

May - June, 2015 From the Crows Nest



If you recall, last month's newsletter was early and contained information regarding a proposed constitutional amendment which the membership voted on at our April business meeting in Wisconsin Dells. Due to space limitations in the newsletter the Editor issued a gag order for yours truly. Well the gag order has been

lifted, we are off on a new camping season, and I have a lot to say - so here we go!

First, we've just finished the Madison Camp Out which ended on the 17th of this month. I want to thank hosts Steve and Lynne Piotrowski for all their hard work in orchestrating a great weekend enjoyed by all - please see the adjoining article.

After promising all that I would be attending the International in Farmington this summer it is with disappointment and embarrassment that I have to tell you I will *not* be attending. Another unique opportunity and an incomplete trailer have forced my hand. However, I am pleased and grateful that Pearl Adams-Kyle, who will be attending, has agreed to represent the Wisconsin Unit in the Opening Ceremonies and the Delegates Meeting. For the newer members who have yet to meet Pearl, she has been Airstreaming since the early 1980s, was president of the Wisconsin Unit in 2002, and is the current President of the Free Wheelers intra club for single Airstream owners. Thank you Pearl!

The last weekend in April was the Camp Out in Wisconsin Dells (another follow up article), our spring business meeting, and a meeting of the Executive Board.

The General Business meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call of officers, determination of a quorum, and the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous business meeting. Committee reports included Sandy Emerick's treasurer's report and the announcement that Jane Carmichael and Kurt Jorgensen will

(continued next page)

John Sellers, Editor sellersj@erinet.com

The Wisconsin Unit What's New

In this issue

News Bits

Upcoming Events

Member News

In memoriam, Marjorie Lotz

Welcome New Members

Ferry Tales Rally information

Driftless Rally information

EAA Airventure Camp Out Oshkosh, Wisconsin July 23 – 26, 2015

Reflections in Aluminum

April Campout & Luncheon Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin April 24 – 26, 2015

> Capital Campout Lake Farm Park, Madison, Wisconsin May 15 - 17, 2015

> Alumapalooza Nooz



(From the Crows Nest, continued)

be auditing the books, John Sellers and Steve Piotrowski explaining the proposed amendment to the International Constitution, Heidi Manak reporting we currently have 58 members and 3 affiliate members, and a report on upcoming camping opportunities. A thank you was given to Bob Manak for his work on the Web Site and for producing the Unit Directory. Another thank you was given John Sellers for producing the Badger Bulletin. Both of these men do an outstanding job!

The membership voted unanimous approval of the uncontested slate of International Officers, voted to approve the proposed constitutional amendment, and voted to give the Unit Delegate to the International Delegates Meeting plenipotentiary voting authority.

The addition of the Upper Peninsula to Region 7 has led to a discussion of creating a new logo for our unit reflecting this change. A motion was made and passed to create a committee to create a new logo for the unit and report to the next meeting.

Sandy Emerick and Vicki Engelstad led a discussion on the Unit Facebook page, and Steve Piotrowski was presented an award for his past service as Unit President. The next business meeting, including installation of new officers, will be in Houghton Michigan on September 26th.

Speaking of the September business meeting, Bill and Marti Upton had the Houghton RV Park put on hold the 13 remaining camp sites available for the weekend of the 25th. The sites are on hold under the name of Airstream WBCCI Rally Unit 116. If you want a site contact them ASAP to place a \$35.00 deposit. Call Park Hosts Dan & Joan Kemp at (906)-482-8745. The sites must be reserved by mid-June or they will be made available to the public. These sites are right on the Portage Canal, are full hook up, and cost \$35.00 per night, however there are no bathroom facilities at this park. If you prefer a campground with rest rooms, shower, and laundry there is the Hancock Recreation Area - Beach & Campground. Contact them at (906)-482-7413 or e-mail the City Clerk at clerk@cityofhancock.com.

See you in Oshkosh at the EAA Airventure Camp Out!

