



Region 4 WBCCI



September 2008

<http://Region4.wbcci.net>

Volume 2 Issue 1

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President's Corner

The Region 4 folks that made it to Bozeman had a great experience. Our region luncheon was well attended thanks to the efforts of John & Karen Turner, and Karin & Larry Kurkowski.

Those who joined Past Region 4 President Richard and Bonnie Osborne on the Caravan to Bozeman reported they had a great time.

Sandy and I had to be in Bozeman early and were able to join Doug Pedersen on his Caravan to Bozeman along with Bud & Conna Whitmore from the Cleveland Unit as well as Jean & Chuck Mears from our Akron Unit.

Jerry Larson was elected President, Tom Collier 1st Vice President, Norm Beu 2nd Vice President and Barry Heckenswiler 3rd Vice President, receiving 4,351 votes against Bob Thompson's 1,199 votes. Ralph Forrester was elected International

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Membership

My wife and I went bicycling a few days ago in Akron. We met a group of our friends in the parking lot of the Cuyahoga Valley train. As we pulled into the lot I noticed a black truck with two bikes pulling in at the same time. As we unloaded our bikes the lady in the black truck came over and stated they were from out of town and she needed to know where the bike trail started. She explained they were camping at West Branch State Park and heard about the trail in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. As we talked I asked what type of camping equipment they were using for camping. Much to my surprise they said an Air-stream trailer. I asked her if they belonged to WBCCI. She said they did but did not renew their membership after a year. She stated their unit did not have planned activities at the rallies. The people were great but all they did was to go out to eat. They wanted a more active life style. I tried to get them interested in rejoining our club but I don't know if I convinced them to rejoin.

It's really sad to see this happen.

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Treasurer and Carolyn Florence was elected Recording Secretary. There were 4 candidates running for the nominating committee: Sandy Poast - 4,776 votes, Phil Risher - 4,238 votes, Leo Garvey - 1,590 votes, Pat Mc Fadden - 1,328 votes.

The amendment providing a procedure for voting for more than two candidates for the nominating committee passed.

At the request of Jerry Larson, Sandy and I dressed in formal attire for his Installation as International President.

The Community service program turned out to be a huge success due to the generosity of our Airstream folks. The following items were donated:

Blankets	265
Stuffed animals	1,674
Hats	2,873
Tabs	\$2,374
Common Cents	\$8,380

The following motions were discussed at the IBT Meeting:

1. It was approved to have the Budget Chairman allow the car allowance rate for mileage to the same rate allowed by the US Federal Government. (Please note that the caps on the Officers Budget have not changed, it means the budget would be expended sooner if the mileage allowance is raised.)
2. The Motion for Proxy votes was ruled out of order.
3. The motion to increase the officer's overnight allowance from \$20 to \$30 was defeated.
4. All Unit caravans must be approved by the Unit at their business meeting and recorded in the minutes of the meeting to be sanctioned by WBCCI and covered by our insurance.
5. The Member at Large dues paid to International was raised from \$15 to \$20 and approved.

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It kind of hit home because that wasn't the first time this month I heard people were unhappy with WBCCI. The other was a younger couple that did not like some of the food served at our rallies. It was too "meat and potato". They wanted again a younger life style. Both of these couples were from Region 4 units. We need to think seriously about younger people's wishes at our rallies if we are going to attract them to our club.

As older people we do not have to participate in all the rally activities, such as, hiking, canoeing, biking, or fishing, but we need to make some of these activities available to our younger members when planning rallies. Plan to get the younger people involved in planning the menu for your rallies. How about a dinner cooked over a campfire? Chili over a campfire on a cool autumn evening is always great. Maybe your menu can have something as simple as hot dogs and the good old fashion "s'mores". Or doesn't your unit have campfires anymore? Maybe you need to look at your units activities.

If we are going to attract younger members we need to give them what they want at rallies. They need to "want" to come to our rallies instead of "having" to come. Keep in mind; the younger members are the future of WBCCI.

P.S. Don't forget about co-rallies. Our Akron Unit just had a really nice rally with the Mohican Valley Unit. We had 16 trailers in the Hocking Hills area of Ohio. There is always a lot to do in that beautiful area of Ohio. In the Hocking Hills area of Ohio you will find Old Man's Cave, Hocking Scenic Railroad, hiking, canoeing and a really nice State lodge.

Gary Auman, Region 4 Membership Chairman

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Other information from International:

- Harold Kingdon is the new International Rally Chaplin.
- WBCCI will be advertising in the Airstream Life Magazine.
- The 2009 Madison Rally activities are now on the WBCCI website.

