. Back to the RV Park for an Officer Training Session prepared by John Tetzlaff for Unit Presidents and Officers and Unit Website and Newsletter Editors.

The opening ceremonies were at the club house at the RV Park, with Vern Schultz as our MC. Beth Fischer of

the Willmar Lakes Area and Denny Baker, the Mayor of Spicer welcomed everyone to Spicer -- it's always Nicer in Spicer. After a wonderful catered walleye dinner, we all gathered around the campfire for a marshmallow roast.

### *It's always Nicer in Spicer*

Thursday morning was the 2nd boat cruise on Green Lake and a tour of the J&L Bison Ranch. At 11:00 a.m, we were visited in the RV Park by quite a few antique cars participating in the 26th Annual New London to New Brighton Antique Car Run...and were there ever some beautiful old cars all restored and in mint

condition! We then went to the Spicer Legion for a buffet lunch with the drivers of the antique cars.

A repair seminar was presented by Rod Grandstrand of the Minnesota Unit in the afternoon and was very well attended. Supper Thursday was a barbecue hosted by Curt Gunderson and the VAC Club, after which there was a Campfire Installation where the new Region Vice Presidents, Gail Harrower - 1st Vice President and Pete Yanke - 2nd Vice President were installed by International 3rd Vice President, Jim Schwerdfeger.

Friday morning, a delicious breakfast was prepared by the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit. Tour Day started off at

*Continued on Page 2*



Region 7 Rally, from Page 1

Bethel Lutheran Church and the Kandiyohi County Historical Museum followed by a bag lunch at Robin's Island and the group photo shoot. Tours continued with the men going to Schwanke's Tractor Museum and the ladies to the Sperry House. The day ended with the Parade of Antique Cars in New London.

Saturday morning at 7:00 a.m. was the start of the Antique Car Run leaving New London for New Brighton. A pancake breakfast was enjoyed at Peace Lutheran Church after which there were guided tours to Levin's Raptor Ridge Museum and Sheehan's Country Store.

The final banquet was held at the Spicer American Legion. A racing theme was used for table decorations. Entertainment was the West Central Connection Chorus, a barbershop chorus from Kandiyohi County...and they were great! After their performance, draws were made for the many raffle items that were donated, with all monies going to the Hands of Peace Project.

Sunday morning breakfast was hosted by the Minnesota Unit and a church service followed. Then it was time for the farewells. What a great rally -- a big THANK YOU to Linda Agre for the great tours, entertainment and meals. If you didn't get to this rally, you missed a good one. 🚗



photo by Gail Harrower

## Region 7 Unit Presidents & VP's

North Dakota Peace Garden

President: Don Thomson

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Allen Towles

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Art Idso

Minnesota Unit

President: Kathy Yanke

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Steve Jedlund

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Ray Nickel

Wisconsin Unit

President: Steve Piotrowski

1<sup>st</sup> VP: George Boehmer

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: David Sherman

## Updates: Sedalia...

By: Linda Agre

The Sedalia International Rally was a good rally. It was very warm, but I knew that it would be...so I came prepared. Congratulations to the Minnesota Unit on winning a Blue Ribbon for their beautiful bulletin board. Thank you to all who were involved in putting it together. Be sure to read the Region 7 news in the September Blue Beret.

Congratulations to the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit's Kathy Ruebel for winning a Blue Ribbon on their well done directory. (I lost my copy at the Region 7 Rally in Spicer, so if anyone picked it up please let me know.)

The Pet Show was a big hit at International. This year it was held in an air-conditioned building on a Sunday afternoon (nothing else going on). 35 pets performed before a crowd of 175. Minnesota's Penny Rose, handled by her owner Ray Nickel won 2nd place in the Best Looking Dog division. Best in Show went to a beautiful Siamese cat. When I asked the judges, "Why they didn't pick a dog with all the dogs entered?" they responded with, "How could we pick a dog when all the dogs were equally wonderful? The Siamese cat was truly of show quality and in beautiful condition." It was a fun afternoon. Our judges were from the Sedalia Kennel Club and the Poodle Club of America. I loved doing the Pet Show.

