

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Greetings Lincolnlanders,

I can hardly believe it's the middle of September already. Where has the summer gone?.....

June 18-26, 2019, found us on our 3 Modes of Transport Caravan – Land, Air & Sea, which was a joint caravan with the Indiana Airstream Club. This was the first caravan that Ann Leslie and I had planned; and, as our first venture, I was pleased with the outcome. I wish to express my sincere thanks to Ann for her co-leadership on this caravan. Without her help, this caravan would not have left home. Thanks is also due to Branko Mijatovich, Indiana Airstream Club 2019 President. Because of his participation, we were able to camp at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base FamCamp, Dayton, Ohio. That was a new, one-of-a-kind experience for all of us. While we were in Dayton, we also had invaluable assistance from Jackie Olgeaty, George and Ange DeVaul's daughter. Jackie and her husband, Scott, work at Wright-Patterson AFB. Jackie provided us with goodie bags, driving directions, assistance with parking the Airstreams, dining options and answers to our myriad questions. And special thanks to the caravan participants, who were willing to join us on this adventure: Ange & George DeVaul, Annie & Bob Fahey, Rita & John Green, Linda & Floyd Hattan, Bud Lanoue, Ann & Carl Leslie, Christine Majers, Pam & Artie Martin (Kentucky Airstream Club), Branko Mijatovich, Waneta & John Riggerbach, Mary & Bernie Taylor, Glenda & Mel Wood and John & I. From Land (Airstream Factory, Jackson Center, OH), to Air (National Museum of US Air Force, Dayton, OH) to Sea (Ark Encounter, Williamstown, KY & Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY), we explored the 3 Modes of Transport.

For July 20-27, 2019, we attended the 62<sup>nd</sup> WBCCI International Rally at Doswell, VA, hosted by International President & First Lady, Barry & Karen Bell, from our own Region 5. The rally was held at The Meadow Event Center, home to the Virginia State Fair. The grounds included portions of the original Meadow Farm, birthplace of Triple Crown Winner, Secretariat. As President of WBCCI Illinois Lincolnland Airstream Club, I was your flag bearer in the Opening Ceremonies on July 20, attended the Presidents' Dinner, and was your delegate for July 24 Delegates Meeting. There were 91 of the 108 clubs represented. It was a very brief meeting, as the only item of business was the election of the 2019-2020 International officers. The schedule was jam-packed with seminars, round table discussions, demonstrations, contests, vendors, tours, flea market, entertainment, time for renewing old friendships and making some new ones, and, of course, lots of food. There was an ice cream vendor, located in the main building, who had some very delectable flavors, especially the chocolate. I have to say they experienced a brisk business every day and I certainly tried my best to support them. Our club met one evening for ice cream, so we could catch up on what everyone had been doing at the rally. The Region 5 Luncheon was held in the mansion "on the hill", where it was air-conditioned. The luncheon was well attended, and everyone enjoyed the excellent BBQ meal. Did I mention we had some pretty hot days at Doswell? We were all very thankful for our air conditioners. John and I took 2 bus tours into Washington, DC. The first was to the National Air

& Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, where we saw Apollo 11's Mobile Quarantine Facility, on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the splashdown. There is a picture of the Airstreamers viewing the MQF in the September Blue Beret. If you know where to look, you may see Bob & Annie Fahey and John & I. Afterwards, we had a drive-by tour downtown of the monuments and then a tour at Arlington National Cemetery. Our second bus trip took us to the National Mall, where we spent the day. We were certainly glad to leave the driving to the very capable bus drivers. After the rally was over, John and I spent a week at Colonial Williamsburg, before returning home. Did I mention it was hot there too? Members of our club in attendance at the rally were: Monte Barksdale, Ange & George DeVauil, Annie & Bob Fahey, Rita & John Green, Louise & Jerry Humble, Glenda & Mel Wood, and John & I. Carol & Gordon White, Members At Large and former members of the Southern Illinois Unit, joined us for our ice cream social. Here is a link to Airstream, Inc's recap of the rally: <https://www.airstream.com/blog/2019-wbcc-international-rally-recap/>

