





April 2010

http://Region4.wbcci.net

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Region 4 Officers

President John Turner <u>irturner@prodigy.net</u> 586-739-0225

1st V President Karin Kurkowski <u>klkurkowski@wmconnect.com</u> 248-649-5355

2nd V President Marjorie Lotz <u>mlotz@ymail.com</u> 248-649-5355

Corresponding and Janet Kendig Recording Secretary jkendighatlady@cs.com 937-878-1988

Treasurer Maurice Runyan Runyanmj3161@yahoo.com 810-245-0914



Caravan Norm Hewer <u>Nmh133@aol.com</u> 586-781-9419

Membership Gary Auman jauman2346@aol.com 330-882-6340

Parliamentarian Glenn Patsch 330-721-9817

Photographer Bill Grawe wgrawesr@hotmail.com 513-825-3057

Contributing Editor Nancy Brett 330-757-8751 nmbrett@ampteks.net

Webmaster & Newsletter Dave Brett <u>dbrett@ampteks.net</u> 330-757-8751

Youth Sonny & Mary Lou Thompson wbcci26632@sbcqlobal.net 937-879-9743



President's Corner

Hello from Region 4

I hope everyone arrived home safe and sound. We also hope that you had a good time at the rally. I know we enjoyed having you attend.

They were not kidding about the swamp. Maury Runyan and I had a lake in front of our trailers. Mine a small lake, his was the size of lake Michigan, but we built him a bridge and he was able to get out of his trailer. Now I know why his cat would not go home.

There are a lot of negative comments going around about the operation of the WBCCI. I hope all of you take a look at both sides of the argument. I for one do not spend a lot of time on the forums. We have some major problems in the world and between you and me what some anonymous writer thinks about the WBCCI is not one of them.

I hope by now you have heard that next years rally will be in Van Wert, Ohio. We don't have all of our plans made yet, but once we do we'll pass them on.

We are looking forward to seeing a lot of you in Gillette. Drive Safe

John



Photos from Region Rally Courtesy of Bill Grawe

Membership

Well the Region Rally in Wauseon, Ohio is now history. Hope you enjoyed it as much as I did seeing old friends and making some new ones. Hope you didn't get too wet or cold. I want to say, "thank you" to all the folks that came to the Membership Seminar. There are two things I would really like to see you do in your respective units. Organize a membership committee and call those inactive members you have not seen at a rally lately. Let's make your unit an enthusiastic unit. But, remember membership is important but our number one goal is to have fun, fellowship and adventure in your units.



Photo from Region Rally Courtesy of Bill Grawe

I have wanted to talk about the different kinds of memberships. I hope I can make this simple.

Regular members: An adult that owns a hard sided recreation vehicle manufactured by Airstream. A regular member that sells their trailer can still pay their international dues, unit dues and have all the privileges of the club. These members can own another type of recreational trailer but it must be parked in a permanent or semi-permanent location used as a vacation facility or as a home.

Members at Large: These members shall possess all the privileges of the club, except the right to vote, or hold office in an Intra Club, a Unit, and a Region or in the International club. Payment of the annual International dues and the surcharge is prerequisite to retaining membership as a Member at Large. A Member at large cannot be an affiliate of a unit.

Affiliate Members: A regular member in good standing in one Unit and who applies and is accepted as a member by another Unit and such member pay dues to said unit. These members shall possess all the rights of privileges of a regular member of that unit except:

- **1.** The right to hold office in the unit.
- 2. The right to vote in the selection or election of unit, region, or international officers.
- 3. The right to vote on any amendment to the international or unit constitution and
- 4. The right to vote on the dissolution of the unit, consolidation of the unit with another unit, or the merger of the unit with another unit. An affiliate member can represent the unit at the delegates meeting at the International rally as long as they are from the same club Region.

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Lifetime Member: A regular member or a member at large who has purchased a lifetime membership by paying the established one-time fee for lifetime International dues.

