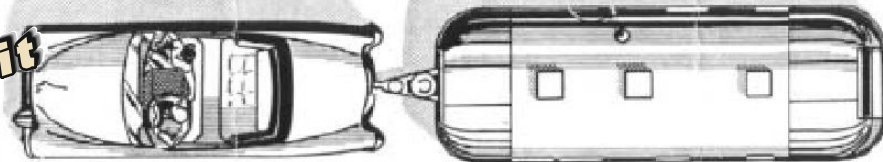


BADGER BULLETIN



February, 2010

THE PREZ SEZ. . .



While we are still in the midst of winter here in Wisconsin on Valentine's Day, it is only sixty-eight days to our Wisconsin Dells campout in April. And before that, we have the March 27th luncheon at Benvenuto's Italian Grill in Fitchburg (Madison) hosted by Patti and Dennis Thayer (see the flier on page 7 for details).

This week I will be speaking at the Waukesha Kiwanis Club luncheon, spreading the WBCCI-Airstream lifestyle message. I want to thank member Lee Brisk for the speaking invitation. I would also like to extend the offer of promoting our Club to other community groups. If you know of any group who would be interested, please let me know.

The 2010 Wisconsin Directory will be out shortly. This year it will also be available to members in electronic form. If you would like a pdf copy emailed to you, please email a request to me at bob.manak@wbcci.net. This file will not be posted on the website.

Bob Manak



The Wisconsin Unit What's New

In this issue

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Invitation



Welcome, New Members (and condolences. . .)

This month we welcome the following new members to the Wisconsin Unit.

Ken and Georgellen Mikkelson
6 Maple Run Court
Madison WI 53719
608-273-3207 home
608-445-0854 cell
kgmikkelson@tds.net

This month brings a very unusual new member introduction. .

Ken and Georgellen Mikkelson purchased their Airstream, a 1986 25 foot Sovereign, and immediately joined the Wisconsin Unit. For the time being they left their trailer in the previous owner's storage building in Illinois (alongside his new Airstream). Shortly afterwards the building burned, resulting in the total loss of both the Mikkelson's Airstream and the previous owners new one.

Wisconsin Unit Treasurer Sandy Emerick offered the Mikkelsons a refund of their dues, but they wanted to remain members, although temporarily Airstream-less. Now those are *Airstreamers*!

So, welcome the Mikkelsons to the Wisconsin Unit when you see them—they plan to be at the February luncheon—and if you know of any Airstreams in the 22-25 foot size range for sale, please let them know!

Sandy (who among her many duties keeps track of the membership) also wishes to note an error in the listing for Danny and Janice Schroeder in our club directory. The Schroeders offer courtesy parking, but this was not indicated in the directory.

So if you plan to head to Illinois and are looking for a spot to spend a night, the Schroeders in Woodstock will welcome you to stay in their new courtesy parking facility! Their number is 815-338-1048 or (cell) 815-236-2909.

For Sale 1999 27ft Airstream Safari, road side queen bed model.

Additional equipment: 360 watt solar system with 2000 watt inverter/100amp charger & 4 golf cart batteries, Spare tire & underside carrier, Hensley Arrow Hitch, 3 fantastic fans.

Shell is in excellent condition.

Asking \$20,000.00

Bob Wiltrout

Phone: 715-532-6692

Email: green.bananas@yahoo.com

Obituary

Ethel M. Glaser

Ethel Glaser, 86, of Hemet, California, formerly of Appleton, passed away on Tuesday, January 5, 2010, in Hemet. She was born on March 18, 1923, in Milwaukee, the daughter of the late Herman and Gertrude (Caliebe) Hameister. On March 23, 1945, she married Dwain "Doc" Glaser.

Ethel was an associate member of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Greenville. She was a member of the Spirit of Joy Community Church, Hemet, California, and the Red Hat Society. Dwain and Ethel enjoyed traveling and were members of the Airstream travel trailer club. She looked forward to her time with family and friends in rubber stamping and card making. Ethel loved having breakfast with Rob and her trips to Starbucks.

