



May 8, 2021  
 Editors- Chuck & Doris Jean Cabalka

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- 2nd V.P., Vacant
- Rec. Secretary, Shirley Herron  
515-556-9339
- Corr. Secy., Donella Watkinson  
319-396-9088
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309-781-4057
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- One-yr. Dir., Deb Blaha  
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480-216-8096
- Two-yr. Dir., Norm Van Klompenburg  
641-791-9547
- Immed. Past Pres., John Heckman  
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## JUNE RALLY PLANS

Word has been received that Pat Dellamuth and Lavonne Sandersfeld will be hosting an Iowa Airstream Club rally at Iowa Lake County Park, near Williamsburg, in June. More detailed information will be forthcoming in the next newsletter, but word is being sent out now so you can reserve the weekend of June 10-12 to join your fellow Iowa Club friends. The rally theme is "Farm to Table". Social distancing will be the rule and meals will be outside.

# IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB



## PREZ SEZ

I want to take the time to thank Deb and Doug Ford for the wonderful spring luncheon they planned and hosted. I hope everyone had as good a time as we did in getting caught up with friends, as we have had what seemed like forever COVID separations. As restrictions slowly ease, it is so good to get out with friends.

More recently, the turnout for the Region 8 Rally enjoyed a beautiful weekend, well celebrated with friends. We enjoyed renewing existing relationships, meeting new friends and we witnessed several examples of Iowa kindness. I also conquered the important Olympic sport of "stein holding".

As we reflect on, and approach, Mother's Day Weekend, we wish to send greetings and warm wishes to all the mothers in our club. I genuinely hope they have a wonderful day!

Shirley and I are looking forward to the Iowa Club's next outing, May 13<sup>th</sup> thru 16<sup>th</sup> in Blooming Prairie, MN, hosted by our own Wanda and Jeff Paine. We hope to see you there.

*Tom*

## MAY RALLY IN MINNESOTA

Jeff and Wanda Paine have gone to great lengths to organize and host our May Rally on May 13-16 in Blooming Prairie, MN. It would only be fitting if the Iowa Club members supported them and signed up to attend. You need to make your own reservations with Brookside Campground by calling them at 507-583-2979. The reservation deadline was April 15<sup>th</sup>, but you may still be able to get a spot. If so, please let Wanda know at [jnwpaine@aol.com](mailto:jnwpaine@aol.com) or by phone at 608-658-3036 so she will know how many to plan for. The rally schedule was included in the last newsletter. With many, if not most, of the Iowa Club members vaccinated, concern with COVID should be minimal. Other than the camping spot cost, there will be no rally fee.

## HOW ABOUT CARAVANNING TO LEBANON? LET'S ALL GO!

The time for the International Rally in Lebanon, TN is rapidly approaching. Hopefully most of you have received, or will have received, your complete COVID vaccinations and will feel safe enough to join your fellow caravanners in Lebanon. Your newsletter team received their shots in January and February so they are rarin' to go. If there is interest in a caravan, Chuck and Doris Jean are willing to organize and lead one to Tennessee. According to the route they plan to drive, beginning with a rendezvous at Westlake County Park on the west side of Davenport, IA, it is about 592 miles and two or three rather easy days of travel since nearly the entire route will be on Interstate highways. If you are interested in caravanning with some of your fellow Iowa Club members, contact Chuck as soon as possible. He will need to know how

(CARAVAN Continued on page 2)

**DEALER SPOTLIGHT**

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BIRTHDAYS MAY	ANNIVERSARIES MAY
1 - Paul Ryan 9 - Karen Kvidera 17 - Norm Van Klompenburg	none

*(CARAVAN Continued from page 1)*

many units to plan on in order to contact an RV park/parks to reserve spaces. Also, let him know if you prefer a two-day or three-day trip. The majority will rule. Two days would be about 6 hours and 300 miles per day, while a three day run would be about 4 hours and 200 miles per day. So, if you want to have some fun, get registered, let Chuck and Doris Jean know and get ready for a **GREAT** summer break. Either phone them at 480-216-8096 or email at [cdjcabalka@juno.com](mailto:cdjcabalka@juno.com). A deadline of June 1<sup>st</sup> has been set so campground contacts can be made.

**TWO BREAKFASTS AT INTERNATIONAL FOR IOWANS**

First Vice President Mike Rickert has made arrangements for a catered breakfast at the International Rally in Lebanon. It will be at 7:30 AM on July 19<sup>th</sup> in a building on the rally grounds. It will be a full-service contactless buffet-style meal at \$10.00 each. Mike and Linda have the tickets and would be glad to sell you one, or two, or more. The menu looks scrumptious and will be an excellent way to start out the day. So, make plans to attend the rally, get your breakfast tickets and join your Iowa friends for a good meal and excellent conversation.

Also, there will be a Region 8 Breakfast at 7:30 AM on the morning of July 20<sup>th</sup>. That breakfast will also be in a building on the rally grounds. If you did not get your tickets at the Amana rally, you will be able to purchase them at the Region 8 table at the International Rally. It looks like there will be at least two excellent breakfasts in Lebanon.

