



August 4, 2021
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

B-days, Anniv., Dealers, Two Rallies	2
Irish Fest Help, 2022 Hosts needed	2
SwissFest Caravan, Alma O'Donnell	3
Rickert's Health, Beu's Trailer	3
Campgrounds Found	3
June IA Rally	4,5
International Rally	5,7

Gary and Cheryl **Burrows** have informed your newsletter team that they have a **new email address**. It seems that an unknown party compromised their old address and caused numerous problems. They have given their permission to pass their new address on to Iowa Club members. Here it is: glbcab1946@gmail.com. Cheryl not only asks that everyone change to the new address, but also asks that no one open or reply to any emails from the old address.

IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB



PREZ SEZ

Wow, what a busy month July was! Shirley and I left Des Moines on July 5th on our maiden voyage in our '61 Airstream we named "Littlefoot". We spent seven days with our two oldest boys (riding their motorcycles) in the mountains, starting in Shenandoah National Park, then down the Blue Ridge Parkway and ended in the Smokies, where the boys left us and headed back home.

We proceeded to the International Rally by way of Tennessee's Cedars of Lebanon State Park, where we rendezvoused with the Vintage Club trailers. Then, on Saturday, the 17th, we joined the vintage group and paraded in for the 64th annual International Rally. The layout of the fairgrounds was excellent for an event of our size and style. This being our first rally and being a delegate had our days and most evenings full while trying to take it all in. However, we did find one day to slip over to Nashville to take in some of the sights and sounds.

We were glad some of the Iowa Club members were able to join us. They were Beu's, Cabalka's, Lafrenz's, and Cochran's, along with North Iowa members Stunek's and Schafer's. We also had the opportunity to catch up with the Koskamp's, former Iowa members who are now members-at-large.

Since arriving home, we have been busy working normal days and making club arrangements. Please see the articles included in this edition for dates and information concerning upcoming events.

Thomas

PUP'S ARE GETTING TOGETHER

The Past Unit President's (PUP's) luncheon is scheduled for 11:00 AM on Saturday, August 7th at the Montana Mile's Restaurant at the I-80 and Hwy. 14 interchange in Newton, IA. This event has been an annual event for more than 50 years and is open only for past presidents and/or their spouses of the Iowa Club. It is a pay-your-own affair and is just a gathering of friends, wanting to renew old acquaintances and rehash stories of the past. Anyone in the Iowa Club can become eligible to attend the luncheon simply by agreeing to serve as the President of the club for one year. So, keep that in mind and simply say "yes" when asked to accept nomination for president in the future.

IOWA RALLY/LUNCHEON

The Iowa Club members should be ashamed of themselves. No one was willing to volunteer to host a rally, so there will be no August, 2021 Iowa Airstream Club rally. However, there will be a luncheon and short business meeting where, among things, there will be the report of the Nominating Committee concerning nominees for the 2021-22 club year. **The luncheon will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday, August 14th at the Pizza Ranch Restaurant at 2450 Westdale Drive SW in Cedar Rapids, IA.** This is an important meeting, so we hope as many will attend as possible. The restaurant is about 1.7 miles NE of the intersection of US Hwys. 30 and 151 at the SW corner of Cedar Rapids. GPS coordinates are 41°57'16.78"N and 91°43'16.04"W. President Tom has made arrangements for our group to gather, eat and have our meeting in their party room. If at all possible, please attend!

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IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB

BIRTHDAYS JULY

1 - Lavonne Sandersfeld
6 - Joan Lafrentz
10 - Lynette Rasmussen
10 - Robert Ulveling
11 - Bruce Van Wyk
19 - Larry Dellamuth
19 - Eli Vaughn
23 - Kathy Allen
24 - Susan Genz
28 - Kurt Rasmussen

BIRTHDAYS AUGUST

5 - Sue Storjohann
12 - Marijane Bamberry
12 - Pam Walker
14 - Kenneth Platt
15 - Deb Blaha
17 - Wanda Paine
22 - Marilyn Mulbrook
26 - Carolyn Haller
27 - Cindy Ulveling

ANNIVERSARIES JULY

None

ANNIVERSARIES AUGUST

18 - Ed & Eileen Pauley

New RV Service

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Contact: Scott Jensen
Location: Adel, IA

It seems there was a couple that lived in Chicago that had been married for over 40 years and had a daughter in California and a son in New York. The husband phoned their son and told him that he and Mom were getting a divorce. The son said "You can't do that! I'm calling my sister". He did and the sister called the parents and screamed at them "Don't do anything. My brother and I are coming." After hanging up, the husband turned to his wife and said "Well, that takes care of Thanksgiving. Now, what about Christmas?"