Ethel is survived by her children: June (Rob) deVos, Hemet, California; Dan (Ruth) Glaser, Fremont; Julie (partner Bruce Riehl) Huelsbeck, Hortonville, and Paul (Penny) Glaser, Robert, Louisiana; special granddaughter: Claire Huelsbeck; sister, Lois Hameister, Appleton; brother-in-law, David Plank, Appleton; nephew, Tom (Mary) Plank, Appleton; and niece, Amy (Dr. Don) Schneekloth, Neenah.

She was preceded in death by her husband Doc, brother William Hameister and sister Carol Plank.

Inurnment at Riverside Cemetery, Appleton.

The Badger Bulletin

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Resident Philosopher: Cynthia Schmidt
cynthia.schmidt@yahoo.com

Original Cyn

by Cynthia Schmidt

Change



So, my husband Fred tells me, “Cyn, you need to start practicing doing things with your left hand.”

Growing up on a dairy farm in Turtle Lake, Wisconsin was probably the start of things. Carrying stainless steel buckets

brimming with warm milk from cow to cans, and the activity of stacking and throwing countless bales of hay and straw built strong muscles. Not to mention chores, hoeing rows of vegetables in the garden, and flying through the air like a trapeze artist on a homemade rope swing in the hay mow! Eventually, learning how to sail as an adult; running the lines and other physical necessities of that sport have finally taken their toll. The dreaded rotator cuff repair!

Having nursed Fred through shoulder replacement surgery, yours truly has some idea of what lies ahead. But, this missive is not about me. Rather, it is about learning to make changes, whether we like it or not.

One of the joys of us having the big rig to pull the Airstream is getting to drive it once in a while. A standard transmission is sort of fun (kinda reminds me of learning to drive on the John Deere)! But, there is no left-handed shifting choice. Change. Darn.

What happens to us when our comfort level is challenged by a change in the rules, procedures, our abilities or ideas? At first, there’s a “shifting in our chair mentality”, akin to a 7-year old waiting to have that first cavity filled by the dentist. Then, if we are lucky, a person can realize early on that change is inevitable. Once that occurs, acceptance arrives and that uncomfortable feeling morphs into a new attitude. The joyful part of change happens after you take the new idea out for a spin and it feels great!

Maybe we cannot change the outcome of a certain incident. We can try and change another person’s opinion on an issue by debating or asking them to hear “my side.” Then, there’s the all time favorite: persuasion.

Changing your attitude depends on practice. Practice becomes habit. Habit becomes strength, and voila! You are there.

What I know for sure is that a person can change two things: Attitude, and a baby’s diaper!

I’m just saying... after all is done with this shoulder thing, I just might end up being a south paw!

Member Opinion

Ed and Sandy Emerick, WBCCI # 4425

Dear Fellow WBCCI Members,

After this year’s Mid Winter International Board of Trustees (IBT) meeting, I am as distressed over the future of the club as I was before. I feel that the actions of your IBT have not helped the financial status of the club, but actually hurt it. The club’s profit and loss statement for last year showed a \$44,201.81 loss, and that does not include the \$100,000 plus loss resulting from the 2009 International Rally. This year’s budget, approved by the IBT in July of 2009, included an \$81,000 deficit.

At this year’s Mid Winter IBT meeting, they cut the **fixed** travel expenses of the IBT and Regional officers by about \$9,800, or around 25%, still leaving the club far short of a balanced budget. (This reduction does not affect their travel expenses to and from IBT meetings and International pre-rally travel.) The IBT’s only other attempts to make up the budget deficit were to, one, award a budget *increase* of over \$15,000 to market the club, gambling on an unknown return, and two, pass a motion to increase *your* dues by \$10 a year. The IBT feels that these actions are justified and will balance the budget!

Since this is a “done deal”, I am asking for your help in requesting your leadership to reduce their travel costs billed to the WBCCI. Until it proven that the budget is balanced I am asking the IBT and all Region Officers to not travel at the club’s expense. If this group feels they must travel, that they not ask for reimbursement and instead search for more economical ways to communicate such as web casts, forums, teleconferences or virtual meetings.

As a club, we must cut all costs and this includes the standard of travel accepted and expected by our officers. Last year your club reimbursed the leadership over \$131,000 for their travel!

