



Michigan Airstream Club

WBCCI Region 4, Unit 52
www.michigan.airstreamclub.net

“The Mich-i-gram”

November/December 2021



President's Message

2022 Board Members

President

Jackie Klare
klare@pacbell.net

1st Vice President

Lee Klare
klare@pacbell.net

2nd Vice President

Fred Bryant
fbryant319@gmail.com

Treasurer

Tom Cobb
tjacob1950@comcast.net

Secretary

Sharon Bryant
sbryantcrv@gmail.com

Executive Director and
Parliamentarian

Jim Conant
conantfarm@gmail.com

Membership Committee

Sandy Lovlien
slovlien@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Cindy Conant
cindyconant37@gmail.com



Welcome to our new president, Jackie Klare, her board members and other volunteers. We will look forward to the coming year of adventures.



Lee Klare
1st Vice President



Fred Bryant
2nd Vice President



Tom Cobb
Treasurer



Sharon Bryant
Secretary



Jim Conant
Immediate Past President
Parliamentarian

And contributor of many photos for this newsletter. Thank you.



Sandy Lovlien
Membership Committee



Cindy Conant
Newsletter Editor





We are proud of our own Karen Fisher who has been installed as International Third Vice President. She will be our International President in 2025.



November - December

Birthdays

Mike Henry	Nov 5
Dorothy Hoekwater	Nov 26
Char Henry	Nov 27
Cindy Adkison	Dec 10
John Smith	Dec 20
Scott Horner	Dec 27
Mary Ann Borton	Dec 30
Ken Briggs	Dec 31

Anniversaries

Chip and Lori DeLeeuw Dec 21

A Word from the MAC Membership Chair

Note from Membership Chair

Just a reminder that dues can be paid now through December 31. International Headquarters must have your dues payment by then for you to be included in the Blue Beret 2022 Membership Directory. So, do not wait to the last day.

Your dues can be paid by going online to airstreamclub.org and clicking on 'Join'.

On page 7 you will find a Membership Information Sheet. We are asking that you fill the form out so when the 2022 Michigan Airstream Club Directory is put together it will be as up to date as possible.

Please fill the form out and return it to Fred Bryant by mail at:
17620 Bayberry Dr, Spring Lake, MI 49456
or by email at: fbryant319@gmail.com

Fred Bryant

616 240 3724
fbryant319@gmail.com
2021 Membership Treasurer/Chair





58th Swiss Festival National Rally



Welcome to Sugarcreek and the Winklepleck Grove.

Every arrival was welcomed with a smiling greeter in Swiss folk garb and a welcome toll of the bell announcing their arrival to everyone.

It was a beautiful week with sunshine every day, which made our outdoor activities possible, especially the Day in the Park.

The “Day in the Park” began with a bake sale. The Amish women, whose children attended the schools on our rally tours, provided a room full of tempting baked goods. The proceeds would go to support the schools. At noon the children from those schools came for lunch and an afternoon of fun.



Homemade ice cream made with a John Deere powered ice cream maker.



Each evening the entertainment was varied and fun. Pictured above is Joey Tomsick from the Joey Tomsick Polka Band.



Besides buggy rides, there were rides with a 6 mule team pulling the hay wagon.



One tour of the week included a stop at Stutzman's Wheel Shop. It was fascinating to have this specialty explained and to be shown their outstanding workmanship.



You will find signs like these to direct you to local businesses all over the countryside.



Wheels of all sizes for restorations of all kinds.



The Stutzman's make beautiful replacements for wheels like the one pictured above. To begin they make a template for the parts from the old wheel. They fashion new parts from hickory and ash using hand made machinery, then assemble the wheel piece by piece. Wheels are made for people all over the country.



Amish Casket Maker
Amish Casket Maker
 ← 2 MILES



The Amish Casket Maker uses all local woods to make his beautifully crafted caskets. He is often asked to make caskets for non-Amish folks, as well. Below is a photo of the horse drawn hearse which he uses to deliver his caskets to Amish homes.



The vaults are also made by the casket maker.