**HEALTH & WELLNESS**

Dale and Joan Lafrenz are both scheduled for surgery within the next two weeks. Joan will have left knee replacement at the hospital in Council Bluffs next Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, while Dale is scheduled for surgery on May 19<sup>th</sup> for removal of a kidney stone. We all wish them the best and pray for a quick recovery. They had planned to attend the International Rally in Tennessee and, when their doctor was informed of that, he said he saw no reason why they wouldn't be able to go. So, their plans still include Lebanon. Incidentally, you may have heard that they sold their trailer, which was correct. However, they just couldn't give up Airstreaming and wound up buying Don and Sue Storjohann's trailer after Don's passing. They dearly love the trailer and are looking forward to getting healed from their surgeries so they can get out and use it. Way to go, Dale and Joan!!

Chuck and Nancy Helle, long-time loyal attendees at Region 8 rallies, were missed at the rally at the Amana's. A telephone check following the rally found that both are doing well and in good health. Since Nancy has had heart problems in the recent past, the couple decided to play it safe and skip the rally, even though both have had their two shots for COVID-19. Hopefully, as more people get vaccinated, Chuck and Nancy will feel safer and we will see them and other concerned members at a rally, or two, later this year. Chuck and Nancy, we miss you!!

**To the rest of you – GET VACCINATED if you haven't already done so.** We would like to see all our members who have health concerns feel safe in joining us at future rallies. By the way, President Tom is still needing rally sites and hosts for rallies. If you feel you can help him out, PLEASE get in touch with him and let him know. He would certainly appreciate hearing from you.

**IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB**



**JANICE CUMMINGS**

It is with sorrow that we have to report the passing on April 27<sup>th</sup> of Janice Cummings, a previous Iowa and Iliamo Airstream Club member . Those long-time members of the Iowa Club will remember Janice primarily as a percussion member of the Airstream Band at numerous International Rallies. She was born in Clinton, IA in 1943 and attended school in Clinton before attending UNI, where she received her Masters Degree in Physical Education. There she met Richard, who she married in 1966. Janice loved music; playing handbells, clarinet, saxophone and percussion in several musical groups. For many years, she and Richard maintained the music library for the Airstream Band. Her death was preceded by Richard's death in 2016. Janice was 78 years old at the time of her passing and was residing in a hospice house in Cedar Rapids.

**EATIN' GOOD AT THE APRIL LUNCHEON**



Clockwise from far end of table: Tom & Shirley Herron, Pat Van Klompenburg, Hobart Darbyshire, Gary & Sharon Urich, Steves friend Lynn & Steve Cochran, John & Carol Heckman and Deb & Doug Ford.

These pictures were taken by Norman Van Klompenburg on April 10<sup>th</sup> at the April Iowa Airstream Club Luncheon at Grandma's Checkered Flag Restaurant in Walcott. We were certainly grateful to receive them. Keep the pictures and articles coming! If possible, your newsletter team would appreciate some supporting information when receiving photos for the newsletter, particularly in identifying people in the photos. Not only would the information be helpful, but we would like to give credit to those who contribute to the newsletter. Your newsletter is only as good as you help make it.



Doug & Deb Ford must have hunted to find a FORD café for holding their luncheon.

Not only would the information be helpful, but we would like to give credit to those who contribute to the newsletter. Your newsletter is only as good as you help make it.

**FAVORITE RALLY IS PLANNED AGAIN**

At this point in time, all indications are that there **WILL** be a 2021 Swiss Festival Rally at Sugarcreek, OH during the last week in September. Larry and Karin Kurkowski, who have taken over chairing the rally, have assured Chuck Cabalka (in a phone call) that, unless the festival is cancelled, **THERE WILL BE A 2021 RALLY!!** Those of you who have been there before know just how much fun that rally is and those of you who have never been need to plan to go. Once you have been there, you will want to go again and again. This will be the ninth time Chuck and Doris Jean have attended. Daily tours of Amish and Mennonite busi-

nesses during the first three days, along with hosting Amish in the city park rally site on one day and two days of parades in Sugarcreek will keep you busy during the daylight hours. If one is not interested in touring the businesses, the rolling countryside invites one to tour the area on your own. The Professional Football Hall of Fame and the President's First Ladies Inauguration Gowns Museums are in Canton, about 30 miles NE of Sugarcreek. Programs each evening round out every day. Again, Chuck and Doris Jean will lead a caravan to Sugarcreek, as they have done several times. Along the way, one night's stop will be in

*(SWISS Continued on page 4)*

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(SWISS Continued from page 3)

Jackson Center, where we hope to be able to tour the new 750,000 sq. ft. Airstream trailer factory. There are already two couples, Dale and Joan Lafrenz and Norm and Linda Beu, who have indicated that they are joining the caravan. The rally cost is only \$275 for the week, per couple, and it will be the best \$275 you could spend. So, use the form in the *May Blue Beret* or get on line at [SWISS FESTIVAL NATIONAL RALLY | ACI - Airstream Club](#), print out the registration form, get registered and prepare for a fun week in September. That is a guarantee!