Cleveland / Akron Unit's Falls & Wine Rally Report:

We had a great turnout for the Falls & Wine Buddy Rally. It was co-hosted by Tom & Paula Christopher and Tom & Suzee Losasso. We had a private tour of the Inniskillin Winery, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada. They are famous for their ice wines. We also had a private tour of Fort Niagara. There was lots of good food, movies and a camp fire each night.



Michigan State Rally:

Sandy and I attended the Michigan State Rally hosted by Maury & Joan Runyan and Bernie & Lena Los. The rally was a joint effort of the Metro Detroit, Michigan, and the Mid-East Michigan units. The food and tours were great. Ken Faber had 3 vintage trailers at the rally each towed by a vintage automobile or vintage truck.

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First Vice President's Message

Hi Everyone. It's been a great summer so far. We enjoyed the sights and silence of Bozeman. It was a nice rally and beautiful scenery. We arrived back home the first week of July, just in time for a family reunion in Tiffin, Ohio. We are at home now and getting ready for our fall travels. We did take time to go to North Western Ohio to check out a future rally site, and while there we were lucky enough to be able to attend an Auglaize of Ohio Unit Rally. What a great time! Thanks go out to President Margaret Risser and all the other members of the unit for showing us such a good time. We go back in November to do their installation and we are really looking forward to it. Our next stop will be the Installation Rally for the Cincinnati Ohio Unit (Our home Unit). After that it's off to Fremont, Ohio for the P&S Rally and then on to the Swiss Festival Rally. Can't wait to get back to that Amish food, and some great tours. Speaking of great rally and great food. Wasn't the Region 4 Rally in Canfield great? This past spring Karen and I went to next year's site in West Virginia with JJ and Sandy. Jim and Loretta Moss also met us there. We saw the rally site and sampled some of the food. Great facilities and food. I'm not sure they will be able to top the entertainment they had in Canfield, but I bet JJ gives it his best shot. Karen and I are looking forward to it and hope to see you all there.

I guess that is more than enough for now. Safe travels and hopefully we will see you all down the road.

John Turner, Region 4 First Vice President

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Mahoning Valley Ohio Unit Rally



We joined the Mahoning Valley Ohio Unit Rally at Mallards Landing hosted by Dave and Nancy Brett. The highlight of the day on Friday was the trip to the John Vanderstappen Gallery in Jamestown, PA. John is the proprietor of the gallery and woodcarver. He came to the United States from Holland during WWII and had an unending collection of stories and kept us laughing throughout his presentation.

Our busy schedule has slowed for a couple weeks and will start again with our own units R & R Rally at Findley State Park and then caravanning to the Ruth Boys 40th Anniversary Rally. From there we will go on to the Swiss Festival Rally in Sugarcreek which was a sellout last year with 258 trailers attending. Get you reservations in if you are planning on attending this great rally.

Update of Unit Directories

We are in need of new 2008 unit directories with names, addresses, phone numbers, etc. so we can update the Region files. Please send to JJ at 6193 Althom Rd., Tidioute, Pa. 16351. Also, John Turner and Karin Kurkowski would appreciate an updated copy of your directory. Thanks for your help.

Closing Thoughts

The backbone of our club is our unit functions.

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Unit Officer Installation

This is the time of year that we say farewell to our outgoing Unit Officers and welcome the Incoming Officers who will be taking over.

The following items are the responsibility of the Installing Officer to bring to the installation:

- ✓ Incoming President's International Rally Bolo, Decal and Patch
- ✓ The first Lady's Rally Pin
- ✓ Past President's Pin and Decal
- ✓ Past First Lady's Pin
- ✓ Check for \$30.00 to help offset the cost of sending the unit newsletters to the Region and International Officers

The Unit will need to provide the following:

- ✓ Badges, Flags and Blue Books for the newly elected Officers
- ✓ Past President's Flag
- ✓ Past President's Badge
- ✓ Past First Lady's Badge

Strategic Plan for Region 4

Mission Statement

The mission of Region 4 is to attract and maintain new members within the Region so the membership will grow by 5% over the next 3 years. Conduct Region Rallies that are fun for attendees of all ages, providing a friendly atmosphere for all members who come from various backgrounds and social levels, while maintaining a balanced budget. It will be the goal of the Region to be able to grow our Club by being willing to accept change in our organization so that we will meet the changing needs of the younger members and their families while respecting the traditions and values of the older members that have built and maintained our club over the years.

