



Nov. 3, 2020
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DON STORJOHANN

The following email came from Sue on October 27:

“Just a note to let the club know that Don had a stroke October 16th and is in Mary Greeley Hospital in Ames, IA. It affected his right side & speech. Our daughter flew up from OK last Friday, October 23th. Our sons came last Saturday, the 24th, and helped winterize mowers, tractor and the trailer. Thanks go to Scott Jensen who, by cell phone, walked them through the process of winterizing the trailer. Great to have friends and family to count on.

Sue”

IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB



PREZ SEZ

We finally had an Iowa Airstream Club rally and was it ever good to see many of our friends that we hadn't seen for a year! The weather co-operated, John and Carol did an excellent job in organizing and hosting the rally and it was an all-around fun weekend. It was too bad that more of our members were not in attendance, but, with the virus running rampant, it is understandable. We can only hope that our members can get vaccinated and the bug will be under control when our rally season begins next year so we can all safely get together. A big thank you goes out to Mike and Cheryl Sisk for making the trip from Nebraska to install our 2021 officers.

Due to the virus, it was decided to forego the normal November luncheon and hope that things quiet down by December. We'll keep everyone posted, but, at this time, plan on a Christmas luncheon on Saturday, December 12. Keep your fingers crossed.

Finally, some bad news. While lifting a box from the conveyor line at work, Shirley turned around and tripped over a box that was behind her. She took a tumble with the end result being that she broke her right arm, just below the elbow. She will be sporting a cast for the next several weeks, before undergoing therapy to get the arm back into working condition. Her spirits are good, even though she is restricted in what she can do.

Shirley and I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving. Eat as much turkey as you can – the turkey growers will appreciate it if you do.

John

ONCE AGAIN, SOME LUNCHEONS ARE CANCELLED

As was noted in President Tom's article, there be **WILL NOT** be an Iowa Club Luncheon in November. Hopefully, things will work out and we can get back on schedule with a luncheon in December.

About half of the Region 8 Airstreamers who met at Golden Corral in Mesa for a monthly luncheon replied to the question of whether to meet this year. Several indicated they are not coming south this year. Others said they have quit traveling while the rest said it was not wise to risk getting the virus. So, there will be no AZ Region 8 luncheons this season. Perhaps they can be re-sumed next year. Time will tell. Thanks to all who replied. We hope to SYDTR. **Maybe we should just cancel 2020 and get on to 2021!**

ANOTHER REMINDER— 2021 DUES ARE DUE

Many of you have already sent your 2021 dues to Treasurer Deb Ford and, if you have, congratulations. If you haven't already done so, time is running out. Due to the size of our Iowa Club treasury, earlier this year the Executive Board decided to drop the collection of Unit dues for the 2021 year. However, you will still need to pay your \$75.00 for International (unless you are a Life Member) in which case, you owe no dues at all for 2021. Life Members still need to contact Deb to make sure she gets your name into Jackson Center. **You can mail your check to her at 105 Rustic Lake Dr., Colona, IL 61241.** The deadline for paying dues and getting included in the 2021 International Directory is rapidly approaching, so get your dues paid.

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REGISTRATION AVAILABLE FOR 2021 INT'L

This is another quick reminder that you can register for the 2021 International Rally scheduled for July 17-24, 2021 in Lebanon, TN. To register on-line, simply go to **2021 WBCCI International Rally** and click on **Lebanon 2021 International Rally**. The registration form and instructions are there. All sites will have 30-amp electricity (air conditioners can be run) and water, with holding tanks pumped on a schedule, as has been the case in the past years.

The home of country music (Nashville) is just 20 miles away and, according to items in the *Blue Beret*, there are many interesting sites in the area to visit. There will probably be an Iowa caravan to the rally. If so, you will be able to travel with friends. However, you will need to be pre-registered to get parked with the caravan. So, get registered and plan to attend. You won't be sorry!

IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB

BIRTHDAYS NOVEMBER

2 - Steve Cochran
11 - Margaret Bateman
11 - Chuck Helle
11 - Chuck Kiple
11 - Donna Koskamp
11 - Tom Whitehouse
21 - Chuck Cabalka
23 - Arden Taube

ANNIVERSARIES NOVEMBER

4 - Bruce & Trudy Van Wyk
7 - Bryan & Charlene Nelson
18 - Earl & Deb Gass
18 - Kurt & Lynette Rasmussen
19 - Chuck & Sandie Kiple
20 - Mike & Linda Rickert
24 - Gene & Carolyn Haller

ANNA JANESKO

Many of the Iowa Airstream Club members have known Anna Janesko of the Kansas City, MO Club. Word was received from Region 8 President Mike Sisk on Sunday, October 11th, that Anna had passed away on the preceding day. She had been out working in her yard and fell, striking her head on some concrete. She made her way inside and lay down on a couch. When her son came by later (to take her to lunch) he found her and called 911. She was taken to the hospital where she passed away. Those who knew Anna will miss her. She was always such a bubbly person who drove a big Airstream motorhome.

ANY AND ALL NEWS ITEMS WILL BE GLADLY ACCEPTED AND INCLUDED IN YOUR NEWSLETTER

We are rapidly approaching the time when many Iowa Club members head south for the winter. Due to the virus, there may be less heading south than normal. However, those that do go south have the potential to provide an item for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter. If you see or do something other than just drive when headed south, drop a line (or two or three) to your newsletter team. Any pictures would also be appreciated. The newsletter is only as interesting as you help make it, so do your part. Those of you who stay home, can also provide items and pictures. Please help your team! Information and attached pictures can be sent via e-mail to cdjcabal-ka@juno.com.

Reader's Digest collection from the "Butterball Turkey Hotline."

The parents of a newly married couple arrived at their home for their first Thanksgiving meal as newlyweds. One of the dads noticed the turkey thawing in the sink in cold water with a dish drainer and a rubber mat on top of it all. Her dad inquired why she was thawing the turkey that way. She said that was the way her mom thawed the bird. The mother's response: "Well, yes, but we had a cat!"

A father in charge of thawing the turkey and bathing his toddler twins decided to hit two birds with one stone. "We could hear water splashing in the background, and turns out he has his kids and the turkey in the tub all at the same time," says Nicole Johnson, Talk-Line co-director. The man was calling to find out if the bath water would be an acceptable method for thawing the turkey.

One woman called the Butterball hotline from a closet so her family couldn't hear her. "Can you hear me? I've never cooked a turkey, and my mother-in-law is convinced I can't cook—and I can't cook, but I want to do it," she whispered. The expert walked her through all the steps, advising against basting the turkey (even though the mother-in-law insisted).

When a Talk-Line staffer asked a caller what state her turkey was in (meaning how thawed was it) the caller responded with, "Florida."

WOW!! HURRAY!! YIPPEE!!

Much of the following information was provided by Carol Heckman, our Past First Lady and hostess for the October rally in Allison. Thank you, Carol, for your efforts.

At long last, the Iowa Airstream Club finally held a 2020 rally!! It was at Wilder City Park in Allison, Iowa, on October 8-11. Wilder City Park is literally a “manufactured park” since all but three of the trees in the 78-acre park have been planted by volunteers. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it had been one year since the club’s last rally in October, 2019, at Swan Lake State Park near Carroll, IA.



Rally attendance this year was 9 member trailers, 2 members in park-provided lodging, one affiliate trailer, our Region 8 President and one guest, for a total of 13 represented Airstreams and 27 individuals. There were several members who wanted to come, but, having pre-existing conditions, felt it safer to remain at home.

They were missed, but those who did make the rally greatly enjoyed finally seeing their Airstream friends. John and Carol Heckman, our rally hosts, did a wonderful job in pulling the rally together, despite that “dog-gone” virus.

Thursday evening found the group gathered around a campfire, enjoying sandwiches and beverages they brought from their Airstreams. The weather was beautifully clear and there were numerous conversations, as members caught each other up on what had happened since last October.

Following a Friday morning “rally-provided” breakfast of muffins, bagels, bananas, juice and coffee, the day was a “free day” with nothing scheduled, so everyone could take off and visit various places in the area. With the leaves



changing into their fall colors, the drives through the area provided numerous beautiful landscapes. Several members visited Waverly, while others just toured Butler County, looking for antique stores and garage sales. One couple even drove as far as the Amish area NW of Independence, IA to stock up on inexpensive canned goods for the winter. The hosts had made arrangements for the entire group to go to Doc’s Bar & Grill in Clarksville (about 8 miles away) for a fish fry supper. Upon arriving, members discovered that if they didn’t want walleye fillets, they could order anything on the menu. Those who ordered the fish en-



joyed a very tasty and filling meal, as did those who ordered chicken, ribs, etc. Then, it was back to the campground, where “robber bingo” was played. The turnout was small, but the excitement was not lacking, as a key chain with a pink flamingo seemed to be the most popular prize. Those not interested in playing Bingo again enjoyed sitting around a campfire.

