



IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB

November 2, 2022
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REGION 8 RALLY INFO

The 2023 Region 8 Rally will be held on April 26-30 at the Sycamore Springs Whitetail Ranch, 3126 Bittersweet Road, Sabetha, KS 66534. This is a resort-style ranch and rally attendees will have exclusive use of the campgrounds. Activities range from tennis to miniature golf and bicycling. Per day campsites

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PREZ SEZ:

Greetings to all of you back in Iowa and the Midwest. Doris Jean and I have completed our 27th trip to Arizona to spend winter in a warmer climate than would normally be enjoyed in Iowa during the winter. We made it safely, except for a little? mishap on the first day out, but you can read about that in an article later in this newsletter. We were greeted in Apache Junction by temperatures in the low 80's and clear blue skies. It took the better part of a day and one-half to get the stuff moved from the van and trailer into the mobile home, but that is now done and we are ready to settle in for the next five months, or so. I would be quite remiss if I didn't congratulate Mike and Linda Rickert for an excellent job in leading our Iowa Cub for the past year. We had great rallies at new locations, with interesting places to visit, and our membership grew in numbers. **A job well done, Mike and Linda.** Now, it is on to our 2022-23 year and I hope we can have as much Fun and Fellowship as we did this past year. I would strongly encourage our newer members, who we have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, to attend the winter luncheons. We promise not to bite! If any of you do something interesting or travel somewhere interesting, other than your rocking chair, drop me a line (and pictures, if any). I'll be glad to include them in an upcoming newsletter. At any rate, **HAPPY THANKSGIVING** and keep the cold weather back there in Iowa.

Chuck

WINTER LUNCHEONS START NOV. 12

This is a reminder that our winter luncheons begin in November, with our first one being in Cedar Rapids on Saturday, November 12th. Donella Watkinson and Deb Blaha will be our hosts at Tommy's Restaurant. The address is 393 Edgewood Drive in SW Cedar Rapids. For those who use GPS co-ordinates, the location is 41°58'38.96"N and 91°42'55.94"W. There has been one change from the info provided in the last newsletter. **The time is now 11:00 AM instead of the previously noted 11:30.** Make sure you mark this down on your calendar. This is because the restaurant owners want to get our group in and orders out of the way before their normal Saturday traffic starts arriving. The least we can do is comply with their wishes. So, sharpen up your appetites and conversation skills and join your fellow Iowa Airstream Club friends at Tommy's. As usual, **PLEASE** let Donella or Deb know if you plan to attend, so they know who and how many to expect. That way the restaurant can make sure they have plenty of staff on hand and the group doesn't start to eat before you arrive. Also, if a cancellation of the luncheon develops for any reason, you can be reached. Donella can be reached at donellaw@juno.com (phone 319-396-9088 or 319-550-0856) or Deb at ahalbberd@yahoo.com (phone 319-821-3310).

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RESERVE NOW

It may seem a little early to be worrying about rallies for the 2023 season, but there is a reason. The **Winterset City Campground** (the location for our first rally) is popular and fills rapidly. The May, 2023 rally will be on the 3rd weekend of the month (the 18th to 21st), since the usual second weekend is Mother's Day weekend. To reserve a spot, send a check made out to the Iowa Club, WBCCI in the amount of \$25.00 (\$20.00 for one night camping and a one-time \$5.00 reservation fee) to either the Iowa Club Treasurer Kathy Allen or to hosts Tom and Shirley Herron. **They need to have that check no later than mid-November.** Should you not be able to

RESERVE Continued on page 3)

IOWA AIRSTREAM CLUB

BIRTHDAYS NOVEMBER

2 - Steve Cochran
11 - Chuck Helle
11 - Chuck Kiple
15 - Tom Whitehouse
21 - Chuck Cabalka
23 - Arden Taube

ANNIVERSARIES NOVEMBER

18 - Lynette & Kurt Rasmussen
19 - Derek Etnyre & John Moder
19 - Sandie & Chuck Kiple
20 - Linda & Michael Rickert
24 - Carolyn & Gene Haller

The following is the **2022-23 Luncheon and Rally Schedule** for your information. Hopefully there will be no changes needed, but you will be kept informed if there are any. A great big **THANK YOU** goes out to all those who agreed to host the events. Now, it is up to the Iowa Club members to show up and prove the host's efforts have not been in vain.