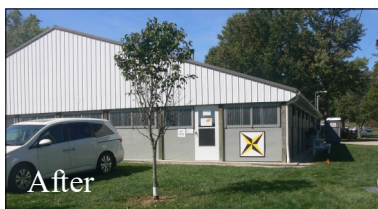




Kat Hibbard
Dale Schneider

Sugarcreek: Immersion in the Amish/Mennonite Lifestyle By Kat Hibbard

Dale and I attended the 58th Annual Swiss Festival Annual rally from September 25th to October 3rd in Sugarcreek, Ohio. It was our first big national/international rally and the longest rally we've attended so far; the others being weekend events.



As told to us by long-time members, the West Virginia Club, our hosts, built a small pavilion in the park for use by the community the rest of the year.

Usually an open, covered space, the large pavilion for evening programs, is transformed for the rally into a closed building by adding sides and doors.



The Winklepleck Grove campground is normally electric-only, but the club volunteer water crew tapped in to buried water points and ran hundreds of yards of plastic pipe so we could all have water! The electric crew installed special outlets which allowed us to have shared 7amp power. At the end of the rally a crew of volunteers removed all of this infrastructure, packed it up and put it into the storage rooms in the back of the pavilion. Amazing!



Water lines ready for use

Saturday, we arrived, set up and were treated to an Amish speaker who told us about their culture and lifestyle followed by about 20 Amish youth acapella singers. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we had a choice of tours to Amish/Mennonite businesses in Sugar Creek and neighboring towns. And each evening there was entertainment at the pavilion.

Thursday was "Day in the Park." A crew of club members cooked bean soup over fires in huge cast iron kettles, while an Amish couple made apple butter in another large kettle nearby. A bus load of Amish children and their teachers came for lunch and to visit our campground. The kids were treated to golf cart rides and some even got to drive.



Members tended the kettles of bean soup and apple butter for the day.



Dale rode in the sidecar of a Royal Enfield motorcycle and an Amish gentleman came with his buggy and standard bred horse to give us rides.

Friday and Saturday were Swiss Festival Days in Sugarcreek with a parade on Saturday.



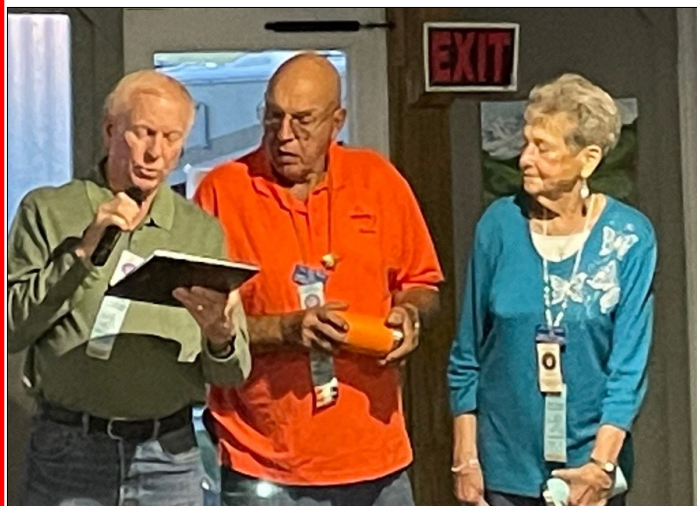
On Sunday we said goodbye to our old and new friends and rolled on down the road to our next adventure.

During the Day in the Park,
Buggy ride, anyone?

The conclusion of the Swiss Festival National Rally was celebrated at the Annual Swiss Festival in Sugarcreek. One highlight was entering a float in the parade, for which the rally won the Grand prize float. Members in traditional Swiss folk garb greeted parade goers from the float. The float was pulled by Dave and Jen Koomler in their Airstream Interstate, while fellow rally attendees watched from the sidelines.



For Day in the Park, a competition was held to determine which trailer had the best decorations. Jim and Cindy Conant's trailer was voted best decorated by rally participants.