Dave Sherman, Unit President dwsherman@wisc.edu

News Bits Upcoming Events

June 12 – 25, 2015: Region 7 Caravan to International Rally From Minnesota Airstream Park, Clear Lake, MN to Farmington, NM. Contact Linda Agre, agre5628@agl.com

June 26 – July 4, 2015: WBCCI 58th Annual International Rally, Farmington, NM http://wbcci.org/activities/international-rally/2015-farmington-nm

(Upcoming Events, continued)

July 23 – 26, 2015: *EAA Airventure Camp Out*, Camp Scholler, Oshkosh, WI. Contact Dave Sherman, 602-423-4561, <u>dwsherman@wisc.edu</u>. See further information on page 4

August 12 – 16, 2015: There's Something for Everyone Region 7 Rally, Country Roads RV Park, Wisconsin Dells, WI. For current information see the Region 7 web site, http://region7.wbcci.net/2015-theres-something-for-everyone-rally/

August 27 – 30, 2015: Ferry Tales – Airstreams to Washington Island Camp Out, Washington Island Campground, Washington Island, WI. Contact Dave Sherman, 602-423-4561, dwsherman@wisc.edu. See further information on page 3.

Member News In Memoriam, Marjorie Lotz

With sadness we report the untimely passing of Region 4 President Marjorie Lotz. She passed away at her home in Jackson Center on May 25, 2015. For further information see the Region 4 web site, http://region4.wbcci.net/.

Welcome New Members

The Wisconsin Unit welcomes Robert Schlack of Franklin, Wisconsin. He has a 27 foot Flying Cloud.

The unit gained a new member when long-time member John Becker married his new bride Ardis. They headed South in his Airstream shortly after their wedding, so she is already an experienced Airstreamer!

Last but not least, Robert Scott & Christine Faulks of Waupaca, Wisconsin recently joined the unit via the WBCCI.org web site. They join our large vintage contingent with a 1973 Sovereign 31 footer.

Welcome aboard to all, and hope to see you at upcoming Wisconsin Unit events.

The Badger Bulletin WBCCI Wisconsin Unit #116

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

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Unit Facebook group WBCCI Wisconsin Unit

Calling all Artists, Graphic Designers, and other Creative Persons

At the spring business meeting a motion was made and passed to create a committee to design a new logo for the Wisconsin Unit that includes the U.P. of Michigan. Bill Upton has agreed to chair the committee and I am looking for people to work with Bill on a new design. Use of computers and e-mail is a must as I am sure the committee members will be spread across one and a half states. If you have these skills and would like to help us in this design please contact me at dwsherman@wisc.edu or leave a message at 608-423-4561 and I will return your call. Thanks, Dave.

Ferry Tales - Airstreams to Washington Island Camp Out

By Dave Sherman, Unit President

The weekend before Labor Day, August 27th - 30th, there will be a camp out on Washington Island located off the tip of Door County. The fun part of this weekend will be arriving on the island by a car ferry across Deaths Door.

I have scheduled this camp out to coincide with the fourth annual Deaths Door BBQ, a Kansas City Barbecue Society sanctioned competition with 100% certified judges and teams competing for \$7,500.00 in prize money. Go to deathsdoorbbq.com for more information.

Tentative schedule is arrive on Thursday, tour of Washington Island and trip to Rock Island by passenger ferry on Friday, Deaths Door BBQ on Saturday, departure on Sunday. We will be staying at the Washington Island Campground but for those who would rather not take their unit on the ferry, Wagon Trail Campground near the tip of Door County is a wonderful place to stay and you can join us on the island by riding the ferry as a passenger.

Please e-mail me at dwsherman@wisc.edu or leave a message at 608-423-4561 if you think you will be attending so I may firm up arrangements over the course of the summer. Get your Wally Byam on and join us for an adventure across the water. Dave.

The Driftless Rally

By Dave Sherman, Unit President

Kurt and Mary Jorgensen have finalized plans for a rally in Prairie du Chien the weekend of October 9 - 11 this fall.

We will be staying at the Sports Unlimited Campground http://www.pdcsportsunlimited.com/campgrounds.html. Camping fee is \$38.00 plus tax per day for a site that includes water and electric. The campground is holding 15 sites and you need to make your own reservations. You can contact the campground by calling 608-326-2141. You *must* tell them you are with the WBCCI, *AND* that this is the Airstream group, *AND* that this is the group Kurt Jorgensen is setting up—all three items.

This rally should coincide with fall colors, there will be a tour of Villa Louis Saturday morning, will include a river

cruise, tours of state parks and much more. The campground will hold the 15 sites for a about a month - if you plan on attending make your reservation now. More on this rally will be forthcoming in future newsletters but make plans to enjoy the beautiful "Driftless" area of Wisconsin now.

Reflections in Aluminum

By Steve Piotrowski

A Change has Begun

It's been a long, a long time coming But I know a change is gonna come, oh yes it will

A Sam Cooke song ends with the verse above. So what does a 60's soul song, have to do with Airstreams and WBCCI? Nothing and everything so read on and learn about change.

A month or so ago, my lovely spouse, Lynne, said that she wished someone would do a seminar regarding music systems for Airstreams. She'd just read an article about the various formats for obtaining, recording, and listening to music. She asked me if we could save space by using them in the Airstream, rather than bringing our CD collection. How would I know? I appreciated the faith she showed in my abilities to figure things out, but she overestimated my knowledge base. I know so little I'd sound like Sergeant Schultz, "I know *Nothing*".

I did know one thing, and that was that the Leadership of WBCCI is open to ideas to freshen our approach. I sent off a note explaining the concept, and asking one of the officers if there was any way that we could do something like music formats, advantages and disadvantages. I was thrilled yesterday when I got the most recent copy of "News and Views" and there was a notice for a new seminar, "Storing Music in Your Airstream—Learn how to use the latest technologies to make your Airstream a veritable concert hall on the road." Our leaders, who seized a good

idea and moved forward, confirmed my hopes with their

responsiveness.

The IBT acted on one other change of note this winter. It asked for the expansion of standing committee membership and the posting of contact information for the committee chairs. The hope is that members with life experience in various areas will step forward to aid the growth of WBCCI. Our club offers a unique experience and great friendships, but we need to work at making it the best we can.



Boat house and dock, Rock Island

EAA Airventure Oshkosh 101 Camp Out

By Dave Sherman, Unit President Photos by Dave Sherman

The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) is holding its annual convention/fly-in from July 20 - 26 this year. Founded in January of 1953 by Paul Poberezny for aviation enthusiasts interested in constructing their own aircraft, the EAA has grown to a worldwide organization of 1000 local chapters interested in all aspects of aviation.

Comparing the EAA to the WBCCI, the local chapters are the equivalent of our Units and their annual convention/fly in, now dubbed Airventure, is the equivalent of our International Rally - though much, much, larger. In the aviation community globally, mention one word - "Oshkosh" - and the person knows exactly what you are talking about. It's universal.



A gaggle of Piper J-3 Cubs.

From Thursday July 23rd through the closing week end I will be hosting a camp out at Camp Scholler on the EAA grounds. Because the EAA is so organized there is not much I need to do. After attending for the last 41 years I will take on the role as your tour guide to help you get the most from your experience. Though the primary focus is on aviation, the EAA provides transportation to many local points of interest for those less enamored with aircraft.



Always lots of history to be seen in the warbirds area.

For budgeting, daily tickets are \$30.00 for members and \$45.00 for non-members. However, you must be an EAA member to camp at Camp Scholler. The annual membership fee of \$40.00 will be offset by the lower daily ticket price. You may join when you register to camp but may want to do so in advance. Membership includes a subscription to their monthly publication "Sport Aviation" which I feel is worth the dues alone.



It was an adventure to land air racers like the Gee Bee on account of the utter lack of visibility over the nose!

Please go to the EAA web site and click on Airventure for all relevant information. http://www.eaa.org/en/airventure

There will be no rally fee and no reservations are required but I would appreciate an e-mail to dwsherman@wisc.edu or a phone message at 608-423-4561 if you are interested in attending to help me with planning. Come and see one on the premier aviation events in the world right here in our own back yard. Dave.



Mechanix Illustrated Baby Ace, the airplane that started it all

EAA, and the homebuilt aircraft hobby, got off the ground in 1952 when Paul Poberezny bought the rights to the Corben Baby Ace and wrote a series of articles detailing its construction in *Mechanix Illustrated* magazine.

April Wisconsin Dells Camp Out Wisconsin Dells KOA Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin April 24 - 26, 2015

Photos by Vicki Engelstad, Ed Emerick, & Bob Manak

The Wisconsin Unit kicked off the rally season with the traditional Wisconsin Dells spring rally hosted by the traditional Bob & Heidi Manak. We had an excellent turnout this year with several new Airstreamer guests.



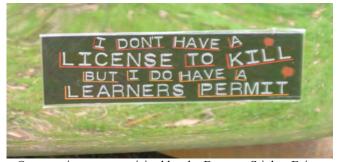
The upper-deck Airstreams on a sunny morning.

Weather was on the cool and rainy side, but with periods of welcome sunshine.



Touring everybody's trailers.

Friday evening most of us went to the weekly fish fry at Trappers Turn Country Club, within walking distance of the campground (for the hardy, anyway).



Once again we were visited by the Bumper Sticker Fairy.



Checking out Jim Guthrie's portable solar installation.

Saturday morning Bob & Heidi put on a nice continental breakfast in the KOA's meeting room and by late morning it was time to head for the luncheon and business meeting at Moosejaw Pizza in town. (See separate story, next page.)



Outdoor happy hour when weather permitted.

The luncheon and business meeting went on till midafternoon so by the time we returned to the campground it was already happy hour! After many libations and the Moosejaw's generous portions nobody wanted too much to eat, so the Manak's provision of sloppy joes and assorted happy hour snacks was plenty for happy hour and supper!



Lively conversation at breakfast.

Sunday morning the unit sprung for the ever-popular McDonald's buffet, and we had a long leisurely breakfast with many discussions and plans for the upcoming Airstreaming season.

The Dells rally has become a popular unit tradition. Heartfelt thanks to Bob & Heidi for hosting it every year!

April Luncheon & Business Meeting Moosejaw Pizza & Dells Brewing Co. Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin April 25, 2015

Photos by Vicki Engelstad, Bob Manak, & Kurt Jorgensen

Bob & Heidi Manak hosted the April luncheon along with the Dells campout. In addition to the great turnout for the campout, many other members made it to the luncheon



Jane orders a few Bloody Marys to get ready for the meeting

As always, upon arrival at the Moosejaw, most members ordered the restaurant's signature Bloody Marys or craft beers. This year the Bloody Marys seemed more popular. . .



Great turnout!



John Becker and his new bride, Ardis, who is already an experienced Airstreamer!



The Executive Committee diligently at work.

Saturday morning Bob & Heidi put on a nice continental breakfast in the KOA's meeting room and by late morning it was time to head for the luncheon and business meeting at Moosejaw Pizza in town. (See separate story, next page.)



It's lonely at the top. President Dave thinks of inspiring words to open the meeting while Secretary Barb dreams up plausible minutes.

Dave Sherman has covered the outcomes of the business meeting in his column, page 1. As always, the luncheon was a chance to meet with old friends, and swap stories of the past and plans for the future



Dave presents Unit Merit Award earned during Steve Piotrowski's term as president

Thanks, Bob & Heidi, for hosting another great April luncheon at the Dells.

Capital Camp Out Lake Farm Park Madison, Wisconsin May 15 - 17, 2015

By Dave Sherman, Unit President

Photos by Vicki Engelstad

May 15th - 17th Steve & Lynne Piotrowski hosted the Capital Camp Out at Lake Farm Park on the southeast side of Madison.

Early arrivers Karen Suksi, Bill and Carolyn Holloway, Steve and Lynne Piotrowski, Vicki Engelstad, and Dave Sherman headed downtown Thursday night to the Great Dane for food and refreshments.



Mid-day Friday provided an opportunity for Vicki Engelstad to introduce Karen and Lynne to kayaking with a paddle on nearby Lake Monona. As all came back wearing big smiles and without going for a swim it was deemed successful.



After the others had arrived and set up there was time for a happy hour before heading to Tully's II for a traditional Wisconsin Friday night fish fry and then a campfire at Greg and Jane Hyer's campsite.

Everyone was off early Saturday morning to the Farmers Market on the Square. A number of the group attended a guided tour of the Wisconsin Veteran's Museum and then a tour of our State Capitol. If you've never toured our capitol you must put it on your "to do" list - you won't be disappointed.



After lunch there was a tour of the Wisconsin Historical Society Museum and then back to the campground for happy hour as Steve and Lynne prepared a delicious dinner of smoked pork chops, vegetables, potatoes, and chili.



A game of "Name That Show" followed the meal and as the sun set Kurt and Mary Jorgensen started a campfire at their campsite.

Sunday morning there was a "traditional" breakfast of oatmeal with ice cream before people started packing up to beat the rain.



Ruby Holloway relaxing in her canine hammock.

Among the nine units attending were new members Greg Anderson and Kathryn Lyster. If you see Greg and Kathryn and their beautiful 1967 Safari please introduce yourself and welcome them to the Unit.

Thanks, Steve & Lynne, for a great rally—and some great cooking!

Alumapalooza 6 The Airstream Factory Jackson Center, Ohio May 26 – 31, 2015

Photos by Matilda Rose Jorgensen

The Wisconsin Unit was well represented at this year's Alumapalooza, and, as in past years, its "athletic" teams were major powerhouses in the competitions.



Womens' trailer pulling team.



Hitching up.



And they're off!



Strike! Water balloon baseball tournament.



And, the league champions, the Wisconsin Unit!



Relaxing in between strenuous sporting events.

Great pictures, Matilda! Thanks!