Former Members: Former members, no longer living the RV lifestyle, may subscribe to the unit newsletter but shall not be considered WBCCI members and shall not be listed among other members in the unit directory. Former members may be listed in a separate section of the unit directory dedicated to "former members".

Did you ever think there were that many types of memberships? It can become very confusing at times. It's important to realize that we do have different types of memberships, and even different types of people in each group. The main thing to remember is just be kind and courteous to each type and make sure they are welcomed in your unit. We are all here for one purpose to have fellowship and a good time with our Airstream product whether it's a trailer or a motor home. Have a good summer and enjoy all your unit's activities. Please keep in mind, the more you get involved in your unit the more fun you will have.

Gary Auman Region 4 Membership Chairman



Photos from Region Rally Courtesy of Bill Grawe

25 Ideas for Promoting Membership

During the 2010 Region 4 Rally, Membership Chairman Gary Auman discussed the following ideas your unit can use to promote membership.

- 1. Each unit should have a membership chairman. Don't make a Vice President the chairman.
- 2. Develop a membership committee, meet and discuss how to increase membership.
- 3. Encourage the unit officers to attend training secessions presented at the Regional rally as well as the International rally.
- 4. The membership chairman should have e-mail. Report the name and e-mail address of this chairman to the Region President.
- 5. Work with the Members at Large within the unit's area to become members of the unit.
- 6. Develop a mentoring program. Make sure new members are not left alone at rallies. Make contact with the new members and make arrangements to travel with them to the rallies or luncheons.
- 7. The units need to get familiar with the new members and get them more involved in the unit. (small jobs at rallies).
- 8. Develop a good yearly program for the unit. The unit should have six luncheons and at least five rallies each year. Remember we are a travel club.
- 9. Each unit should develop a letter about their unit that goes along with the membership packets to prospective members.
- 10. At the end of the year a card, or better yet, a telephone call to the members that did not renew their membership by November 1.
- 11. Units should advertise their rallies in local newspapers. Some local community newspapers are free.
- 12. Units should work and develop a good monthly newsletters for their members.
- 13. Units should develop caravans to the region and international rally for their members.
- 14. Units should develop good rallies by using the local Chamber of Commerce or Tourist Bureau where their rallies are conducted. Include different things in the rallies, such as; hiking, biking, children activities and Grandparent rallies. How about a theme rally?
- 15. WBCCI mails a letter introducing the club to new Airsteam owners. The unit membership chairman gets a copy of each of these letters. We should encourage the membership chairman or a member of the membership committee to make voice contact with these new Airsteam owners.
- 16. Units should consider up-dating their by-laws.
- 17. We should encourage joint rallies and luncheons.
- 18. When a member sells a trailer, have them get the name of the new owner and get that information to the membership chairman.
- 19. If a member from a unit relocates, make sure we pass their name to the President of the unit where they are relocating.
- 20. We need to encourage our members to accept change. Our club must change if it is going to survive.
- 21. Engage our vintage trailer owners to join a unit. If you see one setting in a driveway without red numbers contact that person and give them a membership packet.
- 22. Determine the name of the Region 4 Vintage Club membership chairman and work with that person to encourage vintage owners to attend rallies and the Region rally.
- 23. Encourage the unit members to preserve old traditions while appealing to new consumers preferences.
- 24. To develop pride in the unit, each unit should develop a logo, slogan, a campsite sign, and a website. These items should be used in advertising the unit and WBCCI.
- 25. Most of all have fun, travel, and see our great country.

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transponder from the Turnpike Commission. The Ohio Turpike rents them for \$0.75/month currently. West Virginia is \$5.00/year, and some states, such as Virginia, charge no rent. The transponder is mounted to your windshield with velcro. When you pull up to the gate, the system automatically counts the number of axles and determines your rate. EZPass users receive a discounted rate. For example, a truck or car

towing a two axle trailer is class 3 or 4 depending on the vehicle height. To travel from Youngstown, Ohio to Wauseon, Ohio as class 3 is normally \$24.74. With EZPass the toll is \$18.00. The toll is charged to your credit card and you can pull an online statement from the EZPass system to reconcile with your charge records.