After 25 years of managing the Swiss Festival National Rally, Larry and Karin Kurkowski handed the reins of the rally over to Fred Kiehl and Brad Briggs. Gene Crips presented a plaque of appreciation and thanks for keeping this wonderful rally going. Fred Kiehl gave the Kurkowski's a promise of their prime parking spot at the rally for as long as they live. Standing ovation was given by everyone.

Heartfelt thanks to the Kurkowski's for their years of service to the rally.



It never got old to hear the clip clop of horses' hooves as buggies went by the campground.



Then we went home

And in the end, we all had a wonderful time in Sugarcreek.

Michigan Airstream Club Member Information

NOTE: The information below will be used in our Michigan Airstream Club Directory, to be published in Spring 2022. Please complete this form to ensure that your information is complete and correct in our database.

Send to Fred Bryant, 17620 Bayberry Dr., Spring Lake, MI 49456 or email to fbryant319@gmail.com

WBCCI #			
Member Name #1			
Cell Phone Member #1			
Email Member #1			
Birthday Member #1			
Member Name #2			
Cell Phone Member #2			
Email Member #2			
Birthday Member #2			
Home Address			
Address Line 2			
City		State	Zip Code
Home Phone			
Winter Address			
Address Line 2			
City		State	Zip Code
Winter Phone			
Anniversary (mo/day/yr)			

A Michigan Airstream Club Rally

Autumn in Coldwater

Installation of Officers and Annual Meeting at the Coldwater Fairgrounds



Rally hosts
Jim and Cindy
Conant

There was a total of eight trailers in Coldwater for the rally. With tremendous company, terrific food and two fun tours as well, we enjoyed each others company and the activities along the way. The Tibbitts Opera House was a wonderful tour as was the Wing House Museum the following day.



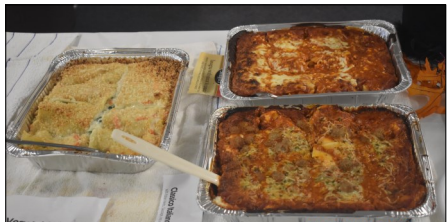
Since it's opening in 1882, the Tibbitts Opera House has had a history of success and neglect. After standing vacant for many years, a foundation was formed in 1962 to restore the building to it's original glory. The Tibbitts Theatre Foundation has made great strides, first, in restoring the façade to it's original beauty and also replacing the beautiful dome, which had once been removed. The mural shown above displays names of every famous person that performed there in its long history. There is a busy performance schedule as community members enjoy their lovely theatre.



Special thanks to Carol Jean Beard who made contact with a relative who arranged the tour of the Wing House.



The Wing House is a private house located at 27 South Jefferson Street in Coldwater, Michigan. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. The house is currently operated by the Branch County Historical Society as the Wing House Museum.



Friday night dinner was enjoyed by everyone there.



Hospitality is a must!



Included among the rally attendees were our loyal companions, who enjoyed the rally as much as their people.

Installation of Officers



Karen Fisher performed the Installation of our new officers for 2022:

Jackie Klare, President
Lee Klare, 1st Vice President
Tom Cobb, Treasurer

Installed by phone:

Fred Bryant, 2nd Vice President
Sharon Bryant, Secretary

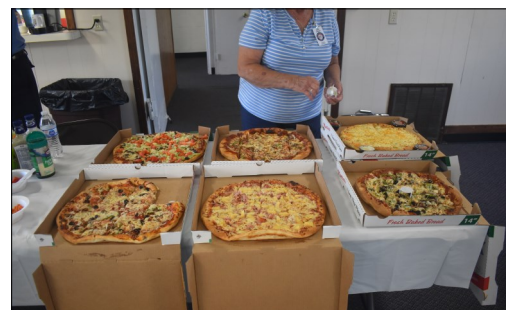
Thank you, Karen.



President Jackie presented outgoing president Jim Conant an appreciation gift of a bolo with a Petoskey stone in the shape of the state of Michigan.



A delicious thank you apple pie for Cindy Conant from Jackie.



Installation Pizza Party



Good Friends!



Thanks to Jim Conant for two delicious pancake and sausage breakfasts.



Hospitality and Door Prizes for Everyone



17.10.2020