So with the above stated, I am asking our club’s leadership: Do not ask for travel reimbursement, travel only when necessary and always be mindful of the impact you have on the club’s P&L when you travel on club business. I am also challenging you (IBT Leaders), that if you are unable or unwilling to travel on your own dime, to step aside and allow those that *are* willing to help the club recover take on those responsibilities.

WBCCI members; do you want to help? Are you willing to step in and not ask to be reimbursed to pursue your hobby? Are you willing to explore today’s technology to make our club a vibrant and solvent entity for years to come? If so step up and ask your leadership to cut costs, and ask for **no travel reimbursement!**

Easter in Door County!

April 2 – 4

Ed & Sandy Emerick

Time to mark your calendars for the first outing of the season!

Yes, Easter weekend is just around the corner and that means DOOR COUNTY! GREAT FOOD! THE GREAT OUTDOORS! GREAT PEOPLE! NO CROWDS!

We are heading north on Friday morning, April 2nd 2010, to Peninsula State Park, Tennison Bay camp area for a weekend of relaxation, shopping, eating and most of all, camaraderie! Pack your blankets, warm coats, and join us for the first camp-out of the new year! This weekend will be in our infamous "camp-out" style. Bring food if you want to cook, bring moolah if you want to eat out, bring snacks and drinks for happy hours. If the weather is good, we can head to Egg Harbor's grocery store and pick up provisions for a cook-out (they have the BEST STEAKS!). At least one breakfast out is a must! If you can head up to Door County earlier, great!

No reservations required. No set arrival or departure. Just a casual weekend with good friends.

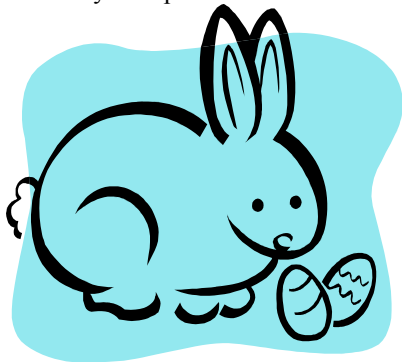
There will be water available in the park (Look for the Winter Water sign and bring your hose, or better yet, fill up at home. The water can be rusty.) The shower houses are still closed, but the out-house potties are open. Ed and I always fill our trailer with water for the weekend. We are shower freaks. Some people dry camp. The electricity is on, so bring a space heater if you like. However you choose to camp, fine! Just head north!

If you are the first one there, we usually park in the loop with # 416 to #425, but pick a spot with several sites that are dry, not snowed in.....!

If you have any questions, please give us a call at 920-954-1585 or (cell) 920-475-7893.

Email: redwagon@new.rr.com

I hope we'll see you "up" the road!



(Editorial note: I looked for clip art of an Easter Bunny with ear muffs, but to no avail.)

The Milos of Wisconsin

Milo (mī' lō) 1. A grain sorghum having white, yellow, or pinkish seeds, grown in the U.S, Asia, and Africa. 2. Either of two grandsons of members of the WBCCI Wisconsin Unit.

Cynthia Schmidt started something last month with her musings on the New Years Day arrival of their granddaughter Evelyn Marlene, with picture.

Audrey Sinner sent me photos of their grandson, Milo Sinner, casually mentioning that Dick and Kris Parins *also* had a grandson Milo.

When I contacted the Parins, Kris cheerfully replied with a picture of *their* Milo, saying "let me know if you'd like ten thousand more."

So, the Badger Bulletin proudly presents the Milos of the Wisconsin Unit:



Milo Sinner



Milo Gray

Congratulations, Gene, Audrey, Dick, and Kris on two energetic grandsons. In just a few years you can start picking out Airstreams for them!

And, . . . I think this makes the Wisconsin Unit. . . a *high-miloage* unit!

Streamin' on the Cheap – Part 2

Getting your Airstream

Dori Stowell, Vintage Contributor

<http://airstreammemories.blogspot.com>

Although it may seem that an Airstream is an expensive purchase, a persistent search for the “right one” can turn up an affordable option. I have heard of old Airstreams costing anywhere from FREE (I personally haven’t been that lucky) to no limits, but most are in the \$1000-\$8000 range. If you’ve checked out the RV market, you will know that this really is affordable.