IRISH FEST VOLUNTEERS

Norm Beu asked that we pass along the following item concerning the Irish Fest in Waterloo, IA on August 6th to 8th.

There are many volunteer opportunities for the Irish Fest. Find the Waterloo Irish Fest webpage and click on volunteer. Among the opportunities are Family and Fun, Beer Tent and many more. You can sign up for specific locations and times. I'm not sure, but I believe this gets free admission plus a tee shirt and beer tokens. If the Irish Fest is of interest, here's a great way to participate, with benefits.

TWO RALLIES - COMING UP

There will be a September rally. It will be at the 4-H Grounds (Fairgrounds) in Colfax, Iowa. The dates are Thursday, September 9 to Sunday, September 12. There will be much more information in the next newsletter, but this information is being included here so you can set aside those dates on your busy calendars. Your hosts will be Norman and Pat Van Klompenburg and Chuck and Doris Jean Cabalka.

There will also be an October rally. It will be at Pinicon Ridge County Park at Central City, IA. For those who do not know where Central City is located, it is about 20 miles NE of Cedar Rapids, on Iowa Hwy. 13. The park is located at 4729 Horseshoe Falls Road on the south side of the Wapsipinicon River. No individual camping reservations will be necessary, as President Tom has paid the full deposit and camping costs will be included in the rally fee. As the time approaches, more information and details will be forthcoming. Just mark the weekend of October 7th - 10th on your calendar and join the group for the final rally of 2021.

IOWA CLUB HOSTS NEEDED

First Vice President Mike Rickert is sorely in need of volunteers willing to host a rally in 2022 or a luncheon during the winter months. Come on, Iowa Club members, step up and take on some responsibility for our club. Without some of you volunteering to do your part, the club cannot function and will die. Hosting a rally is not all that difficult. Simply decide on a site and check it out for availability in May, June, August, September or October. All of you have somewhere near you. Parking space with some electricity is recommended (but not required) and there should be some sort of building or shelter in case the weather is not nice. It is always interesting to visit a new location, but

there are many "old" ones that we can revisit and enjoy again. You do not need to do everything yourself. Check the Iowa Directory, find a member living near you or near the rally site and enlist them to assist you with planning and hosting the rally. You can look back at previous rallies and see what the general plan and schedule has been. You can also pick the brains of someone who has hosted a rally. However, you can do something entirely different, should you so desire. So, help Mike out and do your part in keeping the Iowa Club going. Mike can be contacted by phone at 319-788-2005 (home), 319-239-0646 (cell) or mrick@reinbeck.net. Mike would love to hear from you!

PLEASE DO YOUR PART. HELP MIKE AND HELP THE CLUB!!

CARAVAN TO SWISS FESTIVAL RALLY

Six Iowa couples will be going to Sugarcreek, OH to attend the 58th Swiss Festival Rally (the longest running WBCCI Special Event Rally) in late September. In addition to leaders, Chuck and Doris Jean Cabalka; Dale and Joan Lafrentz, Chuck and Nancy Helle, Norm and Linda Beu, Pat and Larry Dellamuth and Scott and Kathy Allen will be going. The caravan will rendezvous at Westlake County Park at the west edge of Davenport on Tuesday, September 21st taking three days to travel to Sugarcreek, parking on Friday, September 24th. This will be Scott and Kathy's first time. If anyone wants to join the group, you need to get your reservation in to the Kurkowski's right away. The registration form and information about the rally can be obtained by visiting the website "WBCCI Swiss Festival Rally, 2021".

RICKERT'S ARE RECOVERING

We are happy to report that 1st VP Mike Rickert and Linda are recovering from recent surgeries. Linda had her right knee replaced in March and is doing well. She recently, with Mike, hiked about a mile and had no problem. In June, Mike had rotator cuff surgery and reports that he can already raise his arm half-way, or a little more. The couple plan to attend the August 14th luncheon at the Pizza Ranch in Cedar Rapids. We'll be glad to see them.