The going home from the International was not so good for some Minnesota Unit members. They were going down to Springfield, MO to a family 4th of July get-together and got run off the road by a driver coming straight at them on their side of the road. Ron and Judy Parizek were not injured, nor was their pickup, but the trailer was totaled. I think the 'Airstream Angels' were on guard this time. Let's hurry up and find them another trailer. Please let me know if you know of a 31' unit, years 1998-2002.

When I received word that Stanley and Mary Schwenke's motorhome caught on fire in West Virginia, it sent cold shivers down my spine. Stan, one of our Region's SkyMed reps, was on his way to conduct a seminar at a Good Sam Rally. Stan was part of the 2012 Region 7 Spicer Rally's entertainment, "Acrobats and Airstreams", but has said he would share his experiences next year. Mary was taken to the hospital with 3rd degree burns on her foot. They escaped with the clothes on their backs, Stan's cell phone, and their tow vehicle. Their Airstream has been replaced and they are 'On the Road Again'. And yes, they did use SkyMed and have nothing but praise for them. 🚗

## Calling All Region 7 Members

Consider writing an article for the Region News section of the Blue Beret. How about writing about a great rally or caravan you have attended? How about a special member that has done something above and beyond the call of duty? I need your help so that I will have time to plan the 2013 "Tall Ships Rally" in Duluth.

Would anyone consider taking on a Region job? One that does not involve much work? Open: Caravan Chairperson, Legislative Chairperson, and a Co-chairperson for Community Service. PLEASE volunteer. My e-mail address is agre5628@aol.com or call me if you have any questions at 320-295-1117. 🚗

## President's Message

The start of a WBCCI Unit new year. A new Unit President. New ideas on how to make the Unit more friendly, gain new members and a time where a new President gets to plan and expand his ideas and knowledge, sharing not only with his Unit but with Region 7 and International. It's called 'Thinking Outside the Box.'

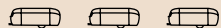
The Minnesota Unit just installed their 2nd Vice President who was a 'member at-large', joined in on a Unit rally, had so much fun, joined the Minnesota Unit, said he would NEVER be an officer, AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED?!! Second Vice President! Awesome! It's called 'Thinking Outside the Box.'

Kathy Yanke, MN Unit President, just finished her first rally (which I attended) at Currie, MN. Where in the heck is Currie? What would you possibly find to do in a town that small? Check it out, I now want to go back. Several units spent extra days exploring and learning about the history of this area. Kathy was 'Thinking Outside the Box.'

The North Dakota Peace Garden Unit has installed their new officers and is working hard to replace the 'Hands of Peace' monument at the International Peace Garden. What an undertaking! It's called 'Thinking Outside the Box.'

Wisconsin has just installed their new Unit President, Steve Piotrowski and a full slate of Unit Officers. Way to go Wisconsin! I look forward to meeting and working with Steve and Lynne. I know Steve has a great year planned but he needs your help. Please don't wait to be asked. Volunteer to host a luncheon or dinner for the 'stay at home Airstreamers.' 'Think Outside the Box: It's A New Approach.'

Let's truly make it "A New Approach" in the 2012-2013 Airstream Year. Let's work together to make this club and our Region 7 the very best it can be. I'm working this job single and I do need your help. Please don't wait to be asked. Call or e-mail me and offer. Anyone interested in leading a Region Caravan?



I was involved in a conversation with a WBCCI member from another state. He said he doesn't go to the International

Rally anymore because it was a big go to free-lunch crowd. I was telling how things have been changing at the International level and how things were so much better (just the flag ceremony for one thing). Also the Technical Group that worked so hard teaching and doing hands-on repairs at Sedalia, MO: do they ever deserve a medal! (Just ask a rally goer who had air-conditioning troubles.) As for the 'free-lunch', I really didn't know at the time how to answer him but after I thought about it, what do Airstreamers like to do best? #1. Travel and caravan. #2. Eat. As for 'free', I paid out of my pocket over \$120.00 on the free lunches and dinners. (I'm single, so double that if you have a spouse.) Free? Don't think so, plus it beats sitting alone watching the boob-tube, and I get to eat with friends that I haven't seen in a year.