We will accomplish our mission by implementing the following:

- Region President will work closely with Region Membership Chairman to develop Training Programs/

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The fun and fellowship starts in our home units. We need to continue to work on making our local club a cohesive unit and continue to look for more ways to provide fun things for all ages.

One of our Region 4 Goals this year is to grow our membership by 5%. In order to accomplish this we will need to recruit new members, and keep them! This is something that we have not been very good at in past years. In order to accomplish this goal we will need to make our new members feel that they are welcome to become a part of our club on their very first visit.

The local unit is like a family and the unit leaders set the tone for the family. Peoples first impression of our club is an important and lasting one, so let's be sure to include new members in all activities. This means thinking about the little things, like making sure they have a ride with an active, friendly member to the local restaurant, or a seat at a luncheon or dinner with our regular members and not off by themselves.

We need to "Remember the Golden Rule" and treat others as we would like to have been treated on our first visit to the Unit dinner, rally, or meeting. Your Unit, Region 4, and our International need your support.

I hope all of you will make an effort to attend as many Unit functions as possible this year.

Please make plans now to come to Lewisburg, West Virginia for our 33rd Annual Region 4 Rally, May 20th thru May 24th and plan to attend our 52nd International Convention/Rally, June 28th thru July 4, 2009 in Madison, Wisconsin.

WBCCI NEEDS YOU NOW!

Bill (JJ) & Sandy Johnjulia
Region 4 President

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Seminars for Unit Membership Chairman and interested members at the Region Rally each year.

- Develop a plan to contact every Member at Large (MAL) in our Region to attempt to bring them into a unit that matches their recreational needs.
- Develop a continuing education program for Unit Membership Chairman.
- Assist Unit Membership Chairman in developing their Membership goals and retention of member goals.
- Communicate information from our International to members through our Region and Unit Newsletters on a timely basis.
- Promote our Region by using the Media Kit for our Region Rallies and Unit functions through the local newspapers and television media.
- Promote the use of our Region and Unit Websites to communicate with members within the Region.

It will be the Responsibility of the Region Officers to review the Strategic Plan and communicate the plan to the Unit Officers and Members.

North to Alaska

Region 4 members Bill & Joyce Grawe and Rick & Elaine Richardson are on the Alaska Tour this year and Elaine has been posting pictures and comments on the internet: <http://supertent.blogspot.com/> Here are two recent photos from her posting.



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2009 International Rally

WBCCI's 52nd International Rally, Madison, Wisconsin-June 28-July 4, 2009

Preparation for the 2009 International Rally is underway and information on Madison and the rally is now available at the WBCCI website. Here is a sample from the rally booklet posted on the website.

As Mayor of the City of Madison, I take great pleasure in welcoming the Wally Byam Caravan Club International Airstreamers to our great city. We are honored to have the opportunity to host your 52nd WBCCI Annual Rally in 2009. Madison's energetic downtown, cultural attractions and endless recreational opportunities offer the perfect compliment to your event. From the distinguished University of Wisconsin-Madison to Olbrich Botanical Gardens and the year-round, admission free Henry Vilas Zoo, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Like all of our visitors, I know your group will enjoy a truly authentic experience here in Madison. On behalf of all Madison residents, businesses, and organizations, please accept my warm welcome and invitation to experience all the possibilities available in greater Madison.

Sincerely,
David J. Cieslewicz
Mayor

In addition to information about Madison there is also a welcome message from Jerry Larson, an outline of the scheduled events, tour details, and particulars on the rally such as tram schedules, generator procedures, and such. You can also find the registration coupon on the website: <http://www.wbcc.org>

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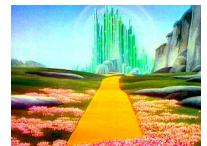
Our Favorite Rally

Every Unit has a rally they remember for years and tell stories about. Let's trade those stories – maybe you will get an idea for your next rally from the successes of a past rally. E-mail your favorite rally to Region4@wbcci.net Here are a couple to get us started.



Bob Graham of the Appalachian Unit of West Virginia highly recommends rallies in the Lancaster County, PA area. Their unit caravanned to Strasburg this year, taking two days to travel there. While in Strasburg they stayed at the White Oak Campground. They were able to attend two plays at the Millenium Theatre and the Living Waters Theatre. Bob also said the area has many attractions such as the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, The Strasburg Railroad, and the Choo Choo Barn. (Can you tell Bob is a railroad guy?) If railroads aren't your interest, there is also America's oldest Farm Market or the many Amish attractions.