TROUBLES GALORE FOR THE BEU'S

When it rains on Norm and Linda Beu, it pours! In addition to their tow vehicle problem on the way to Lebanon (covered in the International Rally item), they experienced another problem on the way home. While traveling north at the posted speed limit on a divided highway in Illinois, Norm felt the rig suddenly make some lateral movements. His first thought was that they had tire failure. Upon pulling over to the shoulder and walking back along the side of the trailer, he was met by a lady who had exited a small red car pulled up behind the trailer. Before Norm could say anything, the lady said "Oh, I'm so sorry. I was distracted and didn't mean to run in to your trailer". She had struck the left rear corner of the Airstream and scraped all along the side of the trailer, damaging skin, furnace door, clearance lights, etc. They exchanged information and went on their respective ways. The final result is that between Norm, Airstream and the lady's insurance company, the trailer will be going to Jackson Center this week for \$6,800 of repair work. Oh, the joys being a trailer owner!



ALMA O'DONNELL

We regret to inform Iowa Club members of the passing of another of our past members, Alma O'Donnell. She and her husband, Jack, were Iowa Unit members from 1972 to 2000. After she and Jack retired, they moved to Arizona, where she was the first female president of the Arizona Unit. Alma was 101 years old at the time of her death on June 20, 2021. Jack preceded her death in 2005.

According to her obituary in the Nevada, Iowa Journal, the couple thoroughly enjoyed their Airstream after retirement. It was their home for 8 years as they visited every state in the USA. They also took several foreign trips, obviously without their Airstream. Jack suffered double vertical vision in his later years, so Alma took over the wheel and drove the Airstream to Mexico, the West Coast, Canada and almost anywhere wheels could go.

After age 70, Alma took up hobbies of tap dancing, oil painting, china painting and playing different musical instruments. She always carried an electric organ with her in the Airstream. She was a resident at the Story County Senior Care in Nevada at the time of her death.

The older members of the Iowa Club will remember that you always knew when Alma was around. She had such a bubbly demeanor and always seemed happy and outgoing.

BEU'S FIND CAMPGROUNDS

Norm and Linda Beu want everyone to know that there is a campground in Du Quoin, IL that is not listed in any camping directory. It is at the State Fairgrounds in Du Quoin. On the way back to Iowa from the International Rally in Lebanon, TN, they spent a night at the fairgrounds campground, parked right beside the lake. The cost was just \$20.00, with electricity, water and a dump station. So, if any of you are traveling in that area of Illinois and are looking for a place to camp for the night, keep the fairgrounds in mind. According to Linda, the main entrance is too narrow for trailers to enter there, but if you exit Hwy. 51 at Derby Lane (the street running east at the NW corner of the fairgrounds) and head east, you can get to the campgrounds via the fairgrounds back entrance.

Norm also reported that there is a good campground at Rantoul, IL named Prairie Pines Campground. It is an old mobile home park that was used as such when Chanute Air Base was in operation years ago. The spaces are large with full hookups and the current cost is \$26.50 per night. There are restrooms and showers available. The off-season price (November to March) is just \$20.00 per night. You can find all the information on the internet by just entering "Prairie Pines Campground, IL". Rantoul is about 16 miles NE of Champaign on US Hwy. 45.

JUNE RALLY - FEATURING THE OUTDOORS

It was hot! It was humid! **BUT, it was great!** Yes, it was great to get together with several of our Iowa Airstream Club family for the June 10-13 rally at Lake Iowa County Park, south of Ladora, Iowa. Twenty members in twelve rigs showed up for the "Farm to Table Rally" hosted by Pat and Larry Dellamuth and Lavonne Sandersfeld.

The weekend started out on Thursday evening with a "bring your own supper", followed by a gathering around a campfire, although no one sat very close to the fire, what with the temperature still in the upper 80's. However, it was great to see friends that most hadn't seen since last October and the conversations flew.