November 12 **Luncheon** (Donella Watkinson and Deb Blaha, hostesses), Tommy's Restaurant, Cedar Rapids

December 10 **Luncheon** (Scott & Kathy Allen, hosts) Brau Haus, Amana

February 11 **Luncheon** (Mike & Linda Rickert, hosts) Perkins Restaurant, Waterloo

March 11 **Luncheon** (Norm & Pat Van Klompenburg, hosts) Pizza Ranch, Newton

April 15 **Luncheon** (Chuck & Nancy Helle, hosts) Pizza Ranch, Vinton

April 26-30 **Region 8 Rally**, Sabetha, KS

May 18-21 **Rally** (Tom & Shirley Herron, hosts) Winterset City Campground

June 8-11 **Rally** (John & Carol Heckman, hosts) Allison's Wilder Park Campground

June 24-30 **International Rally**, Rock Springs, WY

August 10-13 **Rally** (Herron's and Friends hosts) West Lake County Park, Davenport

September 14-17 **Rally** (Cabalka's and Friend, hosts) Independence City Campground

October 5-8 **Rally** (Herron's and Jensen's, hosts) Hickory Hills County Park, Colo

The August and September rallies are designated as Buddy Rallies, so, as the times approach, don't forget to invite a Buddy to join us. You will be reminded of this via the newsletters again in 2023. The October rally will be a joint installation rally for the Iowa and North Iowa Clubs. It will be on the first weekend in October to coincide with the normal North Iowa time, in hopes the weather will be a little warmer than was experienced at The Grove this fall. For your information, an attempt was made to schedule the October rally for Griff's Valley View Campground at Bondurant (with it's fabulous building) after the Prairie Meadows jockeys had left, but were informed by the owner that winter residents would be arriving then and a rally was not possible. Hard to imagine anyone coming with an RV to spend a winter in central Iowa, but, apparently there are a number of workers and people who live in their RV's year-round and they utilize places like Griff's for their winter residences. Really hardy souls!

(RESERVE Continued from page 2)

attend, you will be refunded everything but the \$5.00 reservation fee. By next April you will need to submit a check to them for \$20.00 per night for the remaining nights you plan to be camping in Winterset. As an alternative, you can send Kathy a check for \$20.00 each for all the nights you plan to be in the campground plus the \$5.00 reservation fee, with all but the \$5.00 reservation refundable if you can't attend. If you plan to wait until next spring, you may find there are no spots available, so do it now. The most you can be out is the \$5.00 reservation fee.

The August rally at **Park Terrace Campground in West Lake County Park** on the west edge of Davenport, IA is another 2023 rally for which you can now make reservations and it is recommended that you do so as quickly as possible. This is a very popular campground, having full hookups and lots of shade trees. There are a limited number of spaces that can be reserved and they are gobbled

up quite quickly. Your newsletter team went to Westlake County Park, Iowa, Camping Reservations on the internet and scrolled down to West Lake Park Campgrounds, then scrolled down to Park Terrace and followed the instructions. It is not a user-friendly website, so you may experience some problems. If so, you are advised to call the listed phone number and you can receive help from the Conservation Office.

Reservations for the **June rally at Allison's Wilder Park** will open on January 2, 2023 and can be obtained by calling the Allison City Clerk's Office at 319-267-2245. You will also be reminded of this in the next newsletter. Actual rally activities will close after breakfast on Sunday morning (the 11th). For those who can stay over Sunday night, there is a treat. The Glen Miller Orchestra will be performing a FREE concert in Allison that evening. According to Carol and John Heckman, who attended last June, it is well worth anyone's time to stay, listen and enjoy.