Don’t look for the “perfect” vehicle, as they are only to be found on the showroom floor. (And I’ve heard enough horror stories about showroom Airstreams to believe that there really aren’t any perfect ones out there.) Look for the size and layout that makes the most sense to you. On our last purchase, the layout didn’t matter as much as finding a 26-28 footer that we could add bunks to sleep 6 people.



Think we need a new floor. . .

A floor replacement is common, but isn’t as bad as it seems. (OK – we are a year out of a floor replacement, and I might not have a very good perspective anymore!)



Old floor out. . .



. . . new floor in.

Even if you have to pay for some fixing by someone else, the life of an Airstream is so much longer than the life of Some Other Brands that it may pay off. Take a look at our yard – we have a 1953 Clipper that is all original, except the floor and wiring.

More free advice—along the road, you’ll see those over-the-top, tripped out Airstreams, and think that’s what you need to do to yours. But along with those few fabulous showstoppers are many more that are perfectly functional and carry the nostalgia of owning a piece of Americana. We all dream of the surround sound, flat-screen TVs and state-of-the-art refrigeration, but ultimately, it’s about the experience. You can always add extras as you go.

So—back to the floor replacement, We’ve done two, one with the shell off, and one sneaking the floor under the walls, and highly recommend the shell-off route. If you do it yourself, you are looking only at the cost of plywood, flooring and rivets (and a lot of time). If doing it yourself is not an option, you can have it done for around \$10,000, which includes painting the frame and the new floor, if you first gutted it yourself. (Price quote is from Frank Yensan of Frank’s Trailerworks - frankyensan@verizon.net) This could still be a potentially inexpensive option, if you got a good deal on the trailer in the first place. If the first floor lasted 40-50 years, a green-treated floor should last at least that long.



Clipper on the half shell.

Doing your own renovations is not without its frustrations or challenges, but it is certainly rewarding! One of the rewards in doing the renovation ourselves was the friends we gained because of it! The Airstream community has some wonderful resources if you just ask around. And we have gotten many rewards in encouraging and advising others—not to mention the pride in “showing off” what we’ve done.

All in all, if you’d love to own a Vintage Airstream on the cheap, set your money aside (cash speaks volumes when going to that farmer’s door to ask!), do your research, take lots of pictures, and ask for advice. Let people know what you are looking for—you will get more calls that you can consider.

Oh, and if you find that free one and you don’t take it yourself – let us know!

Steve and Lynne's Northwest Passage

Story and photos by Steve Piotrowski

Part 3, Hope BC

We are currently camped at the Othello Tunnels Campground and RV Park, right outside Hope, BC. The guy who engineered the tunnels for the trains to come through this area was a big fan of Shakespeare and named the stops along the route after various persons from his plays. Anyway, the tunnels are no longer in use, but it is a provincial park that has a hiking trail through them, and it is a beautiful and amazing feat of engineering especially for the early 1900's. The town of Hope is the chainsaw carving capitol of Canada (according to the signs outside of town), and it doesn't have much more to recommend it, at least from what we saw. The mountains, rivers and lakes around it are beautiful, but the town itself is rather depressing.



Canadian Pacific passenger train in Frazier Valley

The Banff area deserves all the accolades that have been placed upon it over the years. The mountains are beautiful, the people are really friendly (even service people in the restaurants and shops), and the city and area around are beautiful themselves.



Hoodoos in Banff National Park

It was one of the most amazing transformations I have ever seen, the mountains were mostly clear of snow and rather gray (beautiful but somewhat monochromatic), the weather starts to change, and at the level of the town it is misting, clouded over, and 50° F or so. A couple of hours later the sun peaks out, and most of the mountain tops are snow covered and very majestic. It looked much more like I expected it to. We walked around Lake Louise and up Johnston Canyon, and it was all beautiful. We spent five nights in Banff, and then headed down this way. We overnighted at a Provincial Park on Harold's Point by Salmon Arm (yeah, the town is named Salmon Arm), after driving through the Canadian Glacier, Yoho, and Revelstoke National Parks. The scenery was fantastic, the weather was just a little rainy, and so the clouds and mist covered the tops of the highest peaks and at times you were in a valley that was nothing but clouds and mountain sides and the highway in front of you. We stopped and saw the spiral tunnels on the Canadian railway that enter and exit on the same mountain above each other. As a person fascinated by railroads and especially the construction through the mountains, the sights were fantastic.