Join Region 7 at Huron. You, as a member of this great RV club, can make changes. Those changes can only happen if you make them happen.

Reminder to Past Unit Presidents: Please send to me your merit award paperwork as soon as possible (by Nov. 1st if possible). My winter address: Linda Agre, c/o Darcy Eigen, 17510 Marina Court, Bowlus, MN 56314.

Reminder to New Unit Presidents: If you haven't e-mailed me your 2013 rally and event schedule please do so ASAP: agre5628@aol.com. I will be sharing your activities with our other units. Use your Merit Award as a guide for your year. That is what it was designed for. So start filling it out now. Enjoy your year and most of all have fun.

Contact the local newspaper in the area you are going to hold your rally. Minnesota Unit gained 2 new members from the article written up about our club in the New London Newspaper. The local gossip sheet is read by every person around that area. And yes, they still list who had coffee at who's house. Our silver trailers are of interest to most RVers and you receive much more press from the little newspapers than the larger ones.

*Tall Ships Region 7 Rally - July 24-30, 2013 - Duluth, MN*

## Photos from Spicer

By Bob Manak

Cathy Ruebel, Gail Harrower and the Towles provided photos from the Spicer Rally. The photos are available on the Region website photo page at <http://region7.wbcci.net/photos/> (right side top most link). The photos are stored on the Picasa site. They can be viewed, played as a slide show, downloaded, or printed by an outside company (including your local Walgreen's). If you have Region 7 event photos to contribute please email them to me and I will post them. If you have a web gallery (Flicker, Picasa, or other) that you would like to share, please email me the link.

## Blythe, CA Luncheon

Region 7 will be having a luncheon on Sunday, January 27th, 2013 in Blythe, California at the Mid-Winter IBT. More information will be forthcoming.

## Membership Report August 2012

Membership in WBCCI has decreased once again. Last year at this time, there was a 7% decrease in overall club membership. This year, there was a 5% overall decrease.

Region 7's membership in 2011 decreased by 18% from 181 members to 147. This year, we had a 13.6% decrease, resulting in a membership of 127.

Letters were mailed out to each non-renewal for Region 7, and the response was very poor – one letter was returned; one person has medical issues and about 3 have sold their units. EVERYONE is responsible for membership in this great club – not just your unit and region membership chairs – but everyone!!

The Unit Treasurers need to get their membership renewal forms out now – the sooner the better. Let's try to maintain our current members.

Membership stars were presented to the members of Region 7 – 10 years – Pete & Kathy Yanke MN and Larry & Cathy Ruebel ND; 25 years – Jack & Arlene Bailey ND, Rod & Carolyn Grandstrand MN, and Dean & Pearl Kyle WI.

Membership stars for everyone in Region 7 who has attained 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years will be presented at each unit's installation rallies for those who were not able to be at the Region Rally. Congratulations to everyone and especially to Rayne & Willard Armour of Wisconsin for attaining 40 years of membership in WBCCI.

Your new Region membership chair is Judy Nickel of Minnesota. You can reach her at 763-913-



## Region 7 Antique Car Run Rally at Spicer, Minnesota raises \$1,733.00 for the "Hands of Peace Restoration and Replacement Project"

The Region 7 rally in Spicer, Minnesota from August 8 to 12, 2012 was a huge success. We are especially proud to have raised \$733.00 for the Hands of Peace project, and with the \$1,000.00 donation from Region 7, the total amount donated was \$1,733.00. Thanks to all of you from Region 7. Your thoughtfulness and kindness are greatly appreciated. A reminder that individual members can participate in this project with a tax deductible donation. The donation forms for USA and Canadian donations is in this newsletter.

The Region 7 Tall Ships Rally's fundraiser will once again be the Hands of Peace Restoration and Replacement Project. Watch the newsletter for more details.