Vern Ketchum from Akron and Shirley Kitelinger from Mahoning Valley both mentioned they really enjoyed their unit's Mystery Rallies. Shirley described their rally:



“it was a mystery rally hosted by Ada & Jim Harris and Tom & Nancy Lawrence. The president that year was none other than Bill Kitelinger. We met at the turnpike rest area and we

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2009 Region 4 Rally

Region 4's 33rd Annual Region Rally, May 20 – 24, 2009, Lewisburg, West Virginia.

Set amid the Allegheny Mountains, in an area rich in history and natural beauty, Lewisburg beckons to the traveler seeking something other than patented tourist attractions. We are the 221-year-old town with many 18th and 19th-century buildings, where the steeple clock still tolls the hour and the church bells ring out on Sunday mornings. Old structures, converted to new purposes, are still in use, and antebellum homes (often remaining in the same families for generations) are still occupied. There is a comfortable relationship between past and present, and the town has followed a pattern of natural continuity and vitality rather than one of contrived restoration.

The rally will be held at the West Virginia State Fairgrounds in Lewisburg. A registration form for the rally is attached at the back of this newsletter.

Congratulations

Janet Kendig has volunteered to be the International Standing Chairman for Community Service. Janet assumed her new duties at the 2008 International Rally in Bozeman. Among her responsibilities will be the food drive, blood drive, and tab collection at International Rallies. Hmm, you might say Janet has put on a new hat!



The International Board of Trustees (IBT) at

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were given instructions to follow the Yellow brick road that finally lead us to the Cuyahoga County Fairground. We toured the (NASA) National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The next day we toured downtown Cleveland and Playhouse square. I have always wanted to see The Palace, State, Ohio and Allen theaters. All were so beautiful. Then to Jacobs field. We got to see the Kansas City Royals practicing, set in the dug out, press box, and Loges. It was such a nice rally, had good food and lots of fun. We also rode the trolley around Cleveland, took a boat ride up the river and around the inter water way. They were just building the Browns stadium. These are things we always wanted to do just never took the time to do them. It truly was a great rally.”

Vern also mentioned what he thinks it takes to host a great rally: “The Akron Unit has had somewhat of a flair for planning interesting travel rallies over the last 10 years or so. We have found that our members want to travel and see different things that are some distance away from our Akron/Canton home area. Our club has traveled as far away as Beckley, West Virginia; Ligonier, PA; and Lexington, Kentucky. Several of our rallies have been mystery rallies where our membership had no idea where we were going to end up. Our most successful rallies, whether mystery or not, attract anywhere from 15 to 24 units.

These successful rallies do not just happen. The chairpersons will spend many hours and travel distances to plan a rally. Such things as selecting camping facilities, planning activities (including site seeing, plant tours, and commercial attractions) require a great effort. Some of our visitors from neighboring units that have shared in some of our exciting rallies have asked how we pull these things off. Believe me it takes dedicated members who like to build quality-packed rallies while still enjoying fun and fellowship. You may have met some of our outstanding rally leaders such as Jack Rood, George Ebel, Ron Swan, Tom Losasso, Jim McAdams, Vern Ketchum, Jack Ketterer, Charles Mears, and

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our International in Bozeman, approved a motion to give out 800 Numbers to National Caravan Leaders that have led 5 or more National Caravans. The first 800 number was given to Al & Gracie Buchanan from our Cleveland, Ohio Unit in Region 4. Al and Gracie have led the most WBCCI National Caravans Continuously, since 1990.

We are proud to have Al & Gracie as members of our Region.

Unit Websites

Region 4 just completed their Region Award application. One of the items we can receive points for is units in the region that have unit websites. Region 4 needs to increase the number of units that have websites. WBCCI has made available to every unit the ability to create a website for free. This is a real benefit for the units as the going rate to host a website starts about \$5 - \$10 per month and goes up as you add features to the site. The work in maintaining a website is comparable to publishing your unit newsletter. If you would like to give it a try email us at region4@wbcci.net and we will get you the details and connect you with someone that has already done it to help you get started.



A rainy day In the Bullpen at Bozeman



Parked at Bozeman

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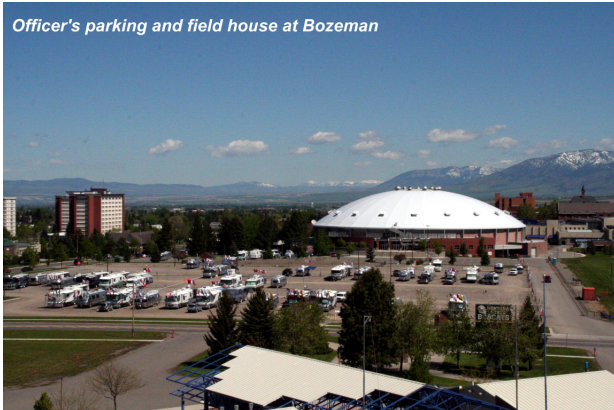
others I have probably forgotten to mention.”