Following a Friday morning breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausages and fantastic sweet breads prepared by Pat, eve-



ryone moved to the Lake Iowa Nature Center (air conditioned) where the park naturalist and a summer intern presented a couple of programs. The program covered by the intern dealt with Amphibians and Reptiles, while the naturalist's topic (by request) was Squirrels. As part of the first program, boxed salamanders and a small turtle, as well as other items, were passed through the gathered group for viewing and handling. A fox snake, named of all things, Foxy, was handled by the intern and seemed to love coiling around his arm. In the squirrel program, many were surprised to find that we have flying squirrels in Iowa.

After the stop at the Nature Center, the rally attendees then drove about six miles to the Genoa Bluffs Strawberry Farm where lunch was served. Prior to eating, however, several Airstreamers took advantage of the opportunity to go out to the strawberry patch and pick their own strawberries, which were then weighed and paid for. The lunch, prepared by



Pat's sister-in-law and her adult daughter, consisted of pulled pork, baked potato, green bean casserole and homemade rolls, was very tasty and enjoyed by everyone.



The daughter also gave a short history of the yestertown of Genoa Bluffs. Decades ago, there was an actual town of Genoa Bluffs and among it's businesses were a blacksmith shop, creamery, post office, church and cemetery. It was on the verge of becoming the county seat of Iowa County until the railroad decided to pass through Marengo, which resulted in the death of Genoa Bluffs. By a razor thin margin, the Iowa County residents voted to make Marengo the county seat. This was rather typical of many communities in the early days of the nation, when railroad routes dictated the life and death of many communities.

The afternoon was declared "free time" after hostess Pat informed everyone that, due to the heat and humidity, the pizza supper would be at the air conditioned Kum & Go business at I-80 Exit 216, rather than at the shelterhouse at the campground. Members spent the afternoon resting, going to the nearby Tanger Outlet Mall or just exploring the area on their own. When 6:00 PM rolled around, however, everyone was gathered at the Kum & Go, where they enjoyed pizzas with various toppings in the small dining



area. Mike Reiman purchased an additional pizza to add to the number already ordered, just to make sure everyone got filled up. Thanks, Mike. Back to the campground for the Iowa Club business meeting, where among other items, delegates to upcoming International Rally were selected, the rally fee was announced, John Heckman pre-



sented his idea for an Iowa Club flag and President Tom announced that the International Club is considering Des

IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB

(JUNE Continued from page 4)

Moines and the Iowa State Fairgrounds as a possible site for the 2024 International Rally.

Everyone awoke on Saturday morning to a welcome north breeze and much lower humidity. After a “breakfast on your own”, everyone lined up and drove to Homegrown Grace. This is a nearby farm where the owner, Randy Schnebbe, developed a business of welding steel to make all sorts of animals, stands, etc. The largest item he has made and sold, to date, is a 10-foot tall steel tree for a business in Wisconsin. He has a steel corn stalk in a legislator’s office in Washington, DC and has another one made that will go into an Iowa State Senator’s office in Des Moines this fall. Randy also has several other items on display in DC. His most popular item is an ant which, with the materials ready and on hand, he can put together in about 10 minutes.



When Covid hit last year, farmer markets disappeared. Friends urged him to start a “flea market” at his rural residence. It is now so popular that he has about 30 vendors participating, with everything from pastry and kettle corn to ceramic painting on glass and all sorts of craft items. There were even homemade cinnamon rolls that



There were even homemade cinnamon rolls that

nearly all Airstreamers bought and enjoyed.

Then, on to North English to visit shops in that small community before lunch (on your own) at a small restaurant; The Malt Shop. After lunch, the group caravanned to an organic farm where a young fellow primarily raised black beans and potatoes, along with other vegetables on a smaller scale, while also raising, butchering and selling chickens. He showed the bean harvesting machine, as well as the unit he uses to clean the beans, before bagging them for sale. The group was amazed at the two-row potato planter he used. His potato digger came from the grandfather of Wanda Paine, our Minnesota member. It was interesting to see how a young farmer has found ways to raise and sell various food items on a small acreage, compared to the thousand-acre farms producing corn and soybeans.

For our final rally supper, Pat Dellamuth prepared and served a delicious chicken-pasta casserole, as well as lettuce with a bean-vegetable topping. For dessert, everyone enjoyed strawberries and homemade shortcake. What a great way to bring an enjoyable rally to a close. To top it off, an Illinois couple, looking to purchase an Airstream, had seen the notice of the rally on the internet, called Pat to see if they could come (to which Pat of course said yes) and they joined us for the evening.