Region 8(Continued from page 1)

range from dry camping (\$25) to 30 amp electric & water (\$40), all the way to 30/50 amps with full hookups (\$50). If you think you will attend, please let Region 8 Vice President Rick Everson know so they have an idea of how many to plan on. The various types of sites are on a first come - first served, so if you want a particular type of site, get your INTENT TO ATTEND Info sent in now. Rick can be

reached via email at everson.rick@gmail.com. The final registration and billing will be next year. The Pre-Registration form can be found on-line by entering WBCCI Region 8 2023 Rally, scrolling down and clicking on Pre-Register Now. You will get the form to print out, complete and send in. Hope a lot of Iowa Club members plan to attend. Should be fun. Incidentally, Sebetha is in NE Kansas, about 45 miles west of St. Joseph, MO and 12 miles south of the KS-NE state line.

At the recent October rally at The Grove, Donella Watkinson brought a scalloped corn dish and Deb Ford brought mint chocolate cookies to the Friday evening potluck supper. Several attendees thought both were very tasty and asked for the recipes. Instead of trying to give the recipes to each one individually, Donella and Deb asked if the recipes could be included in the newsletter and your team is more than happy to do so. So, here goes: (Cookie recipe on page 4)

SCALLOPED CORN:

1 can kernel corn, drained	2 eggs, beaten
1 can creamed corn	Salt, to taste
1 stick margarine	Pepper, to taste
8 oz. sour cream	1 cup cheddar cheese, grated
1 box Jiffy cornbread mix	

Mix all ingredients except the cheese. Put into a 9x13-inch greased pan, bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Top with cheese and bake 15 minutes more.

OATMEAL & ICE CREAM BREAKFAST

There have been several stories going around concerning the origin of the “world famous” Oatmeal and Ice Cream Breakfast. Here is the real story.

In May, 1991, WBCCI members Jack and Walda Gustafson of Brooklyn, IA were camping at one of Iowa’s state parks in their Airstream motorhome. On Sunday morning, Walda prepared oatmeal for breakfast. Upon going to the refrigerator to get the milk, she discovered that they had forgotten to put any milk in the fridge before leaving home. To get milk to put on the oatmeal meant buttoning everything up in the motorhome and driving about 10 miles to the nearest town to get some milk. Jack told Walda that they had some ice cream in the freezer, so they decided to use it in place of the missing milk. To their surprise, the couple found the combination to be very tasty, with creamy milk and sugar all in one.

They were to be the host couple at the next Iowa Unit rally, coming up in about 2 weeks at the Iowa County Fairgrounds in Marengo, IA and they decided to spring this unusual breakfast on the rally attendees. Word was sent out to all attending Iowa Unit members to bring a bowl,

coffee cup and spoon to a “Mystery Breakfast.” That June morning, at that rally, the Oatmeal and Ice Cream Breakfast was born. The first reaction from those in attendance was the usual “I never heard of that”, but, once it was tried, it was a hit. That first breakfast used vanilla ice cream on the oatmeal, with raisins and brown sugar available for those who wanted a little extra “kick”.

It was the practice in Region 8, at that time, to assign various Region 8 Rally duties and meals to the different units in the region. The following year, the Iowa Unit was assigned a breakfast of their choice and Lavonne Sandersfeld volunteered to take on that responsibility, with the help of the Iowa Unit. She decided to spring the Oatmeal and Ice Cream Breakfast on the attending Region 8 members and got the same initial response, “What?”. However, it was so well received that for the next several years, the Region 8 Presidents assigned the Iowa Unit an Oatmeal and Ice Cream Breakfast – no choice.

So, now you know the real history of the origin of the famous Oatmeal and Ice Cream Breakfast. Incidentally, the Iowa Club has now replaced the vanilla ice cream with butter pecan and it is even better.

MINT CHOCOLATE CRINKLE COOKIES:

½ cup vegetable oil	2 cups flour
4 oz. Bakers unsweetened	2 tsp. baking powder
chocolate squares, melted	½ tsp. salt
2 cups sugar	10 oz. pkg. Andes mint baking chips
4 eggs	
2 tsp. vanilla	

Mix oil, melted chocolate and sugar. Blend in one egg at a time. Add vanilla and set aside. Mix flour, baking powder, salt and baking chips. Stir dry mixture into liquid mixture. (Deb suggests a good mixer or a strong arm). Chill several hours or overnight. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Drop teaspoons of dough into powdered sugar and roll into ball shapes. Place on a greased or non-stick baking sheet, about 2 inches apart, and bake for 10-12 minutes. Let cool about 5 minutes before removing them from the baking sheet. Deb says she does not bake them for more than 10 minutes. **DO NOT OVERBAKE!**

We thank Donella and Deb for these recipes. We trust that many of you will make one, or both, of them and enjoy good eating.