Nancy Findling of the Mohican Valley Ohio Unit really enjoyed a rally held at members Ronald & Audrey Ault’s home in Gallion, Ohio. During this rally they made home made ice cream by rolling canisters on the picnic tables! (They just got my attention – ed) Ralph & Fran Schaber brought the Bean Bag Baseball and the unit divided up the guys (walloping walleyes) against the girls (perky perch). You’ll have to ask them who won? During the rally the unit celebrated the 50th anniversary of Ray & Marty Weithman (probably why they were making the ice cream). Congratulations Ray & Marty.



Janet Kendig of the Cincinnati Unit attends the International every year and remembered some of the highlights “As to favorite Internationals, I guess they were all special. At Notre Dame several years ago, I climbed to the top of the stadium simply because I’m a Notre Dame fan. In Lansing we were standing outside their baseball teams field and discovered that they play the Dayton Dragons. In Missouri there was a tornado scare (I sure remember that one) In Canada the people were forever stopping us on the street and apologizing for the rainy weather. Going to Boise, at the campground in Wyoming the wind was so strong it jerked money out of our hands when trying to pay. And the parades that Boise put on were super. So you see there is something to remember about all of them. I keep albums and it is fun to sit look back and remember.”

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We would really like to hear about your unit's activities – how about some news from the great state of Michigan? Email your story to region4@wbcci.net

Upcoming Events in Region 4

Sept 11-14 - P & S Trailer Sales 40th Anniversary Rally, Fremont, OH. For more information Contact Steve or Kevin Ruth at 419-638-6261

Sept 20-27 - Swiss Festival National Rally, Sugar creek, OH

Region 4 Goals

For 2009 our Region Goals are:

- Request all unit Presidents to update their unit by-laws and constitution as outlined in the Blue Book.
- Appoint a Webmaster for Region 4 website, and have it updated at least quarterly if not sooner.
- Upgrade the Region 4 Newsletter to color and e-mail as many copies as possible, to avoid the cost of mailing same.
- Encourage unit Presidents to participate in the Merit Award Program.
- Invite all members of Region 4 to attend the leadership training class held at the Region 4 Rally.
- To grow our total region membership by 5% this year.
- Encourage Unit Presidents to attend the Region 4 Rally in Lewisburg West Virginia in 2009.
- To develop more joint unit rallies to promote familiarity among the units that may be forced to merge in the future due to declining membership.
- To provide a positive experience for all members attending our Unit and Region Rallies.



33rd Annual Region 4 Rally

May 20 - 24, 2009

Lewisburg, West Virginia

Parking for early workers, officers, and anyone who likes to come early at no extra charge on Monday May 18th, after 12:00 noon. Leadership Training May 19th,

Water & Electric	Dump Site	Flea Market
Breakfasts	Tours	Golf
Line Dancing	2 Dinners	Crafts
Seminars	Popcorn	Hobby Show
Hospitality	Ice Cream	Games
Entertainment		Sunday Worship

Name:		Spouse:	
Address:		City:	State:
Zip Code:		Phone:	# in Party:
Membership #:		Unit:	Unit No:
Vintage Parking	Handicapped Parking	Email:	

Rally Fees:	(Before April 1, 2009)	(April 1, 2009 and After)
2 Persons	\$175.00	\$185.00
1 Person	\$135.00	\$145.00
Extra Adult	\$35.00	\$40.00
No Charge Under 5		Total:

Please check date you plan to arrive: **Mon., May 18 Tues., May 19 Wed., May 20 or later**
 (If coming in Friday or later, please check with Bill (JJ) Johnjulio for pro-rated fee.)
Parking Mon after 12pm and until 5, Tues. 8-5, Wed and Thu. 10-12 and 3-5

Information: Bill (JJ) & Sandy Johnjulio
April to Jan: 814-484-7221
Jan-Apr Cell: 216-533-1752
Email: flintlocksbyjj@aol.com

Make check payable to: Region 4 WBCCI
Mail to: Maury Runyan, Treasurer Region 4
1469 Trackwood Drive
Lapeer, MI 48446