

# August, 2014 Riveting Reflections



I hope your summer 'Streaming adventures are going well. With our move, we have not seen our Airstream since the end of March. It is sitting in storage so we have not been able to do any camping. What a bummer! Our house does sit in the woods though. So with

that we have a constant outdoor adventure when we go outside the house.

The fall camping season is quickly approaching and club events are coming up quickly. The Road America Campout at Elkhart Lake starts on September 12. This is a great opportunity to see some vintage sports cars close up. There is a great go cart track that will change your driving skills. This adventure is followed by the Apostle Island Adventure, Washburn, WI. It starts on September 19. Consider taking your bike on a ferry ride to Madeline Island or go out to a remote light house. This concludes with a caravan to Copper Harbor, MI. That will be a great 'Ed adventure. Wow, that's three weeks of great times!

I am sitting here looking out the window into RAIN. This is Sequim, the "Blue Hole", it is unusual to have rain this time of the year. Only the second rain since we moved out here. It is quite dry so every drop is appreciated by the trees.

See you 'Streaming down the road.

George Boehmer, Unit President gboehmer@wi.rr.com

John Sellers, Editor sellersi@erinet.com

# The Wisconsin Unit

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# News Bits Upcoming Events

September 12 -14, 2014: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual *Road America* Rally, Road America Race Course, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. Contact Don & Kay Stenz, 920-693-2146 <a href="mailto:slem@tds.net">slem@tds.net</a> See flyer pages 5 & 6

September 19 -21, 2014: Apostle Island Adventure
Rally & Business Meeting with Installation of Officers at
Thompson's West End Park Campground, 119 Washington
Ave, Washburn, WI 54891, (715) 373-6160.
Hosted by Teri & George Boehmer, 262-646-8697,
tboehmer2001@yahoo.com See flyer page 7.
http://wisc.wbcci.net/apostle-islands-rally-registration/

September 21 - 27. 2014: Say ya to da UP, eh! Caravan, led by Ed & Sandy Emerick. Departs from the Apostle Island Adventure rally and ends at Copper Harbor, Michigan. See further information page 3.

# **Member News**

## **Welcome New Members!**

Wisconsin Unit welcomes,

**Greg & Jane Hyer** of Cross Plains, Wisconsin. The Hyers have a 2013 Bambi Sport 22, and joined us from the WBCCI web site.

William & Margaret Miller of Knapp, Wisconsin. The Millers have a 2012 Eddie Bauer model 25 footer. They also joined us from the WBCCI web site.

Bill & Charlene Benjamin of Butler, Wisconsin. The Benjamins add to our vintage contingent with their 1966 Globetrotter. They joined the unit once before, but health and work issues arose that prevented them from participating. Now that they are retired they hope to be active in the unit.

Welcome aboard! Hope to see you all soon at a unit event!

# Minneapolis *Star-Tribune* Story on Minnesota Airstream Park, St. Cloud, MN

On July 11, 2014 the *Star-Tribune* featured the Minnesota Airstream Park in its "Lifestyle" section, "Nostalgia on wheels at Airstream-only trailer park near St. Cloud"

www.startribune.com/lifestyle/homegarden/266784321.html

#### **2015 Dues**

At the April, 2014 business meeting it was voted to raise dues slightly to cover actual costs of printing and postage. The unit dues for members receiving the newsletter electronically was increased from \$8 to \$10, and the additional charge to receive the newsletter by mail was increased from \$10 to \$13. A new renewal form was also prepared to more closely agree with the WBCCI headquarters form. A copy of the new form is on page 8.

# One-Liners Huh?????????



Boehmer-Reed 1979 Airstream motor home conversion

The above apparition, looking like a cross between an Airstream trailer and a city bus, recently showed up on eBay, although it didn't sell. The seller asserts that it is one of only three Airstream motor home conversions done by Boehmer-Reed, one of which is in a museum. This one is in rough shape and would take a lot of work to restore, but it would attract a lot of attention at a vintage Airstream rally!