FIRST TIME RALLY ATENDEES

The Iowa Club was glad to have three trailers at The Grove for their first Iowa Airstream Club rally. Dennis Chapman and Margaret Jespersen had dropped in for a few minutes at the September rally at the Upper Iowa Resort, while Marcus and Heather Felder had attended one of the monthly luncheons last winter.

Dennis Chapman - Margaret Jespersen:

Dennis Chapman and Margaret "Mugs" Jespersen reside in rural Fayette County, IA, with a West Union mailing address. Prior to retirement both worked at Northeast Iowa Community College in Calmar. Dennis was an Automotive Technical Instructor, while Margaret was a Continuing Education Co-ordinator. The couple have two children (1 boy and 1 girl), five grandchildren (3 boys and 2 girls) and one great grandson with another on the way. In addition to enjoying their Airstream, the couple also enjoy spending time on the water with their sailboat. Their greatest sailing expedition was a trip from SE Minnesota down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico and clear around to the east coast of Florida, taking 80 days.



Marcus & Heather Felder:

Marcus and Heather Felder live in Ainsworth, IA and own and operate their own business (Custom Impressions) in Washington, IA, where the majority of their business is screen printing and advertising for businesses. Marcus is

currently a County Supervisor in Washington County and is running for re-election this fall. The couple have two children, both boys. Their hobbies include camping and for Marcus, also hunting.

Emy Richter:

Emy, short for her middle name of Emma, (her full name is Anna Emma Richter) is a graduate of Drew University in Madison, WI and has her Masters Degree in clinical social work from the Univ. of Iowa.



She is a retired copy writer in the advertising field. From a previous marriage she has two children, one boy and one girl. She was born and raised in Chicago, but currently resides in a round brick house in Des Moines. She has a 16-foot Bambi Airstream, which she dearly loves.



HURRICANE INFO FROM BURROW'S

The following article was received from Gary and Cheryl Burrows concerning their winter residence in Punta Gorda, FL following the recent devastating hurricane. Your newsletter team says **THANK YOU** to them for providing the information.

Both our places in Punta Gorda got hit by the hurricane and Bill & LaDon Kallmer (remember them from the Neb Unit) place in North Fort Myers (they just bought it last spring) were damaged. Julie, our daughter, who lives in

Cape Coral, sent us lots of pictures of our place. Julie and her husband (our son-in-law) both worked hard getting our place closed up so no more water could get in. Their place had no damage other than some of the bushes that they had just planted a year ago got sucked out of the ground and are in someone else's yard now. Cheryl and I sat here in our living room watching everything live on U Tube from a station in Florida that was transmitting live. Everyone of family and friends made it through the hurricane safely, which is all that counts. Material things can be replaced, people cannot.

"CHILLY" WAS AN UNDERSTATEMENT

The October Iowa Club Rally at The Grove, south of Liscomb, IA was the windiest and coolest that anyone can remember. Driving to the rally on Thursday, the 13th, was an exercise in vehicle control, with west to northwest winds of 20-30 mph trying to push the rigs off the road. Then, to top it off, the temperatures dropped into the 50's during the day (still with winds) and the upper 20's at



night. Most of the activities planned for outside were not possible due to the weather, so nearly everything had to be done inside the metal building or in the Airstreams.

Following a breakfast of pancakes and sausages on Friday morning, the group caravanned to Gladbrook, IA (about 23 miles away) to visit the world-famous Matchstick Marvels Museum. In 1977, while still a young man, Patrick Acton built a replica of a small church using matchsticks. He purchased the matches from the local store and clipped off the heads, before gluing them together to build the church, which he then gave to the church's pastor. From there Patrick's love of building with matchsticks grew until he now builds huge items requiring tens of thousands of matchsticks each. He was able to find a supplier from whom he could purchase the matchsticks before the heads were put on them, eliminating the tedious job of

snipping off the heads. Among his beautiful creations is a replica of the battleship, USS Iowa, which required nearly 137,000 matchsticks, the US Capitol with 478,000 matchsticks, Terrace Hill with 193,000 matchsticks and the Notre Dame Cathedral using 298,000 matchsticks. Many of his works of art are on display in various Ripley's Believe It or Not Museums throughout the world. Ripley's is so enthralled with his work that they are contracting with him

to make several large displays for them. Patrick recently received word from his matchstick supplier that they were going out of business and would no longer be able to supply him with his materials. As a result, he placed a final order for 8,000,000 matchsticks. The stop was well worth the