Saturday morning’s breakfast was followed by the only organized outing at the rally. The car caravan drove about



12 miles NE to visit the New Day Dairy operation. The owners, Dan and Deb Bolin and Dan’s mother, were our tour guides. Many rally attendees had either grown up milking cows or had visited a farm where cows were milked. However, no one (and we mean, NO ONE) had ever visited a dairy operation like this one. The stand-out feature was “Rita the Robot” that takes milking to an entirely new level. The robot, made of parts from Japan and the Netherlands, does everything, from washing the cow’s udder and teats, to attaching the cups to the teats, milking the cow, disconnecting when finished, retracting the cups to their docking positions and washing out the cups to be ready for the next cow. Even the cows seemed to act like robots. Approximately 110-120 cows roam freely in a huge open-sided barn with curtains for year-around tempera-

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ture control. Feed is available at all times. Whenever a cow feels the urge to be milked, she walks up to a small gate which opens. She enters the milking stall, Rita does



her thing, and, when the milking is completed, a second gate opens, the cow walks out and another cow takes her place. While in the milking stall, each cow gets a small special food treat and this encourages them to come to be milked. The group was told that some cows like the treat



so much that they come to be milked as many as 8-10 times a day. A battery-powered sensor strapped around a front leg identifies each cow and, if a cow has been milked recently and the computer feels she is just entering for additional treats, there are no treats and the exit gate opens immediately. If the cow does not get the message, small electrical wires hanging down and making contact with her back give her a small shock to move her out. Each cow's milk is weighed and recorded. The entire operation is so automated that no one even needs to be around at "milking time" since milking time is 24/7. Even the manure deposited where the cows are waiting to be milked is scraped out automatically every two hours and the floor is washed, again automatically. The adult son of the family (who was most instrumental in setting up the operation) tries to be around for a while each morning and evening, but isn't required to be there. About 3,000 gallons of milk is picked up by truck every other day and delivered to Prairie Farms for processing. It is quite an operation!

The family has a 2-story addition on the west end of the huge barn, where they have a bed-and-breakfast facility in the upper level. One can sleep in modern comfort and look down on the entire operation from two large windows; watching cows come and go to be milked by Rita. Additional information can be obtained by phoning 319-278-4455 or getting on the internet at www.newdaydairy.com.

The rest of the day was "free time" before everyone gathered at the campground lodge for a hot dog and chips picnic supper. However, a short business meeting was held out under the trees in the afternoon, where it was voted to not assess a rally fee for this rally, but to pay all expenses from our treasury. Following the supper, Region 8 Pres-



L. - R. Back Row, Chuck Cabalka, Mike Rickert, Tom Herron. Mike Sisk. Front Row, Donella Watkinson, Shirley Herron, Deb Ford, Cheryl Sisk.

ident Mike Sisk and Region 8 First Lady, Cheryl, installed the Iowa Club's 2020-21 officers. All were there, except for new Director Norm Van Klompenburg, who will be installed at a future rally. President Tom Herron announced that he had the fall and winter luncheons pretty well lined up, but would be glad to entertain any volunteers who would be willing to host a rally in 2021. A SkyMed representative, Stan Schwenke, made a presentation following the installation ceremonies and then provided ice cream treats for everyone. Thanks, Stan. It was a full day and the weather co-operated, although it did get rather windy.

Sunday morning found the group gathered at the Lodge for rolls, juice and coffee before it was time to cleanup, hookup and head for home. Scott Allen did a fantastic job auctioning off the food items left from provided meals, with the proceeds of \$20.50 going to Common Cents.

Thank you, Scott. John and Carol send **thanks to Tom and Shirley Herron** for their help as the "Coffee Crew" and to everyone who stayed long enough to clean the Lodge. A great **BIG THANK YOU** from all the attendees **goes to John and Carol** for all the work they did in preparing for and pulling off the best rally of 2020. Those in attendance certainly enjoyed the opportunity to get together at a great rally site.