#### Airstream for Sale

1998 31 ft. Airstream Excella 1000 trailer, with 2 Fantastic Fans, 2 skylights, catalytic heater, queen size bed, Corian counter tops, laminated floor, awnings all around. \$31,000 OBO. Also available is a 2000 Suburban. Unit is on an improved 50 X 80 RV lot close to Wisconsin Dells. Will sell as a package—give us a call for price. 608-580-0025



# The Badger Bulletin WBCCI Wisconsin Unit #116

Web site: <a href="http://wisc.wbcci.net/">http://wisc.wbcci.net/</a>

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Webmaster: Bob Manak Bob.Manak@wbcci.net

Unit Facebook group WBCCI Wisconsin Unit

## **Reflections in Aluminum**

By Steve Piotrowski

Someone asked recently; "What can I do to help to build a better WBCCI?" What can we do to make the club attractive to anyone who owns an Airstream product? Like Harley riders and their bikes, Airstream owners have a special connection with our silver Twinkies. Some think we are exclusionary by only allowing Airstream owners into the WBCCI. Perhaps we are, but if you own an Airstream, you understand the special connection you have with your Airstream and other Airstream owners.

How do we help build a better, more attractive club? Building a better club is something that is simple in concept, but devastatingly difficult in practice. We need to look at what those we need to attract want, not only what we normally do. If they don't join, you can't talk to them about what they want out of the club, can you? So, do we end up doing it the way we always have since we don't know what the new non-members want?

Maybe if we talk with the new members who join but fail to come to any events we can open a window on why they joined at least the one time. Rather than just inviting them to the events where we have fun, we need to contact them and find out what would get them to a club activity. I suspect the answers they will give won't be easy to digest, but careful listening will give us ideas to work with. Can we get every new Airstream owner to join and be active in WBCCI? No, we can't! We can talk to them and pick their minds about what would help interest them in the club. Those ideas might help us build a stronger and more entertaining club for everyone.

"Building a club that fits the wants of members rather than one that wants members to fit the shape of the club".

# Say ya to da UP, eh! Caravan September 21 – 27, 2014

A Caravan by Ed Emerick

Plans for the caravan are coming along and so far we have ten trailers signed up. The itinerary has gelled as follows:

Sunday, 9-21-14 – Depart Washburn, WI

Sunday, 9-21-14 – Camp at Curry Park in Ironwood, MI 601-807 W Cloverland Dr, Ironwood, MI 49938 (906) 932-5050

Monday, 9-22-14 - Tour Stormy Kromer in Ironwood Stormy Kromer Mercantile 1238 Wall Street Ironwood, MI 49938

Monday, 9-22-14 – Travel to Porcupine Mountain Wilderness State Park, Union Bay Campground Stay for 2 nights

Tuesday, 9-23-14 – Explore the Porkies

Wednesday, 9-24-14 – Travel to Houghton, MI. Camp at Houghton RV Park. (If you want restrooms and showers stay at the Hancock Recreation Area campground.)

Thursday, 9-25-14 – Explore Houghton-Hancock area

Friday, 9-26-14 – Travel to Copper Harbor. Camp at Fort Wilkins State Park



Copper Harbor and Lake Fannie Hooe from Brockway Mtn. Ft. Wilkins State Park is between these two bodies of water.

Saturday, 9-27 14 – Explore Copper Harbor

Sunday, 9-28-14 – Depart for home

(Sandy and I will be heading back home Saturday morning 9-27, but caravanners may stay and play or travel to wherever your heart's desire.)



Copper Harbor Lighthouse as seen from the tour boat.

This caravan will be run without a kitty. You will need to make your own reservation at the Houghton RV Park. We will be in Site 16, on the water. They are beautiful sites with a covered picnic area and full hook-ups. And a great view of the lift bridge! \$30/night (and no reservation fee!) <a href="http://www.cityofhoughton.com/rec-rv.php">http://www.cityofhoughton.com/rec-rv.php</a>

The Hancock Recreation Area will not require any reservation. I spoke to the campground, and after Labor Day, it is pretty empty. \$22/night.

http://www.cityofhancock.com/recreation-beach-campground.php

If you are interested, please send us an email!

Sandy Emerick 920-475-7893 Sandy Emerick @yahoo.com

## In Memoriam Nancy Becker October 20, 1933 – July 2, 2014

Many in the Wisconsin Unit remember John & Nancy Becker, who were active in the unit until around 2003.



