

August, 2013

John Sellers, Editor sellersj@erinet.com

Reflections in Aluminum



*Don't go changing to try
and please me*
(Billy Joel)

A change is gonna come
(Sam Cooke)

Even in rock and roll there always seems to be a conflict between change and staying the same. That conflict is part of everyday life. I suppose that there

are people out there who are perfectly comfortable with change, or build a static unchanging world, but they are rare. Elsewhere in the newsletter, you will see an article regarding efforts to move our club forward. Many of the folks who have invested years of time and effort in the WBCCI are worried about the effort to change the way things are done.

When I hear "that's the way we've always done it!" I ask, could it have been done better? Is there a different way of doing it? Could we get more people involved if we did it some other way? What worked with the old way of doing it? If we keep asking questions, honest answers will improve what we do.

This year we have a new rally at Marquette and the turnout is almost half of all our members. We also have a first time rally at Snyder Park in Clark County and I hope we have a great turnout there. The long time rally at Elkhart Lake became a combined rally with the Northern Illinois Unit, and the turn out improved. Why, because we asked what else could we do, and what could we do differently.

The Wisconsin Unit of WBCCI is changing. The International is changing. We are changing every day. Embrace the changes and make them work well for all of us. Talk to those who volunteer to lead the organization and tell them what changes you want to see.

Steve Piotrowski, Unit President
608-255-3953 slpiotro@tds.net

The Wisconsin Unit

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News Bits

Upcoming Events

August 15-18, 2013 – Meet our Northern Neighbors Michigan Upper Peninsula Camp out, Marquette, MI. Advance reservations are closed, but space may be available. Contact – Jane Carmichael 906-236-3677 janecarmichael2000@yahoo.com or Karen Suksi safari906@gmail.com

September 6-8, 2013, Fourth Annual Road America Rally, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. Contact Don Stenz, 920-698-2305, slem@tds.net See flyer pages 6 - 7.

October 4-6, 2013, Fall Rally & Business Meeting, Snyder Park, Neillsville, WI. Contact Steve Piotrowski 608-255-3953 slpiotro@tds.net See flyer page 8.

Member News

Welcome New Members!

The Wisconsin Unit welcomes new members Robert & Kathleen Landaas, of River Hills, Wisconsin. They have a 2013 Flying Cloud 30 footer. Robert & Kathleen, we hope to meet you soon at a Wisconsin Unit activity!

Unit Constitutional Amendment to be Voted On at Fall Business Meeting

The Unit Executive Committee has decided to introduce an amendment to Article VI, Section 3 of the Wisconsin Unit constitution to allow voting at unit business meetings by email and fax as well as by mail and in person. This will bring the unit constitution into agreement with the Model Unit Constitution in the current Blue Book.

Moving WBCCI Forward



An informal grass roots organization called *Moving WBCCI Forward* has been formed by certain WBCCI members, among them our own Unit President Steve Piotrowski, for the purpose of promoting positive changes in the WBCCI from the bottom up.

Moving WBCCI Forward introduced itself in a letter to the editor of the Blue Beret, which the magazine declined to publish. The letter may be seen on the Wisconsin Unit web site, <http://wisc.wbcci.net/>, and on page 5 of this newsletter.

A Warm Fuzzy Story

Members who missed the Region 7 Tall Ships rally might like to hear a little story that played out there. No names have been given to respect the privacy of the innocent.

Every campground in town was packed for the Tall Ships Festival (see the pictures in the rally report later in this newsletter) and around the densely packed Airstreams in the Buffalo Valley Campground were numerous tent campers.

On Saturday morning an Airstreamer noticed a man and his two children rather dejectedly walking out of the restroom building and asked if everything was OK. It turned out things were *not* OK. They had gone swimming the previous day at a swimming pool and when the man dressed after swimming, his wallet had been lost or stolen. He had, separately from his wallet, enough cash for gas to get home (Minneapolis) their tickets to the Tall Ships Festival, and a little food, but he didn't think they had enough money to stay the rest of the weekend. And the showers required quarters, so they hadn't managed to even get a shower.

The Airstreamer who met them immediately invited them to breakfast, being served by the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit, and quietly reported their plight to the group. NDPG members working the kitchen and Wisconsin members in the vicinity* immediately chipped in \$80 for the family in "walking around" money for the weekend. They also made sure they had all the breakfast they could eat, and quarters for the showers. The man was very grateful for the assistance and got a name and address (Linda Agre) to whom he promised to repay the loan.