International President John Boutwell announced that WBCCI is supporting a **Wounded Warrior Project**. Each unit is to set up fundraiser projects, such as auctions, bake sales, etc. Once your unit has completed their activities, the contributions may be turned in to the Region President, who will take them to Huron, SD. On June 27, 2013 will be Wounded Warrior Night and the total contribution from all units will be made to the project in the name of WBCCI.

**Funds collected from our United States Units will go to the US Wounded Warrior Fund and funds collected from our Canadian Units will go to Canadian Wounded Warriors.**

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5309 or e-mail: judynickel@connections-etc.net. I have enjoyed the four years as your membership chair.

See you down the road!

Gail Harrower

## Region 7 Rally Spicer, Minnesota August 8 – 12, 2012

Incoming Region 7 President Linda Agre hosted a spectacularly successful 2012 Region 7 Rally, which also served as the 2012 Region 7 Vintage Airstream Club rally. The rally was coordinated with the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual New London to New Brighton Antique Car Run. In fact, Linda arranged for the cars to stop at our rally!



A 1907 Stevens-Duryea Six cruises into the campground.

Unit officers and committee chairpersons were invited to arrive a day early for a training class on the first morning of the rally. That morning we went on a cruise tour of Green Lake narrated by Linda herself, who grew up in the area.



Linda Agre makes like a tour guide.

The town of Spicer is named for John Spicer, who developed the surrounding lands. His home on Green Lake became known as Spicer Castle, a local landmark, and today a bed and breakfast.



Spicer Castle on Green Lake



John Tetzlaff hosts Wednesday morning unit officer class.

Most of the attendees arrived Wednesday afternoon in time for a catered Walleye dinner and the opening ceremonies.



Incoming International 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Jim Schwerdfeger speaks at the opening ceremonies

Thursday morning, members who arrived Wednesday went on the boat tour while the rest of us went on a tour of the J&R Bison Ranch, where the owner regaled us with stories of buffalo ranching. Bison are wild animals, not domesticated, and can't be herded like cattle. If they decide to go someplace, the best thing to do is *get out of their way!*



Buffalo herd as seen from tour bus window.

The antique cars arrived at the campground mid morning Thursday and stayed for an hour, so we could look at their cars and talk with the owners, while they could tour our

trailers and talk with us. Afterwards we all went over to the American Legion (only about a mile away) for a buffet lunch. As you can imagine, cross-country touring in century old cars can be quite an adventure, and the owners had many great stories to tell.



A 1912 Maxwell amongst the Airstreams.



A gaggle of antique cars in our Happy Hour area!

Thursday evening was the VAC cookout---complete with Region 7 VAC Coordinator Curt Gunderson's famous cheese and beer identification contest---followed by a campfire installation of Region 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Gail Harrower and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Pete Yanke.



A Region 7 installation to remember!

Friday was a grand tour of local attractions including such places as the Kandiyohi County Historical Museum and Schwanke's Tractor Museum, a huge collection of antique tractors and cars, including some one-of-a-kind models.



Early Caterpillar 22 at Schwanke's Tractor Museum

Friday's festivities were finished off with a trip to New London to watch the pre-run antique car parade. Those willing to get up early enough returned to New London on Saturday morning to watch the official start of the 120 mile run at 7 AM, followed by a pancake breakfast. Then we were off to tour two little-known private museums, Sheehan's Country Store and Levin's Raptor Ridge.



Nostalgia tripping at Sheehan's Country Store.



Larry Levin comments on his collections at Raptor Ridge.

Our new Region President Linda Agre really pulled out all the stops on this one! Thanks, Linda, for a memorable rally!

Be sure to mark your calendars for July 24-30, 2013---the Region 7 *Tall Ships Rally* at Duluth, Minnesota.



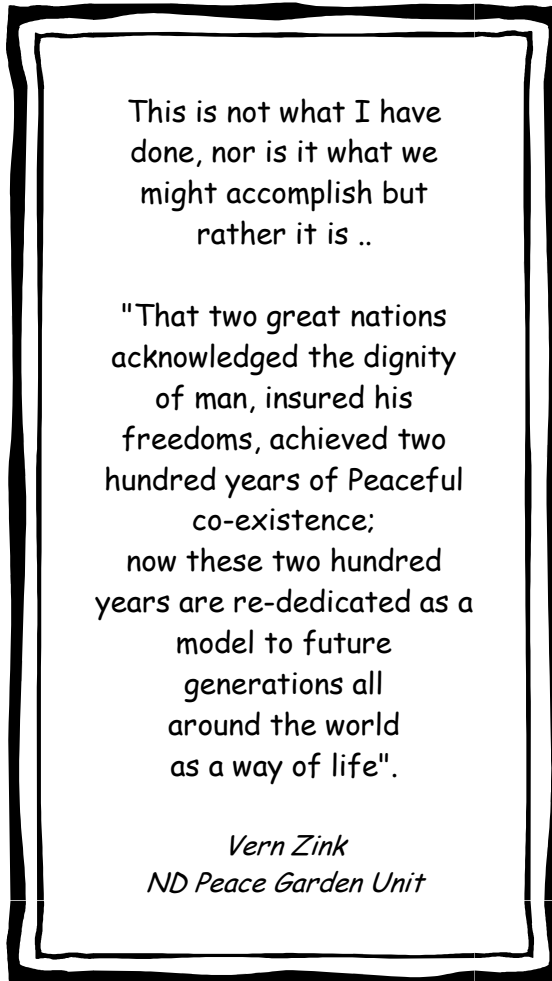
## North Dakota Peace Garden Unit - Region 7



"Hands of Peace"  
Restoration and Replacement  
Project



The International Peace Garden is a 501©(3) organization in North Dakota and a registered charity (127250181RR0001) in Manitoba.



Printing Courtesy of: Dan Guetre, Richer, MB.

### WBCCI "Hands of Peace" Restoration and Replacement Project Canadian Donation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make your cheque payable to: "International Peace Garden Inc."*

Mail to: International Peace Garden

Box 419

Boissevain, MB R0K 0E0

Phone: (204) 534-2510

Toll Free: (888) 432-6733

## "Hands of Peace"

### Restoration and Replacement

In 1975, the Wally Byam Caravan Club Inc., (WBCCI) and the City of Brandon, jointly donated a "Hands of Peace" sculpture that was placed in the International Peace Garden during the 1975 International Rally held in Brandon, Manitoba. This sculpture was a symbol of the achievement by two nations working together for peace. Years later, it was removed as it deteriorated to a point of non-repair.

The North Dakota Peace Garden Unit of Region 7, thru a special committee approved at the January 13, 2012 WBCCI IBT meeting in Hattiesburg, MS is restoring and replacing the original "Hands of Peace" monument at the International border. The WBCCI will participate in the four year celebration commemorating 200 years of peace since the War of 1812 between the nations of the United States of America and Canada.

On the front of the brochure is a mini replica of the sculpture that was produced to commemorate this event in 1975.



The original sculpture stood in the middle of this fountain which forms part of the Formal Garden at the International Peace Garden in Dunseith, North Dakota. The new six (6) foot high sculpture will be made of stainless steel and will be placed on an enlarged fountain area with accent lighting.

The most important part of this Monument restoration and replacement is the fundraising that must be done within the next year in order for this project to proceed. We welcome and appreciate your donations - just fill out the form attached and mail your check to the International Peace Garden.

Watch for our upcoming website for further details.

### WBCCI "Hands of Peace" Restoration and Replacement Project USA Donation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make your check payable to: "International Peace Garden Inc."*

Mail to: International Peace Garden  
10939 Highway 281  
Dunseith, ND 58329

Phone: (701) 263-4390

Toll Free: (888) 432-6733

E-mail: [handsofpeace.wbcci@gmail.com](mailto:handsofpeace.wbcci@gmail.com)