August 23-26, 2019, found us at Kentuckiana Kampground, near Hopedale, for our "BUD" DY Rally, in honor of Bud Lanoue. A big thank you to Linda & Floyd Hattan and Waneta & John Riggerbach, for taking over the reins from Bud Lanoue for this rally. Earlier in the summer, Bud had suffered a fall, which resulted in back surgery and rehab. We were all very thankful that Bud was able to attend the rally. We were also glad to have Sally & Val Johnson at the rally, as they had been unable to attend the past 3 years, due to medical issues. The rally kicked off with the Friday night potluck—always a pleaser. Did you know there is a snowmobile museum in Hopedale, with more than 150 antique snowmobiles on display? The Willis Snowmobile Museum has more than 300 other snowmobiles in their collection! We toured the museum on Saturday morning. Afterwards, the men went to the Caterpillar Visitors Center in Peoria, where George Rice, retired Caterpillar engineer, and Bud Lanoue, retired heavy equipment operator/mechanic answered questions regarding some of the early Caterpillar equipment. The women went on a Thrift Shop Hop, much like a Quilt Shop Hop. We did our part to support the local economy! After supper at Avanti's Italian Restaurant in Pekin, several enjoyed the Kentuckiana Country Music Opry. Following breakfast on Sunday morning, our devotion time was led by David O'Neall, with music by Carl Leslie. We are certainly fortunate that these men are willing to share their talents. After lunch at Jack's Café in Tremont, it was a leisurely afternoon at the campground. In the evening, we enjoyed a wiener roast, complete with smores. After Monday's breakfast at Jack's Café, it was time for farewells. The weather was pleasant all weekend. Some would even say "cool" in the evenings. Members in attendance were: Linda & Floyd Hattan, Beverly & Carroll Hensley, Sally & Val Johnson, Bud Lanoue, Ann Leslie, Christine Majers, Nancy & David O'Neall, Stefanie & George Rice, Waneta & John Riggerbach, Susan & John Swearingen, and Mary & Bernie Taylor. One buddy was in attendance, Angela Whitaker, Linda & Floyd's daughter. One guest was also present, Jason Warner, Mary Taylor's son.

The Region 5 Rally was held September 4-8, 2019, at the Lee County 4-H Center Fairgrounds, near Amboy, Illinois. Sixteen rigs were in attendance: 10 from Northern Illinois Airstream Club, 1 from Indiana Airstream Club, 3 from Central Indiana Airstream Club, and 2 from WBCCI Illinois Lincolnland Airstream Club, Ann & Carl Leslie and Susan & John Swearingen. There were

breakfasts, an open grill night, 2 dinners, campfires, time for exploring the area, and the annual board meeting. John & I went to the John Deere Historic Site in Grand Detour, Illinois, to visit the home of John Deere and see a working replica of his blacksmith shop. There he created the first commercially successful self-scouring steel plow that changed the world of agriculture. You can watch live blacksmith demos, view excavated artifacts, tour his home, and it's all FREE. It is well worth the trip. In LaSalle, Illinois, our group had a private tour of the Hegeler-Carus Mansion, a 57-room Second Empire mansion, home to Edward and Camilla Hegeler, completed in 1876. In 1858, Mr. Hegeler co-founded the Matthiessen & Hegeler Zinc Company, a zinc smelting plant, which was the world's largest. This tour was interesting because only 8 rooms have been refurbished, to date. The rest of the home is exactly how it was when the last family member resided there, until his death in 2004. As funds become available, more restoration will be done. The Hegeler family saved everything. All the furnishings are original to the home. A special "whole house" tour is available. For more info go to [www.hegelercarus.org](http://www.hegelercarus.org). While in LaSalle, our group also had a canal boat ride, on a restored section of the Illinois & Michigan Canal. That, too, has an interesting history. See <https://iandmcanal.org>. The Region 5 annual business meeting was held Saturday, September 7, 2019. The main item of business was the adoption of the Region 5 Policy and Guidelines. This document allows region members to understand the responsibilities of the Region 5 Officers and Staff, and how the region operates. This document is now posted on the Region 5 website, under the Region 5 Meeting Reports tab. To view, go to <https://region5.airstreamclub.net>. The 2019 Treasurer's report and Minutes of the meeting will soon be posted there. During announcements, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Christopher Seplak invited everyone to the 2020 Hurryin' to Hoosier Hills Region 5 Rally in Columbus, Indiana, September 16-20, 2020, at the Bartholomew County Fairgrounds. Be sure to mark your calendars for this rally, as there is much to see and do in the area. Check the region website for updates for this rally.

Earlier this week, you received an email from Kathy Ceryes, with the itinerary for our upcoming Airstream Fly-In 2 Rally at the St. Louis Regional Airport, East Alton, Illinois, October 18-21, 2019. If you have not already done so, please contact Kathy and let her know you are coming. At this unique rally site, we have the opportunity to tour West Star Aviation. They refurbish jets from around the world—from new exterior paint, new seating and accommodations, to avionics. David Miller, Director of the Airport, is conducting the tour and he is a wealth of information. In addition, tours of the air traffic control tower are available. Be sure to bring your cameras! Our community service project for this rally is the Legendary Mustang Rescue Ranch, which we will tour on Saturday. Ann & Carl Leslie toured the ranch in 2016 and were impressed and wanted the rest of us to experience it. Community service has a long-standing history in the Airstream Club, so come and help support this worthwhile project. Kathy & Jim Ceryes have been busy lining up the varied activities for this rally, and now await your reservations. This rally won't be complete without you! So don't delay, sign up today!

Well, that about sums up where the summer has gone. Now let's get out there and go Airstreaming through the fall. The farmers will soon be out in force for harvest, so be on the alert for slow-moving equipment.

Susan M. Swearingen, President 2019  
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