Since the rally ran through Monday, it was still in progress when the family returned home. The man called Linda to report that he had mailed her a check in repayment, and—better still—had received a phone call from a person who had found his wallet and was sending it back to him by Priority mail, with its contents intact. By prior agreement with the members in question, Linda donated the man's check to the Hands of Peace project.

* No slight to Minnesota members—this fund raising activity took place in a couple of minutes—few even knew about it.

The Badger Bulletin WBCCI Wisconsin Unit #116

Web site: <http://wisc.wbcci.net/>

Editor: John Sellers
sellersj@erinet.com

Webmaster: Bob Manak
Bob.Manak@wbcci.net

Region 7 Tall Ships Rally Duluth, Minnesota July 24 – 30, 2013

Linda Agre's 2012 Region 7 rally showcasing the New London to New Brighton (Minnesota!) Antique Car Run was a hard act to follow, but she outdid herself this year with the *Tall Ships* rally!



U. S. brig *Niagara* arriving at Duluth Harbor

Needless to say every campground near Duluth was jammed for the Tall Ships Festival, including the Buffalo Valley Campground which had agreed to accommodate the rally. Airstreams were packed in as best they could be, 2 or 3 to a campsite, but there was plenty of water and electricity and the spacious *Buffalo Junction* party room for rally activities.



Airstreams every which way.



Breakfast at the *Buffalo Junction*.

Airstreamers went "first class", beginning the rally by watching the Parade of Tall Ships into Duluth Harbor from the harbor tour boat. It took two bus trips to ferry everyone from the campground to the harbor; those in the first busload

found a comfortable wall to sit on to await the second bus! (Between construction on I-35 and the crowd in town for the Tall Ships festival traffic was terrible!)



Waiting for the bus (and the boat).

The harbor tour boat was **the** place to watch the parade. The shoreline was lined with people—an estimated quarter million visitors the first day of the festival.



The *Pride of Baltimore II* leads the parade into the harbor.

The rally boasted a full schedule of activities, including all three days of the Festival—shuttle busses provided—a tour of Duluth and the Harrington Arts Center (a.k.a "the Accordion Museum"), fish fry at the Buffalo House, dinner at the Spirit Mountain Chalet, and scenic ski lift ride up Spirit Mountain. The rally fee also included a tour of the historic Glensheen Mansion and Split Rock lighthouse.. And as a bonus, the Tall Ships were departing Duluth for their next stop in Chicago the day we toured the mansion, so we had a great vantage point to watch them stand out to sea!



Stan Schwenke tells stories from his show business days in *Airstreams and Acrobats*.



Sunday breakfast by the Wisconsin Unit



Feet up! Airstreamers prepare for landing on the ski lift.



Entering the front door of Glensheen Mansion.



Watching the tall ships sail, from the lawn of Glensheen.
Congratulations, Linda, on another spectacular Region rally!

Crock Pot Breakfast Casserole (As served at Tall Ships Rally)

By Region 7 President Linda Agre

Prep time: 15 minutes (30 for me)

Serves 6-8 (I think more like 12-15)

Spray Crock Pot

Ingredients

- 12 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 2 pounds hash brown potatoes (If using frozen cook 8-9 hours instead of 7-8)
- 1 pound bacon (or sausage or ham) cooked, drained and cut into pieces
- 1/2 cup diced onions
- 3 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 tsp. salt & 1/2 teaspoon pepper

May add green peppers and anything else you wish

1. Beat eggs well
2. Beat in milk, garlic powder, mustard, salt & pepper. Set aside
3. Layer potatoes (I suggest to season each potato layer to taste--a small pinch of salt & pepper and sprinkle 1/3 of the onions
4. Next sprinkle 1/3 of the bacon, sausage
5. Last top with 1 cup of cheese
6. Repeat this layering 2 more times to have a total of 3 layers-- ending with cheese
7. Take your egg mixture and pour over layers.
8. For refrigerated hash browns, cook 6 - 7 hours on low. For frozen hash browns, cook for 7 - 8 hours on low or until eggs are set

Postscript. . .



*Aye, Lassie, it be Five Dollars for a Hot Dog and Five Dollars for a bottle of beer at the Tall Ships Festival!
Why d'ye think we be called Pirates?!*

Moving WBCCI Forward

As members of the WBCCI, we take great pride in the fact that our club is the longest running, single-branded RV club in the United States. From its humble beginnings in the home of Helen Byam-Schwamborn in 1955, thousands of members have participated in unit, regional and international activities. Countless caravans have logged millions of miles and life-long friendships have developed based solely on our affection for Airstreams and the lifestyle it offers us.