\$5.00 admission fee. Also, as an unexpected surprise, the small supermarket (across the street from the museum) was handing out free ice cream which, of course, no Airstreamer could pass up. All in all, the trip to Gladbrook was a great outing.



Back at the campground, Friday afternoon's planned outdoor games were a bust due to strong winds and cold temperatures. However, the attendees gathered inside the building, where good conversations and work on a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle occupied the afternoon, before all enjoyed a host-provided supper of sloppy joe sandwiches and "member-brought" salads and desserts. The evening's entertainment consisted of card bingo, where a flamingo-decorated gift bag became the prized attraction. When the game was finally ended



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and the white elephant gift's were finally opened, it turned out that the pretty bag was the best part of that contested gift. Saturday morning dawned with really cold temperatures (28 degrees and frost on all the vehicles) but that did not stop rally attendees from enjoying an oatmeal and butter pecan ice cream breakfast prepared by the rally hosts. The jigsaw puzzle finally got completed before everyone participated in a scavenger hunt. Some of the items were nearly impossible to find, such as an outdated calendar, a crayon, a used envelope and a straw hat. Nonetheless, a lot of effort was put in by a lot of people trying to find as many items as possible. Ed. Note. Some found things they didn't even realize they were still hauling around.



Following a potluck supper on Saturday evening, the business meeting was called to order by President Mike, during which September's meeting minutes were read and approved, bills were approved for payment and announcements were made, including 2nd VP Mike Donahue's message declining to accept the position of 1st VP due to family concerns. After closing the meeting, Region 8 President Greg Vadner installed the 2022-23 Iowa Club officers. A reception followed the installation, before all headed back to their trailers for the night.

Sunday morning's breakfast of sweet rolls, juice and coffee was enjoyed, before Scott Allen auctioned off the excess food items, ranging from bread and hamburger buns to orange juice and ice cream, with the proceeds going to the Charity Fund. Then, it was time to hook up and head home. The day was bright and sunny, with a light north breeze, considerably better than when the group gathered

on Thursday. A big **THANK YOU** goes to Chuck and Nancy Helle and Marilyn Mulbrook for hosting a great rally under very trying weather conditions.



And, a **special THANK YOU** goes out to Terry Mercer for all the time he spent in tending the antique furnace



attempting to keep the inside of the metal building bearable. He spent many hours between midnight and 7:00 AM, as well as throughout the day, keeping the wood-burner stoked. Without his efforts, the gatherings would have been nearly impossible.

A GIFT WE DIDN'T NEED

Halloween came early for your newsletter team as they were making their way to their winter residence in Arizona via Denver, planning to spend a few days there with family. Voting right after the County Auditor's Office opened on the morning of Wednesday, October 19th, they pulled out of Newton and headed west. Following a 20-minute stop at DJ RV Service (Scott and Jodi Jenson) in Adel to get a water leak under the bathroom sink remedied, the trip proceeded quite the way one would want it - uneventful. That is until they were about 5 miles east of their overnight goal of the city campground at the SE corner of Cambridge, NE. At 7:10 PM, while tooling along on US Hwy 6, with darkness falling, Chuck saw a momentary flash of brown outside the left windshield, then a HUGE thump. He knew instantly that a deer had run in to the driver-side front fender and door. In the dark, it was hard to see all the damage, but the loss of the left headlight and the missing glass in the driver's side mirror were obvious. AAA was called and, about 4 hours later, a pickup and flatbed truck showed up. The van motor would not run so the van was winched up onto the flatbed, while the pickup hooked onto the Airstream. The van was then hauled about 30 miles to a McCook repair shop recommended by the tow truck operator, while the trailer was taken to the campground Chuck and Doris Jean had been headed for.