Entering a tunnel in Frazier Valley

We followed route 1 down the Frazier Valley from Kamloops to Hope. It was again an amazing place. It starts in almost desert, semi arid country looking like Texas mountains and within a couple of hundred miles turns into ancient rain forests. We spent the night in Sasquatch Provincial Park near Harrison Springs. It was a place you could imagine Sasquatch living. The trees were moss covered, the understory was eternally wet from all appearances. It was a little past our planned stop in Hope, but well worth the trip. It seems like every day we see something more amazing and beautiful than the day before. We are headed into Vancouver for a couple of days, then out to Vancouver island for a while. We are all doing well, and enjoying the trip. Ruby and Dazzle like the rain forest and want to go back, but we keep telling them there are other pretty places coming up.

(to be continued)

March 27, 2010 Luncheon

11:30 AM

Benvenuto's Italian Grill

2949 Triverton Pike Dr

Fitchburg, WI 53711

608 278-7800

<http://www.benvenutos.com/>

Join Hosts Patti and Dennis Thayer for our March Luncheon.

RSVP: by Monday March 22nd

To: Thayers at 608-274-7663 or vintagepatti@earthlink.net

Take the Madison South Beltline (from East):

Take exit 260A-260B for Fish Hatchery Rd - 0.2 mi

Keep left at the fork, follow signs for Fitchburg - 233 ft

Turn left at Fish Hatchery Rd then 1.9 mi

Pass McKee Road, then next street is Brendan (just past Walgreens store on right).

Turn right at Brendan Ave, Benvenuto's will be on the right

Hwy 12/14 East (Beltline) (from West);

Take Offramp 260-A (Fish Hatchery South);

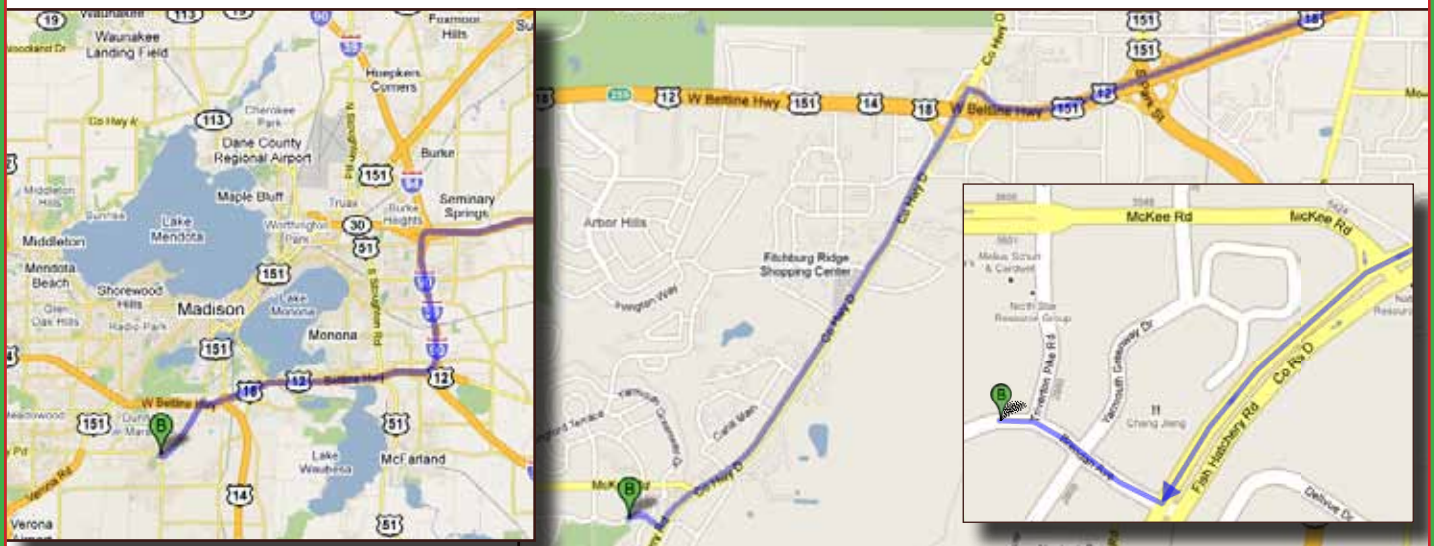
Turn right onto Fish Hatchery Road, at end of ramp;

Continue straight South on Fish Hatchery approximately 2 miles.