Membership in the WBCCI hit its peak of approximately 25,000 members in the late 1970s. Since that time, club membership has declined to well under 6,000 members today. There are uncontrollable factors that include the nation's economy and attrition, but there are also controllable factors that could be addressed and implemented to turn the tide and begin to grow our club.

An effort has begun within the WBCCI to identify, address and resolve issues with an emphasis placed on a member-focused club. If you had the opportunity to attend this year's International in Huron, South Dakota, you undoubtedly saw our buttons, ***"Moving WBCCI Forward"***. We, the undersigned, who have taken on various leadership roles in our units and regions, are proponents of this effort to make improvements within our club. We feel addressing and resolving the controllable factors is vital to retain our club's viability, heritage and standing in the RV community. Ultimately, we would seek club growth in line with the historically high sales of Airstream products that have been outlined over the past few years by Bob Wheeler, President, Airstream Company, Inc. and Justin Humphreys, Vice President of Sales.

What is ***"Moving WBCCI Forward"***? It is an effort to work within units, regions and our International organization to move forward yet still preserve our heritage and to recreate a member-focused club in which Airstream owners want to participate. It is an all-inclusive effort where club practices and policies serve to unite members, where all members are treated with respect, their views are valued and their voices heard.

What ***"Moving WBCCI Forward"*** is not is a set of changes or direction being given by the IBT or the International President.

What will ***"Moving WBCCI Forward"*** look like when implemented?

- A long-term strategy in place with focus on members and membership growth. Member input sought and valued. Members treated like valued customers who in turn step up to lead their club. Club remains fluid, realigning priorities with the interests of members.
- Communications improved and timely on all levels within units, regions, and International, with a strategic focus on utilizing electronic communication when possible. (Unit and Region websites, International Rally website and app, member surveys).

- Unit rallies, caravans, Regional and International rallies that focus on fun, friendship and adventure. Less protocol required, positive attitudes, good value received for dues paid.
- Club leaders, who inspire and represent members' interests, work to alleviate 'Them vs. Us', and conduct club business with efficiency and minimal structure.
- Efficient use of technology available to process information in the most cost-effective means possible, offering members the option of interacting with and submitting information to WBCCI online.

"Moving WBCCI Forward" Vision Statement

To work proactively within our Units, Regions and International entity to bring about improvements that move the WBCCI forward creating a member-focused club in which all Airstream Owners wish to participate.

"Moving WBCCI Forward" Mission Statement

To share our vision of "Moving WBCCI Forward" with all Airstream owners using various communication tools including the Blue Beret, websites, club newsletters and social media. Select high priority items that will move our club forward. Foster continued and improved communications and work within our units and regions to involve and grow our membership.

In order to continue our effort, we need your assistance. Step up when needed in your unit and your region. Work to bring about a positive change in the WBCCI. Provide guidance to new members. Each and every member has something to offer our club. Join the discussion and 'Like' our Facebook page: Moving WBCCI Forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Beardshear, Region 5

Jim & Lynda Polk, Region 12

Matt & Beth Hackney, Region 3

Steve Rosenthal, Region 3

Mona & Doug Heath, Region 10

Tom and Hedda Smithson, Region 12

Steve Piotrowski, Region 7

The Wisconsin & Northern Illinois Units are hosting the 4th Annual WBCCI Rally at Road America Race Track in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin September 6–8, 2013



BY POPULAR DEMAND...BACK FOR THE 4TH YEAR!!!!

Come and see first hand the 4 mile race track that has become world renown. The 640 acre site was formed by the glaciers and sets the scene for a very interesting track through its hills and valleys. The grandeur of the area is experienced by about 700,000 visitors here each year.

There are events going on at RA throughout the season, but this weekend is the “VSCDA (Vintage Sports Car Drivers Association) Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival”. Come see some of the world’s most beautiful sports cars out on the track. Plus see the Historic Reenactment of the actual street races that took place in the early 1950’s right through the Elkhart Lake. Enjoy the village festivities along with its shops throughout the day, or a round of golf at the neighboring golf courses. And don’t forget the “Gathering on the Green” and Concourse de Provenance with cocktails and live music Saturday afternoon.