EZPass is accepted in a number of states as shown on the map below. To get started with EZPass you complete an application on line. You can find the Ohio instructions here: <u>https://www.ezpassoh.com/CreateAccountHowTo.jsf</u> and the West Virginia instructions here: <u>http://www.transportation.wv.gov/turnpike/Pages/default.aspx</u>



2010 Community Service - Now is the Time!

International is upon us – here is a last reminder of the items we are looking for:

- The Women's Abuse Shelter needs soap, shampoo, deodorant, combs, etc. They have requested items be in travel size.
- Kids in Crisis House is looking for socks and pj's in small sizes. (For children up to 10 years of age)
- Yarn some will be used on site and some will be donated to local Churches.
- Bloodmobile. The Bloodmobile will be on site June 30th and July 1st. (You must bring a picture ID to donate)
- Books. Gently used books will be collected and donated to organizations in Gillette.
- Stuffed animals, knit hats, blankets, and scarves for the Cents for Kids.
- Food, old towels, and Clorox for the animal shelter.
- Canned goods for the food pantry.

For more information contact Janet Kendig, WBCCI Community Service.

From the WBCCI Forums

You've heard of Twitter but what's that got to do with Airstreams? Check out this post on the WBCCI Forum:



Fisher House

Sonny & Mary Lou Thompson sent these photos from the presentation of the Region 4 donation to Fisher House. Thanks to all who generously contributed.

Because members of the military and their families are stationed worldwide and must often travel great distances for specialized medical care, Fisher HouseTM Foundation donates "comfort homes," built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful times during the hospitalization for an unexpected illness, disease, or injury.

There is at least one Fisher HouseTM at every major military medical center to assist families in need and to ensure that they are provided with the comforts of home in a supportive environment. Annually, the Fisher HouseTM program serves more than 10,000 families, and have made available nearly three million days of lodging to family members since the program originated in 1990. (Excerpted from http://www.fisherhouse.org/aboutUs/aboutUs/



Coming up in Region 4 during 2010

July 27 - August 1, 2010 All Unit Michigan State Rally Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds Chairman; Bernie Los

The theme for the All Unit Michigan State Rally is **A Blast From The Past**



September 25 - October 2, 2009 Swiss Festival National Rally Sugarcreek, Ohio Chairperson: Carmel Porter

The Swiss Festival Rally folks have created a website with lots of info on the rally including pictures and a video describing the rally and the area. Please visit them: http://www.swissnationalrally.com/index.html





The Vintage Club at Wauseon

May 2010

Explore Discover

in Gillette, Wyoming



President's Monthly News

To be shared with WBCCI Members

Tom Collier, International President

As our year as International President comes to an end, we are becoming increasingly aware of the many misconceptions in the WBCCI. Inaccurate perceptions can be very destructive. The best way to dispel these misconceptions, which can cause much internal strife, is through better and more open communications. That has been one of the purposes of this monthly newsletter. I sincerely hope that each region president is sending this newsletter to each unit president and that the unit president is then making sure each member sees it. In our travels we have met people who did not know a monthly newsletter existed.

Internal strife can be caused by members holding grudges, hurt feelings, judgmental attitudes, the need to always be right, and by believing everything one hears without going to the source to check the facts. Open communication can help heal internal strife, as well as help to be attuned to the needs of each unit member.

There are eight aspects to building a successful unit, and following these steps will clear up most misconceptions. These steps are accepting responsibility, respecting each other, always being kind, working as a team, setting goals, always being honest, having patience, and working to build a community of Airstreamers. You are strongly encouraged to work toward eradicating the misconceptions concerning the WBCCI.

Recent Changes in WBCCI

The WBCCI is a constitutional organization, and only policies can be changed by executive decision. All other changes must be made by the IBT and/or the Delegates.