Sunday morning dawned sunny and cool. Hostess Pat purchased pastries at the Kum & Go, which all enjoyed (as well as more of the sweetbreads Pat had baked). No one was in a hurry to leave, so there were plenty of conversations going on before hooking up and heading down the road. Pat and Lavonne, with help from Jeff and Wanda Paine, provided the attendees with a **GREAT** rally. A big **THANK YOU** goes out to all of them for a job well done.

AIRSTREAM CLUB INT’L RALLY, LEBANON, TN

The Iowa Club was represented at the International WBCCI Rally in Lebanon, TN by five rigs. They were President Tom Heron and Shirley, Dale and Joan Lafrentz, Norm and Linda Beu, Steve Cochran and Lynn and Chuck and Doris Jean Cabalka. The Lafrentz’s and Cabalka’s traveled together, taking three easy days to make the 600-mile drive from Westlake County Park at Davenport, Iowa to the Wilson County Fairgrounds in Lebanon. The drive was uneventful (just the way we all like them), but some of the interstate highways in Illinois and Kentucky were pretty rough. Tom and Shirley came in from the East, where they had been exploring some of the East Coast states, along with their sons, while the Beu’s and Steve and Lynn made it on their own. After nearly making it all the way, the Beu’s had front wheel problems with their tow vehicle. A tow truck took the pickup to the Ford garage in Lebanon, while an Airstream friend came out and towed their trailer to the rally campground.

President Tom did the Iowa Club proud when he paraded the Iowa flag in at the opening ceremonies on Saturday, July 17th. The Sunday non-denominational church service raised in excess of \$1,500 to give to a charity in Lebanon. Thanks to the efforts of Iowa VP Mike Rickert, the actual rally activities kicked off with the Iowa Club Breakfast on the morning of Monday, July 19th. The potatoes au gratin, biscuits and gravy, muffins, and fruit cup started the day and rally off in grand style. **THANK YOU**, Mike, for making the arrangements. On



(INTERNATIONAL Continued on page 6)

IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB

(INTERNATIONAL Continued from page 5)



the following morning, Region 8 rally attendees gathered for the Region 8 Breakfast, hosted by Mike and Cheryl Sisk. It was good to get together and eat meals with friends.



The various seminars and meetings went well, with a great variety to choose from, ranging from SkyMed to solar systems to Everything Ice Cream and many others. Chuck Cabalka entered pictures in the Photo and Snapshot contests and was fortunate to win a second place ribbon in the Photo's Architecture Category with a picture of the Belvedere Castle in Vienna, Austria, taken on their 2007



trip to Europe. One of the highlites of the rally (although not at the rally site) was the optional evening at the new Grand Old Opry theater on Tuesday, the 20th. More than 480 rally attendees purchased tickets and paid for a bus ride to and from the Opry on Tuesday



evening. Once there, they were entertained by seven different performers, the best known being Connie Smith

and Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers. Also performing were John Conlee, Parker McCollum, Riders in the Sky (the backup band for Roy Rogers), Aaron Weber (comedian) and Lauren Alaina. The show lasted for about 3 hours and was well worth the money.



Wednesday morning saw the Delegate Meeting convened at 9:00 AM. There are 104 units, or clubs, in WBCCI (counting the European Unit), but about 25-30 did not have any representation at the meeting. Tom Herron and Chuck Cabalka (your designated delegate and alternate) were in attendance. There were three amendments (check the February Blue Beret for details) to the International Club's Constitution on the agenda. The first proposed amendment (proposing to elect International officers electronically, with all WBCCI members having an opportunity to vote on-line) passed with no objections. However, when Amendment No. 2 was brought to the floor a motion for a roll call vote was made. During the confusion, the first vote was in favor of the roll call vote. After some head scratching and deliberation, a second vote was held and this time the roll call vote was defeated. The third proposed amendment passed without objection and the meeting was adjourned at exactly 10:00 AM.

On Wednesday evening, the attendees were treated to the usual excellent International Rally Band as they put on an wonderful concert. This year there were 36 members in the band, which seemed to be somewhat less than there have been in previous years. However, you would never have known it due to the quality of sound coming from the group. Their numbers ranged from marches to river songs to a salute to Tennessee. There was even a Marmalade String Band with five Airstreamers playing guitars, mandolins and a fiddle and they played four numbers that all paid tribute to Tennessee. All in all, it was a wonderful "home grown" entertainment evening.