The next day (Thursday), the couple called a rental service in McCook and a gentleman showed up about 30 minutes later to haul them back to their office where the paperwork was completed and Chuck and Doris Jean had a rental car. They then drove to the repair service to see (in the daylight) what had happened. Apparently the deer's head and neck had struck the left front corner, taking out the headlight, then spinning the deer around so the body struck the front fender and then bounced back and up-

ward damaging the outside mirror. The impact was so great that deer feces was deposited on the top of the door, just below the window. The repair service (Lopez Auto Service) was extremely accommodating - dropping their other work and concentrating on getting the Cabalka van back on the road.

Between 3:00 and 3:30 on Thursday afternoon (the 20th), the van was ready to be picked up. The repair service had found an mirror (stationary instead of electrically adjusted) and had mounted it, as well as installed a new headlight bulb and taped clear plastic over the headlight in lieu of the demolished lexan cover. When asked about the inability to start the van following the accident, Mr. Lopez said that, as a safety measure, the vehicle was designed so that a hard jolt, as from a collision or roll-over, would cause the fuel pump to stop operating, thereby helping prevent a possible fire. It simply took a reset of the onboard computer to correct the problem. This is something the rest of you might want to remember if you have a similar situation. At any rate, with the van back at the Airstream, Chuck and Doris Jean resumed their trip on the morning of Friday, the 21st, just one day late, thanks to Lopez Auto Service, and the cost wasn't too bad - just over \$300. Chuck just hopes the deer didn't survive - it would serve him/her right for running into the van.



Damaged hood, plastic over headlight and bent fender.

DUES REALLY ARE DUE, NOW

The last newsletter reminded all Iowa Club members that 2022-23 dues are payable and everyone was encouraged to get that check to our club treasurer. As a result of the 2023 officer election and installation, Kathy Allen is now our Iowa Club Treasurer, so if you haven't already done it, mail that \$90.00 check (\$75.00 for International and \$15.00 for Iowa) to **Kathy Allen, 2802 - 38th St., Des Moines, IA 50310-4019**. Life members, friends and affili-

ates only need to send her a \$15.00 check. If you haven't sent Kathy that renewal check, get it done as quickly as possible. As the renewals are received, Kathy will be sending that information on to Shirley Herron to be used to update our Iowa Directory for next year. Shirley is already working on that directory so it can be printed and sent out shortly after the beginning of the year. Your help and co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

COG RAILWAY & GARDEN OF GODS

Upon finally arriving at their daughter's home in Arvada, CO on Thursday afternoon, Chuck and Doris Jean Cabalka found that their daughter had purchased tickets to ride the Manitou Hot Springs Cog Railway to the top of Pike's Peak, near Colorado Springs. So, on Friday morning (October 21st), the three drove from Arvada to Manitou



Springs for the 2:00 PM train. It was a beautiful day to ride to the top of the 14,114-foot mountain. With Chuck and Doris Jean possessing an ADA placard, their daughter was able to purchase tickets for seats at the back of the last car in the train, meaning they were able to look directly behind as they progressed up



the mountain, as well as get an unobstructed view as the train descended. Everything was going great until the train reached an elevation of about 13,000 feet when the ride ended. Word was received on the train that the Visitor's Center at the top of the mountain was closed due to problems in the septic system. With an inoperative system, the train was not allowed to get to the summit terminal and had to start back down. Not being able to get off the train and see the

view from the summit was a bummer, since everyone had looked forward to the fantastic view. Not only would one have looked down into Colorado Springs, but the day was clear enough that Kansas would have been visible on the far eastern horizon. Oh well, Chuck and Doris Jean had driven to the top a few decades ago and not much has likely changed over time. Incidentally, to drive the toll road to the top now costs \$50.00.

With some extra time available, due to being unable to depart the train at the summit, the three-some drove through the Garden of



the Gods. With a bright sun shining on them, the red sandstone rock formations were spectacular. A rock climber was even spotted on one of the formations. Way up high on one of the rock formations was a small arch. Years ago someone decided that it looked like two camels kissing, so that is what it is now called - the Kissing Camel.