Morton Building (biggest one) and lots of Airstreams at the Region 8 Rally. Drone picture taken by John Moder.

### HOW NICE TO GET TOGETHER, AT LAST

The 2021 Region 8 Rally at the Amana RV Park in Amana, Iowa, was home for 56 Airstreams (16 from the Iowa Club) for the past weekend. Except for the wind that insisted on blowing most of the time, the weather behaved itself. The Iowa Club was assigned Parking Duties and it was one of the easiest assignments that one could remember. The attendants at the campground led every Airstream to a site, so the only real duty was to check each unit off as they entered the campground. It was a far cry from the last Region 8 Rally at the campground, when Iowa members had to see that each unit was parked **(in the rain)**. Due to the virus, things were somewhat different at this 2021 rally. There were planned to be no breakfasts, but Mike Donahue threw a monkey wrench into those plans, when he purchased cinnamon rolls and coffee cake for the entire group for Saturday morning. A big **THANK YOU** goes out to Mike for his generous contribution. Evening meals



on Thursday and Friday consisted of catered food that was picked up at the Morton Building and taken back to the Airstreams to eat.

Opening ceremonies were held on Thursday evening, with Region 8 President Mike Sisk presiding. Guests from various organizations in the colonies were introduced and they welcomed everyone to Amana. Jon Childers, the Executive Director

of the Amana Heritage Society, provided an interesting talk about the origin of the society and the founding of the Amana Colonies. It started in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when two German gentlemen felt that the Lutheran Church was not serving their members in a proper manner. They advocated more Bible study and more free speaking by church members. As the objectors grew in numbers, in 1714 they started meeting in homes. When persecution developed, they finally decided they had to move to America, which they did in 1833-34, when 5,000 acres was purchased near Buffalo, NY. As the group outgrew that area, they purchased 26,000 acres in the Iowa River valley in 1855, where they established the Amana Colonies that we know today. It was a communal type of life, with everyone having a job and no one being paid. Men did the farm work, while the women worked in the communal kitchens and tended the vast gardens. In 1932, the group voted to do away with the communal way of life and private enterprise was encouraged. Today, the Amana Society still owns the 26,000 acres, as well as several museums and businesses, with Society members owning the bulk of the businesses and with stockholders receiving a dividend on the stock they hold in the organization.

Due to the virus, there was only one evening program and that was on Saturday evening when Stan "Bumpy" Swenke (the on-site SkyMed rep) showed films of his earlier life, when he was part of an acrobatic family. The family appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show twice and Stan had the black and white films of those programs, which he showed. His father owned and operated a gym and was a tower of strength which was apparent as he tossed and flipped Stan and his siblings around in various stunts. When asked about broken bones, Stan said there were none of those, although there were stretched and torn muscles. Several

(RALLY Continued on page 5)

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RALLY Continued from page 4)

of the acts involved balancing and even included Stan's baby sister at the age of just 3 months.

Community Service Chairman Glen Waters announced that \$3,621.50 had been collected to be taken to Lebanon for the Common Cents project, with more to come in before the July International Rally, as more donations were likely and the income from the sale of 44 lbs. of pull tabs were yet to be realized. A total of 1,341 hats, 124 stuffed animals and 7 blankets were also turned in. Items for the Woman's Shelter project totaled 351 pieces. Glen stated that he was continually astounded by the generosity of the clubs in Region 8.

Plenty of free time was allowed for attendees to visit the many stores, shops and museums in the Amana Colonies, as well as explore the area. Friday afternoon found most attendees watching several members participate in the first Airstream Olympics. There were events such as the three-legged race, the beer keg roll, beer stein support (holding a stein of root beer horizontally by one hand for as



Cheryl Sisk giving Tom his gold medal. Chuck's Pics

wonderful to get together with fellow Region 8 Airstreamers who most of us hadn't seen for nearly two years. Congratulations go out to Mike and Cheryl for



organizing and hosting a great Rally.

Mike Sisk at the mike.



Friday supper food line. Chuck's pic.



Tom using left hand, not his injured right hand. He said a good right hand would have lasted longer. Pic from Shirley H.

long as possible, picture by Doug Ford), and a couple of other events. Our own Tom Herron won the root beer stein event with a little over 3 minutes. However, to keep Tom humble, campground attendants (who provided most of the props) said the record was something over 7 minutes. Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded the winners.

Although the rally was somewhat different from past rallies, everyone still had an enjoyable time and it was



Supporters watching the "Olympics." Lower left is a beer keg for the "Beer Keg Roll" (using hands and/or feet). Pic - Chuck

**IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB**

More pictures taken by several people with credit to who took the picture.



Mike Donahue with cinnamon rolls and coffee cake he donated for one breakfast. Looks like way too many, but they disappeared. On a table way in the back are some items for Common Cents. Norm Beu pics.



Beautiful Sky and Beautiful Airstreams. Doug Ford pic.



Costumed ladies in Maifest parade. Chuck's pic.



Little girls waiting on candy-throwing lady. Chuck's pic.



Mike Donahue taking Herron's trailer to Lacey/Keo. Rally before going back to D.M. Real nice guy. Shirley Herron pic.