WBCCI members who wish to participate will host a Public Open House on Saturday the 7th from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. While gorgeous cars drive right around the perimeter of our camping area we will be showing off our Shiny Aluminum Dream Machines. There is so much to see and do for the family this weekend; it’s going to be tough to decide. You can find more information about the weekend and the area on the web at:
www.elkhartlake.com and Road America race schedule information at:
<http://www.roadamerica.com/Races/RaceInformation.asp?id=246>

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

WBCCI# _____

Per person(13 and older) # _____ x \$70.00 \$ _____
 (12 and under are free) (after deadline \$110.00)

Site fee per rig _____ 1 _____ x \$20.00 \$ _____ 20.00
 (after deadline \$35.00)

Total \$ _____

Deadline for Tickets is Friday, August 30, 2013!!

Remember this rally is **DRY CAMPING**; (Generators allowed until 10:00pm. For special needs call Don Stenz)

Rally fee includes: 3 days track pass, Camping in the “Carousel Area” on the grass, Rest rooms and Showers, Dump station, Fresh water filling station. Concession Stands are available on the grounds.

Due to all the events going on throughout the weekend, meals will be on your own. We will have Happy Hour for those who are around.

Make checks payable to your unit:

Wisconsin Unit, WBCCI or Northern Illinois Unit, WBCCI
 Reservation forms due Friday, August 30th
 Tickets will be picked up at the track

Mail to:

Wisconsin Unit, WBCCI or Northern Illinois Unit, WBCCI
 Sandy Emerick Robert Kock
 9186 County Road K 2085 Carillion Dr.
 Brussels, WI 54204 Grayslake, IL 60030

Questions to:

Don Stenz • 920 698-2305 • slem@tds.net



ROAD AMERICA FAN MAP

KEY

- # Spectator Gates
- P# General Parking
- RP# Reserved Parking
- Surface Roads
- S Security Check Point
- Track & 14 Turns
- Pedestrian Bridge/Tunnel
- Traffic Bridge / Tunnel
- C Concession Stands
- 4M 4-Mile Merchant
- First Aid
- VIP / Media Tower
- W Winner's Circle
- Road America Center
- Orion Tech Center
- Lester Carport
- Family Fun Zone



To WBCCI Area

COMPETITOR & RA OFFICE GATE

Road America Office

TO ELKHART LAKE
TO GATES 3-4 & CTY RD J
TO PLYMOUTH

MAIN GATE

The distance of this portion of Hwy 67 is not shown to scale.

67

67

The distance of this portion of Hwy 67 is not shown to scale.