Pass McKee Road, then next street is Brendan (just past Walgreens store on right).

Turn right onto Brendan Street;

Benvenuto's can be seen straight ahead. Follow slight left curve, and Turn right into parking lot.



About Us

Our Menu

Locations

Benvenuto's
ITALIAN GRILL

Rewards

Gift Cards

Comments

come, eat and enjoy!

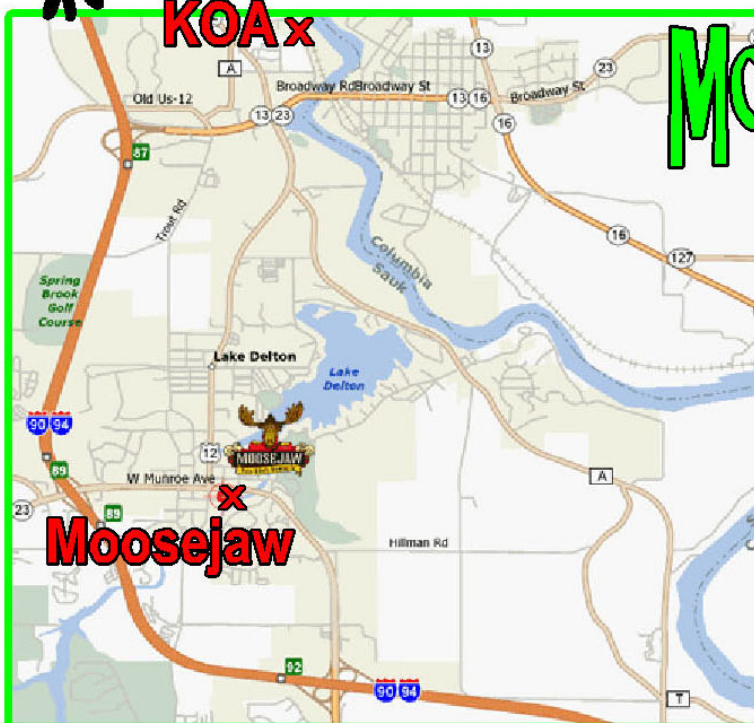
THINK SPRING!

Join your

Airstream friends at the Spring Luncheon and Campout in the FUN Capital of Wisconsin- Wisconsin Dells! You can join your hosts Mark and Ellen McGaughey for lunch at the Moosejaw Pizza & Dells Brew Company or join us for the whole weekend at the Dells KOA. The Dells offers activities for young and old- bring the kids and grandkids for a memorable time. If you're camping with us, you'll have time to explore, dine in or out and tell tales of your winter over the campfire. Bring something to share for a Sunday morning brunch. For more Dells information checkout: dells.com and for more about the Moosejaw look for: dellsmoosejaw.com!



Planning to come? Please call Mark or Ellen at (608) 254-7146 by Monday, April 19th!!



Moosejaw Luncheon:

**Sat. April 24, 2010
at 11:30 am
110 WI Dells Parkway South**

KOA Camp-Out:

**April 23 - 25, 2010
at the Dells KOA
Standrock Road**

For KOA reservations call: 1-800-254-4177. Mention that you are with the Airstream Club to get the \$25 per night rate which includes electricity and water. Visit the KOA website at: wisdellskoa.com for more information! Directions to the campground below.



• **From the East** just take Interstate 90/94 to Exit 87 for Wisconsin Dells to the third set of lights. Turn left on Stand Rock Road and drive 1/2 mile to your KOA headquarters.

• **From the West** take the Interstate 90/94 to Exit 85, turn left on Hwy 12, left on Hwys 23 & 13, then left on Stand Rock Road (before the bridge.) KOA is 1/2 mile on the right.

• GPS location is: Lat. 43.635956 by Long - 89.785472