

REGION 8 NEWSLETTER

February 2022

Message to Region 8 Members on Restructuring our Leadership

/BCCI

When I think of being on the road, I am thankful for the friends and community found in our Airstream Club. It's like a second family, warm and welcoming. The club has changed so much during the years Frances and I have been members, and most of the changes make it more attractive to us and to prospective members. Change is sometimes difficult to embrace, but it is imperative for survival and success of any organization. History and tradition is important to celebrate, but it should not impede changing to keep our club relevant and attractive to the thousands of new Airstream owners. In today's fast paced world of instant information, the ability to react timely and effectively is critical to maintaining a healthy organization. I find our club is terrific on the socialization and club community functions, while cumbersome and outdated on the business side of things. It is difficult to do anything outside of the yearly delegate meeting, which very few attend or follow. We have full-time activities and part-time business operations. The business focus is almost entirely on our International rally, which is just a small part of the club's activities. I don't believe most members think much about this, but the leadership sure does. *The business proceedings at the International Rally detract from the reason most people go to the rally.* They want to enjoy the rally, have a great camping experience socializing with friends and enjoying the surrounding area. On our member survey the business aspects of the international rally score as the least popular thing and generally the last reason most attend. The delegate meeting and supporting meetings command so much time, energy and resources that it dominates the rally.

Crazy - the least popular activity controls the rally!

A motion passed at the International Board of Trustees (IBT) to send a constitution amendment to the members to vote *on (more details on page 2)* would *eliminate the delegate process and modernize the IBT structure*. Further, it is the first step in modernizing our governance, allowing all members to directly vote on issues and frees the international rally to focus on what we want, a great rally experience. This amendment will be voted on this summer by our delegates. If it passes, it will be closely followed with by-law and policy updates to operationalize the

structure. Over the next few months, these details will be hammered out and shared with our members.

My view, we need a modern business organization to support our club's growth and continued health. I ask that you support bringing our governing structure into the modern era by approving the constitutional amendment so our club can proceed with re-structuring and get down to a terrific rally camping experience for all attendees. - Greg Vadner



Registration Deadline for the *Region 8 Rally* in Lincoln, NE is April 11th!

The Registration Form was sent along with this Newsletter. The Rally Agenda will be outlined in the next Newsletter!

Volunteers Needed!

As the Immediate Past President, I am tasked with recruiting volunteers for Region Officer positions. *We need a 2nd VP*, and know there are many members with questions about the job. *One thing to mention is no previous experience is needed!* If you are interested in finding out more about the job, please email me at mescas1@hotmail.com. Or better yet, email me your resume.

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Thank you for your interest. - Mike Sisk

The International Board of Trustees (IBT) was held in January in Savannah, Georgia. Region 8 was represented by Region 8 President, Greg Vadner and Rick & Berta Everson. Attendance at the IBT and associated rally was strong with members enjoying the Savannah area and *very* engaged in the rally festivities and meetings. (And yes, there was Seafood galore!)

Four important issues were discussed and voted on by the IBT:

- **Grapes and Grains**, a new intra-club was chartered. Yep, the focus of Grapes and Grains is just what you think it would be. *You may want to join!*
- **Future Streamers**, a new intra-club was chartered. The Future Streamers focus is on youth, our future Airstream club members. *You may want to join!*
- A motion to allow local clubs and caravans to establish pandemic related health guidelines for some events was narrowly defeated. The focus was mostly about vaccination policies. The current policy of following all local, state and federal mandates continues.
- A motion to send a constitutional amendment (written about on page 1) to our members for the first step in restructuring our club's IBT leadership was passed by a vote of 13 Yes, 4 No. Our International President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, and Immediate Past President all voted to send this amendment to the membership. That's right, our five top leaders, who we put in office, endorse the effort to put this before the membership for a vote. This is a critically important change which will be sent to our membership for discussion and voting through our delegate process. The end goal, eliminate the delegate process in favor of direct membership voting, significantly de-couple the business aspect of the club from the International Rally and modernize our governance structure so we can all focus on great camping experiences and building the club membership.



A 9-Year Upward Trend for WBCCI Membership!