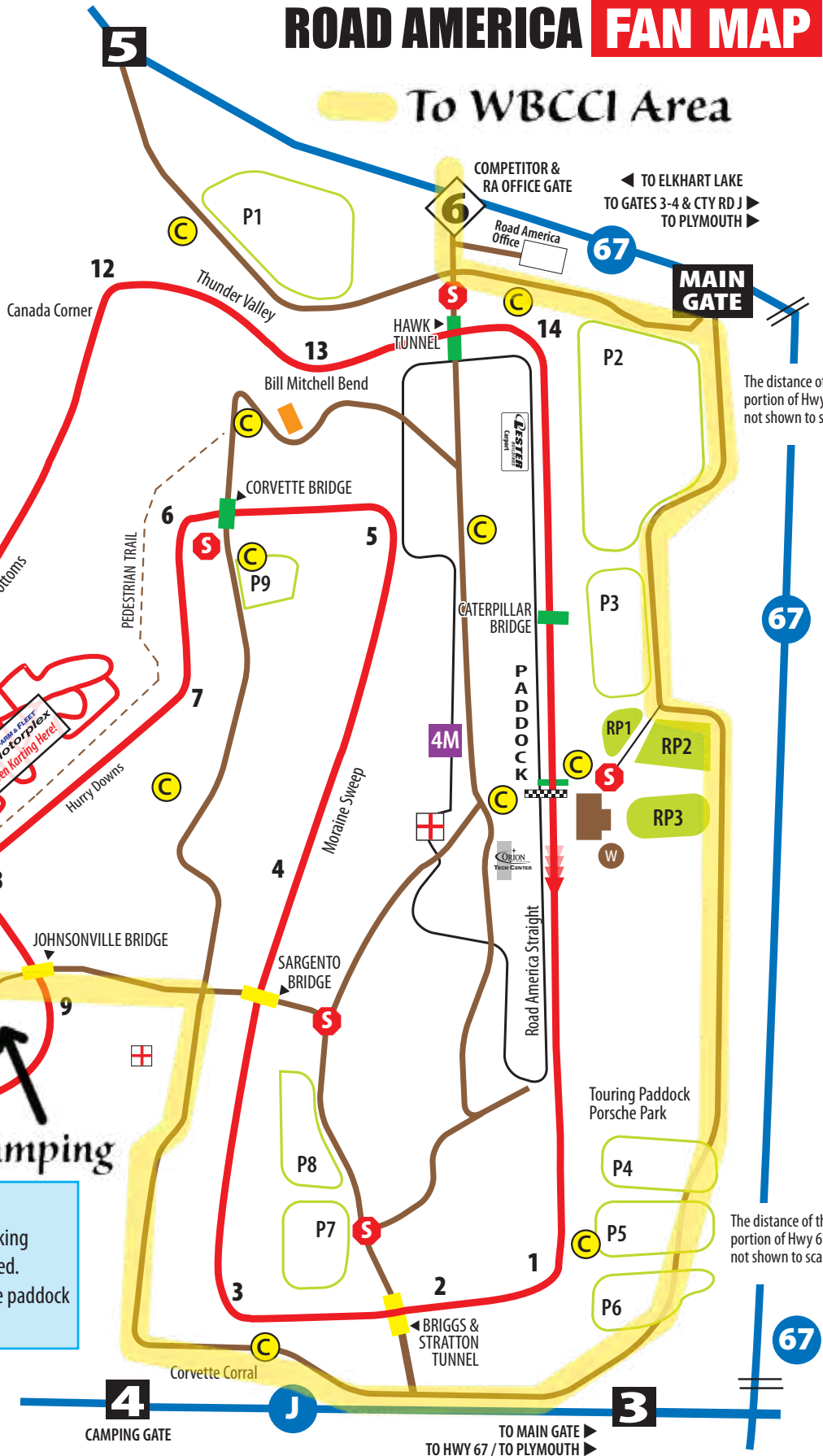


Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin

WBCCI Camping

PARKING

Spectators may park in designated parking areas or around the facility unless posted. Spectator parking is NOT allowed in the paddock or in reserved lots near the VIP Tower.



4 CAMPING GATE

TO MAIN GATE
TO HWY 67 / TO PLYMOUTH

3

Wisconsin Unit October Rally

October 4 – 6, 2013

Snyder Park Campground
W8046 Arndt Road
Neilsville, WI 54456
(715) 743-5140

Highground Veterans Memorial
W7031 Ridge Road
Neilsville, WI 54456
(715) 743-4224

Your hosts Steve and Lynne Piotrowski invite you to the Wisconsin Unit Fall Rally and Business Meeting October 4 – 6, 2013, at Neillsville, Wisconsin.



Camping will be at Snyder Park, a Clark County park located on Snyder Lake, offering 35 electric campsites (10 non-electric), beach, launch ramp and picnic area with shelters, flush toilets and showers, and a dump station. Electric sites are \$21 a night.

Steve & Lynne have reserved Site 16, located on the loop of spacious sites near the lake, and suggest that you plan to camp on that loop, approximate site numbers 10 through 30. Reservations are desirable, but not necessary, in October.

You can view the campground map see detailed site descriptions, and make reservations at the campground web site, https://parks.co.clark.wi.us/parks/camping/snyder_campground/details/

Rally activities will center around The Highground Veterans Memorial, a memorial park offering a meditation garden, walking trails, museum, and gift shop. On October 5, the weekend of the rally, will be the Highground annual Car Show and Chili Cookoff. For more information see their web site, <http://www.thehighground.org/> The rally fee covers a ticket to the chili cookoff (good for samples of all chili!) and a guided tour of The Highground. If you wish to enter a batch of chili in the chili cookoff, be prepared to provide 18 quarts of chili. For contest entry form, see the Highground web site.

Note from web site: ***Pets cannot be accommodated at The Highground.***

For further information, contact Steve Piotrowski (608) 255-3953 slpiotro@tds.net

Name(s) _____ WBCCI # _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of persons attending _____

Rally Fee \$15/person \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Mail to: Sandy Emerick
Wisconsin Unit Treasurer
9186 County Road K
Brussels, WI 64204

(Make checks payable to WBCCI Wisconsin Unit)

Please enclose this registration form with your payment.