Nancy Becker, age 80, a resident of Azura Memory Care, Manitowoc, died early Wednesday morning, July 2, 2014 after a prolonged illness with dementia.

Nancy was born in Two Creeks on October 20, 1933 to the late Joseph and Agnes (Smongeski) LeClair. She attended the Twin Elder School in the town of Two Creeks, and graduated from Washington High

School, Two Rivers, with the class of 1950. She received her Registered Nursing degree from the Milwaukee County School of Nursing. On October 30, 1954, she married John R. Becker at St. Luke's Catholic Church, Two Rivers. Nancy worked as a registered nurse in Milwaukee at St. Joseph's and St. Michael's Hospitals, Alexian Village, Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother Convent, and part-time as an industrial nurse at the Square-D Company. Nancy and John were longtime members of the Wally Byam Caravan Club International. She sang with the church choirs of both St. Luke's and St. Peter the Fisherman Parishes for many years; she enjoyed tending to her flower gardens, volunteered at the Rogers Street Fishing Village Museum; and treasured the time spent with her children and grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, John R. Becker; five daughters & three sons-in-law: Catherine Mowers of Thiensville, WI, Barbara MacDonald of Walnut Creek, CA, Mary Sue (Mark) Grimm of Cascade, WI, Patricia (Lonnie) Montney of Waukesha, WI, and Pamela (Angus) McFarlane of Auckland, New Zealand; ten grandchildren: Megan Mowers Garbe; Adam, Erik, and Hannah Grimm; Kirsten Becker; Kessa Albright; Cailey and Caitlyn Montney; and Robbie and Ben McFarlane; former sons-in-law: Patrick Mowers of Sturgeon Bay, Gregory MacDonald of Clayton, CA; two sisters: Frannie (Ralph) Klabunde of Brown Deer, and Susie Cerny of Two Rivers, and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Obituary from Manitowoc Herald Times Reporter

# Odyssey of an Airstream

Photos by Sandy Emerick

When John & Nancy Becker became unable to travel on account of Nancy's illness, they offered their '88 Airstream Excella trailer for sale. When Ed and Sandy Emerick's own '68 Sovereign needed extensive work upon return from the 2008 International in Bozeman, Montana,, they decided to buy the Becker's Excella.



Sandy proceeded to redo the interior in a "monkey" theme and they named the trailer "John Becker's Monkey Love"



Now, in 2014, Ed & Sandy have their '68 back on the road and decided to sell the '88 Excella.



And, in a remarkable twist of fate, the trailer has been purchased by a buyer in *New Zealand*—where it will follow John & Nancy's daughter Pamela!

Sandy Emerick is in communication with John, Pam, the Beckers' daughter in New Zealand, and the buyer, so maybe they can arrange a "family reunion" when the trailer reaches New Zealand.

# Postscript...

Oh, and one other thing. . . John Becker has decided he would like to get back into Airstreaming. So if anyone knows of an Airstream in the 23 to 25 foot range available, please let John know via Sandy. For now, John is learning to ride another new toy—a motorcycle!

# The Wisconsin Unit is hosting the 5th Annual WBCCI Rally at Road America Race Track in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin September 12–14, 2014









#### BY POPULAR DEMAND...BACK FOR THE 5TH 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.

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/buy-tickets/vscda-elkhart-lake-vintage-festival.html

Online registration is available at http://wisc.wbcci.net/?p=678 The online price includes a \$2.00/person and \$1.00/rig online convenience fee to cover our cost of using PayPal.

Name (s)		
Address		
City		
State	_ZIP	
Phone		
Email		
WBCCI#		
Per person(13 and older) # x (12 and under are free) (after deadle		
Site fee per rig 1 x (after deadline \$35.00)	\$20.00	\$20.00
(unter acadimic \$33.00)	Total	\$

## Deadline for Tickets is Friday, September 5, 2014!!

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:

Wisconsin Unit, WBCCI Reservation forms due Friday, September 5th Tickets will be picked up at the track