- A monthly newsletter has been written to more clearly communicate with our members.
- · The wearing of white tuxes is probably past
- "Gold" parking is gone
- In Gillette most attendees will be parked in Boxelder. Each site is on a row and has a number. These are already in place.
- The International President's Reception and Dinner is a Dutch treat affair.
- The Unit Presidents' Appreciation Dinner is dressy casual. Only unit presidents, and region and international officers have been invited.
- The current International Officers all are talking about being more informal at future International Rallies.
- We are experimenting in Gillette with a way to shorten the Opening Ceremonies.
- The night of Installation there will be no outside entertainment, thus shortening the evening.
- Long dresses will not be worn at Installation. Men will wear dark suits.

For the WBCCI to grow, we must change. Will you be a part of the change process or someone who sits back and just talks about the need for change?

Meals at International

Over 55 meals have been scheduled before and during the International Rally. This number does not include any meals planned by individual units. All of the meals are Dutch Treat, with the exception of the Unit Presidents' Appreciation Dinner and the Committee Chairmen's Appreciation Dinner.

Constitutional and Bylaw Changes

Nothing in the WBCCI is written in stone. The constitution and Bylaws can be changed following the guideline set forth in the constitution. The constitution can be changed by a 2/3 majority vote of the members, through their delegates at the Delegates Meeting on June 30th. Bylaws can be changed by a majority of the IBT.

Unit Activities

Are you using the Media Kit to advertise your unit meetings and projects? Please remember that a project worth doing is a project worth publicizing. Take pictures and send them to the home towns of each member involved in the project and to the newspaper in the town where the project was held.

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"There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer" Lt. Col. James Doolittle, April, 18, 1942

2010 In Gillette

Tour Update. Tours listed in the Pre-Rally booklet have been updated and the tour operators are taking reservations now. A note on the WBCCI website recommends you discard the booklet and check the website for the latest details on the tours. Tours listed include:

- Little Bighorn Battlefield
- Durham Bison Ranch
- Devils Tour and the Vore Buffalo Jump
- Deadman's Poker Hand, Deadwood
- Presidents and Indians (Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Monument, Vore Buffalo Jump)
- Indians & Soldiers

Dates, times, and fees are listed.



Gillette, Wyoming June 27 - July 4, 2010

Where can you find more vital information about the International Rally? <u>http://www.wbcci.org</u> Follow the link for Intl Rally at the top of the page.





WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB INTERNATIONAL, INC. 53RD INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION/RALLY JUNE 27 - JULY 4, 2010 • GILLETTE, WYOMING REGISTRATION

Convention/Rally Fees for registrations received prior to January 1, 2010, will be \$480 for couples, \$380 for singles, and \$120 for each additional adult. Convention/Rally fees for the first 1000 to register include 30 amp electricity, water, and sewer (<u>No 3 amp electricity or generator section available</u>).

Rally Fees received after January 1, 2010, will be \$500.00 for couples, \$390 for singles, and \$130 for additional adults.

Through the courtesy of Airstream, Inc., all members pre-registering on or before January 1, 2010, will be eligible to participate in a drawing for **up to** a total of **\$2,000.00** in awards. The award may be redeemed at *any Airstream Dealership* or at the *Jackson Center Service Facility* for parts and service.

Free parking in the Bull Pen, <u>with no services</u>, is permitted only for the one night before your parking date. Additional nights in Bull Pen parking prior to your parking date will be at the rate of \$20.00/night, <u>with no hook-ups</u>.

FEE REFUND POLICY All convention/rally fee refund requests must be postmarked by <u>May 15, 2010</u>, and <u>must</u> include the complete pass receipt. All cancellations will be assessed a \$30.00 administrative fee. There will be no refunds if postmarked after May 15 except as approved by the International Rally Committee.

Convention/Rally Parking Pass Receipts will be mailed beginning <u>January 15, 2010.</u> Make checks payable to: WBCCI Mail to: WBCCI, P.O. Box 612, Jackson Center, OH 45334 Canadian Checks must be stamped "US Funds" 53rd International Conve Gillette, Wyoming June 27 - July 4, 201				Por registrars only: Amt: Check # Date: Recd. by: ention/Rally 3		
LAST NAME		FIRST		WBCCI #	-	
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