Midway through the concert, the presentation for the 2022 International Rally was made. There will be about 3,200 sites at the Fryeburg, ME location, so there will be plenty of parking spaces. Fryeburg's population is about 4,000, while Conway, NH (about 13 miles west) has about 11,000 residents, so between the two, there should be plenty of necessities support. For those who like seafood, Portland, ME is just 57 miles away. There will be lots of information forthcoming in the upcoming months, so keep your eyes and ears open. Oh, by the way. The 2023 International will be in Rock Springs, WY and it appears that the

(INTERNATIONAL Continued on page 7)

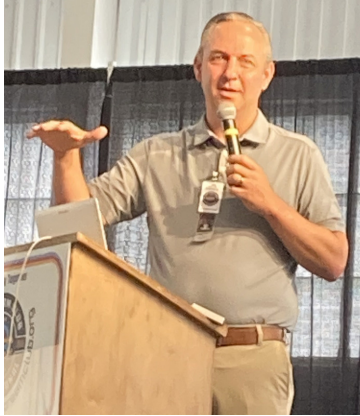
IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB

(INTERNATIONAL *Continued from page 6)*

2024 rally will be either at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines or in Lincoln, NE.

On the morning of Thursday, July 22nd, Justin Humphreys (Airstream's Chief of Operations) reported on what was going on at Airstream in Jackson Center. They started manufacturing trailers in the new facility in March, just in time to be shut down for six weeks by governor's orders due to the pandemic.

The new building is 635,000 sq. ft., making it the largest manufacturing plant in the US, maybe in the western hemisphere. They now have 1,500 employees and are still hiring. Employees have the normal benefits of insurance, vacation, etc., but they also get subsidized meals at the plant cafeteria and have a medical in-house clinic, among other perks. Due to the pandemic, the temporary shut-down and just getting the new plant into operation, the Airstream Company is now more than 4,000 units behind their needs to fulfill customer orders and to stock dealer showrooms. Justin said that, at this time, there are probably less than 200 Airstreams nationwide sitting on dealer's lots awaiting a customer. One of the biggest problems Airstream now has is getting the non-Airstream-made components to build the trailers and motorhomes any faster. He said they hope to start tours of the new plant at Alumapaloosa in early September. If that is the case, it is likely that we will be able to tour the new plant in late September on the Iowa caravan's drive to the Swiss Festival Rally. The old plant in downtown Jackson Center, that previously made trailers, is now where the motorized units are made.



Your newsletter team decided to leave the rally site after Justin Humphrey gave his Airstream Company report and make a sightseeing trip into Nashville. The first stop was at Centennial Park, where the replica of the Greek Parthenon is located. It is a full-scale replica of the original



structure in Athens, standing 45 feet high, 101 feet wide and 228 feet long. It was built in 1897. It currently houses a museum that can be visited for an entrance fee. After leaving the Parthenon, the couple traveled into downtown Nashville where they drove past the famous Ryman Auditorium, the home of the Grand Old Opry for many years. With no on-street parking and no nearby parking lot visible, the Ryman visit was just a drive-by.

Entertainment on Thursday evening was a musical group entitled Top Tier, featuring 7 musicians and one female singer. They were billed as doing a wide variety of music, ranging from oldies to jazz to rock, but once they found out that the old gray-haired people were willing to get out and dance to rock music, that pretty much became the rest of their gig. It was rather interesting watching all the gray heads bouncing around on the dance floor. Dale and Joan Lafrentz even got out and danced one of the few slower numbers. For the first time at an International Rally, there was even a cash bar set up at the back of the room.

Friday evening saw the rally brought to a close with the installation of the 2021-22 officers. Outgoing President Andy Selking thanked everyone for all they did during his year of presidency. He also informed everyone that there were 784 Airstreams registered for the rally, which was more than had been anticipated and the most since the 903 in Madison, WI in 2009.



Outgoing Region 8 President Mike Sisk holding his farewell gifts.



Newly installed Region 8 President, Greg Vadner.



Tye Mott, 2021—2022 International President