#### Mail to:

Wisconsin Unit, WBCCI Sandy Emerick 9186 County Road K Brussels, WI 54204



#### **Questions to:**

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









Parking

Paddock







Pedestrian Bridge

**Pedestrian Tunnel** 



**Security Point** 





Concessions



Paddock Shop



Restrooms









Campground



VIP / Media Tower



Winner's Circle

Reserved Parking

**Spectator Gates** 



**Traffic Tunnel** 

**Traffic Bridge** 

#### *APOSTLE ISLANDS ADVENTURE RALLY*

September 18 - 21, 2014

## Thompson's West End Campground

South End of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue West Washburn, Wisconsin 54891 (city hall) 715-373-6160

## http://cityofwashburn.org/camping.htm#thompsons

Join your hosts George & Teri Boehmer for an adventure in Wisconsin's fabled Apostle Islands nestled on the Wisconsin coast of Lake Superior. Take a boat tour of the uninhabited islands, take the ferry to inhabited Madeline Island, tour numerous museums and other attractions in Washburn and nearby Bayfield and Ashland.



We will be camped right on Lake Superior at the City of Washburn's municipal Thompson's West End Campground.

We have reserved all 19 non-seasonal sites of the campground, equipped with 30/50A electric, but no water or sewer hookup. Come with a full freshwater tank and empty waste tanks. There is plenty of water available at the campground (an artesian well, in fact!) but it will have to be transported to your unit. There is a dump station on site. Rally activities begin Thurs. Sept. 18 (Hosts will be there Sept 17.) The camping fee of \$25 a night is not included in the rally fee. Camping fee will be paid on arrival: self-service, cash or check; NO CREDIT CARDS. Reservations are not required—we have the campground reserved—but after the start of the rally we will release any unused sites. Campground amenities include restrooms and showers, pavilion (reserved for our use), playground, and swimming beach (brrr!).

Scheduled activities (with plenty of time for sightseeing on your own):

Thurs., Sept. 18 – Parking – Happy Hour - Supper (Hot Dogs and Brats)

Fri., Sept. 19 – Parking – Happy Hour – Supper (out for fish fry)

Sat., Sept. 20 – McDonalds Breakfast (provided) – Business Meeting (installation of officers) – Happy Hour - Dinner at local restaurant

Sun., Sept. 21 – Continental Breakfast – Sightseeing on your own – Departures

Questions? Contact George & Teri Boehmer gboehmer2014@gmail.com cell 262-646-8697

# Apostle Islands Adventure Rally Reservation Form

Name(s)	Make checks payable to WI Unit, WBCCI
Street	Mail to: Sandy Emerick, Treasurer 9186 County Road K
City/St	Brussels, WI 54204
Phone:Email	(Advance reservations must reach Sandy before the Emericks leave for the Elkhart
Rally fee (includes pavilion rental, breakfasts, Thursday supper) \$20 x number of people = \$	Lake rally, around September 7.) .

Checks can be sent to Sandy Emerick, or register online at <a href="http://wisc.wbcci.net/apostle-islands-rally-registration/">http://wisc.wbcci.net/apostle-islands-rally-registration/</a>

(Campsite fees of \$25 a night are paid directly to campground.)



# WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB INTERNATIONAL DUES RECEIPT

UNIT NAME	NUMBER
Wisconsin Unit	116

WBCCI#:

\$65.00

\$10.00

\$75.00

\$65.00

\$10.00

\$13.00

\$88.00

YEAR: 2015

			MEMBERSHIP STATUS
Name/s			_ NEW MEMBER
Address			NEW MEMBER
City, State/Province, Zip			LIFE MEMBERSHIP
Email Address			RENEWAL
Partner Email Address			TRANSFER
Home Phone			COURTESY PARKING
Cell Phone			NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL □ DUES \$75.00 *
Partner Cell Phone			NEWSLETTER PRINTED & MAILED □ DUES \$88.00 **
VEH	IICLE INFO		
TYPE	YEAR	SIZE	DATE
☐ Trailer ☐ Class A ☐ Class B	3		BY
MODEL			

(email newsletter only)

International dues

Wisconsin Unit dues

Add newsletter by US Mail

(Includes US Mail newsletter)

Please make checks payable to: W. B. C. C. I. – Wisconsin Unit

Total due to Treasurer:

International dues

Wisconsin Unit dues

Mail to: Sandy Emerick, Treasurer

**Newsletter Printed & mailed** 

Newsletter by email

9186 County Road K Brussels, WI 54204

Total due to Treasurer: