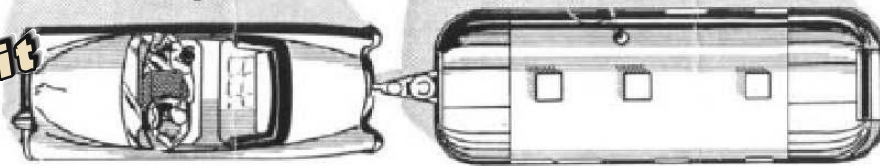


BADGER BULLETIN



November - December, 2015

John Sellers, Editor sellersj@erinet.com

Happy Trails



Hello Airstreamer Families!

This morning is bright and snowy and is the last day of November. You and I both know that this month absolutely flew by. I hope that you had a nice Thanksgiving and that you are beginning to think about Christmas and New Year's.

My courtesy parking area is pictured as of this morning. Only the deer are leaving tracks---look closely.



You may want to check your email—the International digital directory just came out. I downloaded it this morning. I think. . .

My travel to Arizona begins next week. I hope your winter is spent in comfort and that you take the time to plan for your camping season.

Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukah! Happy New Year!

From the still white UP. . .

Jane Carmichael, Unit President
janecarmichael2000@yahoo.com

The Wisconsin Unit

What's New

In this issue

News Bits

Upcoming Events

Welcome New Members

Fall Colors on the Mississippi Rally
Sports Unlimited Campground
Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin
October 9 - 11, 2015

Birthday Bash Camp Out
Kohler Andrae State Park
Sheboygan, Wisconsin
November 13 - 15, 2015

November Luncheon
Water Street Brewery
Grafton, Wisconsin
November 14, 2015

2016 Unit Event Schedule

Holiday Luncheon Invitation
Buck & Honey's Restaurant
Sun Prairie, Wisconsin
December 12, 2015

Renewal Dues Form



News Bits Upcoming Events

December 12, 2015: December Holiday Luncheon, 11:30 at Buck & Honey's Restaurant, 804 Liberty Blvd Ste 105, Sun Prairie. Hosted by Dave Sherman & Vicki Engelstad, 608-423-4561, dwsherman@wisc.edu or vengelstad@yahoo.com

February 13, 2016: St Valentine's Luncheon, 11:30 at Spring Garden Restaurant, 225 South Century Avenue, Waunakee, WI 53597 Hosted by Lilly & Neil King, 262-646-8697, lking8801@gmail.com

March 12, 2016: Saint Patrick's Day Luncheon, 11:30 at Vagabond, 1122 North Edison St, Milwaukee. <http://www.vagabondmke.com/> Hosted by Dave Sherman & Vicki Engelstad, 608-423-4561, dwsherman@wisc.edu vengelstad@yahoo.com

Member News Welcome New Members

Wisconsin Unit welcomes one new regular membership and one associate membership

Darrell & Susanne Torrence of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin join us as regular members. They have a 2015 Bambi 16 footer.

Pete & Kathy Yanke, of Saint Cloud, Minnesota, join us as associate members. They hardly need any introduction—Pete is the incoming Region 7 President!

Dues Due!

By Sandy Emerick, Unit Treasurer

If you have not sent in your annual dues for 2016, now is a good time! The deadline to have your information in the International directory was November 30th, but the Wisconsin Unit directory closes much later. You can renew online directly at the WBCCI.org website. Or, you may mail your renewal form to me. If you are unsure of your status, please send me an email: semerick4425@gmail.com

Thank you!!

RV Sales, Revenue Rise for Airstream Firm

Excerpted from *Dayton Daily News*, December 3, 2015

RV sales are growing, and Thor Industries—which makes Airstream trailers in Shelby County's Jackson Center—is enjoying the upswing.

The company announced this week that it's seeing a record start to its fiscal year. Sales from continuing operations for the first quarter were \$1.03 billion, up 12 percent from the first quarter last year, as sales of towable and motorized recreational vehicles saw a combined growth of 8 percent, the company said Monday.

At Thor Industries, sales and backlog both top \$1 billion, Bob Martin, Thor president and chief executive, said.

Net income from continuing operations for the first quarter was \$50.7 million, up 29 percent from \$39.2 million in last year's first quarter, the company said.

One-Liners



Dave Sherman pins on Jeff Bibler's badge at Houghton.
(This makes Dave the official Unit *Badger*!)

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

Unit Facebook group
WBCCI Wisconsin Unit

If you are reading a black and white printed copy of this newsletter, remember that it can be viewed in *color* on the Wisconsin Unit web site, <http://wisc.wbcci.net/>

Fall Colors on the Mississippi Rally **Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin** **October 9 - 11, 2015**

Story by Dave Sherman

Photos by Vicki Engelstad, Kurt Jorgenson, & Dave Gobeli

Friday October 9th was the gathering date for the *Fall Colors on the Mississippi* Driftless Area Campout in Prairie du Chien, hosted by Kurt & Mary Jorgensen.

En-route to the campout Vicki and I stopped at the Potosi Brewery in Potosi WI for lunch. I can't pass up an opportunity to recommend a visit to this wonderful micro brewery. The Potosi Brewery produced beer from 1852 until it closed in 1972. A fire in the mid 90's gutted the almost one block structure and it was deemed a total loss. It was purchased by an individual in 1995 and the restoration began. The result is absolutely beautiful. Not only does the brewery serve excellent food, it is home to the National Brewery Museum, the Potosi Brewing Company Transportation Museum, a Great River Road Interpretive Center, and—the beer is darn good too.



The campout was held at Sports Unlimited Campground located just north of Prairie du Chien between the Mississippi River and highway 35. This is a large campground with full hookups, bathroom and shower building, full laundry, and shade trees for our campsites.



By the afternoon all 10 units had arrived. This turned out to be a multi-state affair, with old friends Kurt and Julie Gunderson from Minnesota and Paul and Marsha Hahn from Iowa joining us Cheeseheads for a fun weekend



Long time Minnesota friends Curt & Julie Gunderson, with their vintage Airstream and vintage Ford pickup truck.

I was also happy to meet some members of our unit for the first time. John and Terri Cooper of Neenah purchased a new Airstream in early 2014 and Dave and Lori Gobeli purchased a new Airstream this spring. Both couples have made good use of their trailers with John and Terri attending the balloon rally in New Mexico and Dave and Lori taking a trip to California! After happy hour with reuniting and introductions we went into Prairie du Chien to enjoy a Friday night fish fry at Fort Mulligan's Grillpub which was enjoyed by all.



Saturday morning began with a breakfast in the campground main lodge provided by Kurt and Mary. Plans for the day were discussed and with so many things to do everyone found multiple items of interest. Vicki and I joined a group to tour Villa Louis.



The Villa Louis, also known as Dousman Mansion, is a National Historic Landmark located on St. Feriole Island. Mary, our host for the weekend, is a docent there and provided us a personal tour of the Mansion. The mansion is restored to represent a period between 1890 and 1910 and an amazing feature of the house is it contains almost all the original furnishings from that period.

On Saturday afternoon a group of us took a two hour cruise on the Mississippi River that included both backwaters and the main channel.



Then a group gathered at Pike's Peak State Park across the river in McGregor Iowa for a group photo at the overlook of the confluence of the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers - absolutely gorgeous (see our Facebook page).



Saturday evening reservations at the Black Angus provided some fine dining before a campfire back at the campground.

Sunday morning Kurt and Mary once again provided breakfast before everyone hooked up to head home enjoying the fall colors on the way.

I'd like to thank Kurt and Mary for hosting the weekend and let them know a comment often heard was the need to come back to see more of the area!



Cartoon courtesy of Steve Piotrowski and the daily *Tundra* comic strip, <http://tundracomics.com/>

Birthday Bash Camp Out Kohler Andrae State Park Sheboygan, Wisconsin November 13 - 15, 2015

By Sandy Emerick, photos by Joanne Peterson

We had another great turnout for the last camping event of our club's season! The usual suspects, and some new faces too! This weekend is so relaxing, a perfect ending to a year of travels.



Braving the mild temperatures, and high winds: Don & Kay Stenz, Jason & Kelly Staffin, along with their two November birthday children Samantha and Emmet, Steve & Karen Kondrek (friends from the R-Pod Nation—still working on getting them in an Airstream!), Jim Guthrie & Joanne Peterson, Jeff Bibler & Jenny, and Ed & Sandy Emerick.

We had a few wind related mishaps traveling to Sheboygan. Jeff & Jenny stopped in Hartford, all was well, but upon his arrival at the park, he realized his air conditioner cover was gone! Jeff thinks the cover shattered on impact, and there would not be much left. Ed & Sandy almost lost their awning! A truck driver passed and pointed, Sandy looked out the side mirror and saw the awning unfurling. An immediate stop on the interstate, and the awning was secured. That was close!

Jim & Joanne purchased a newer trailer, and made their maiden voyage to Sheboygan! They spotted this trailer for sale just north of Green Bay when they traveled to Houghton MI for our fall rally. They made a “short” detour after the rally and purchased the trailer. And then continued back to the UP for the drive to Urban Air in Eaton Rapids! They could hardly wait to get home and pick up the new trailer. Jim has been busy working on the trailer—it's a beauty.

Jason & Kelly invited their family and friends over to the park shelter for a dual birthday party for Samantha and Emmet! Saturday was a busy day for the Staffins with decorations, food, piñatas, and presents, in the shelter. Jason was the only one left standing Saturday evening with our group!!! The rest of the family was relaxing and watching movies in the warmth of their trailer!

Don & Kay did another bang-up job organizing the weekend. Kay baked a cake to celebrate all the November birthdays, how many years? 100-200? I heard some of the calculations, but my memory is sorely lacking.



Thank you, Don & Kay!!

November Luncheon Water Street Brewery Grafton, Wisconsin November 14, 2015

By Sandy Emerick. photos by Joanne Peterson

First luncheon of the season, and it was well attended!

From the Birthday Bash attendees, Don & Kay (our hosts), Jim & Joanne, Ed & Sandy made the trip to Grafton for lunch.

Also attending: Connie Sheasby, Dave Sherman & Vicki Engelstad, Bob & Heidi Manak, Annette Hooker, Bill Scheuerell & Ginny Janssen.

We had a nice long table to share, lots of good conversation, and excellent service.



We will be having several more luncheons, so mark your calendars and plan to join the fun.

Thanks again, Don & Kay!

WHERE THE TRAILS MAY TAKE YOU

By Jane Carmichael, Unit President

This issue is packed full of information regarding your Unit Activities---past, present and future! You have lots of options to join luncheons, campouts, caravans and gatherings. Now you may want to plan "where the trails may take you" in 2015 - 2016.

Thank you to each member who volunteered to arrange the Holiday, Valentine's and St Patrick Day luncheons. Please join in the fun and please thank our hosts who have graciously agreed to help the Unit. I really appreciate their help.

Here are some of the activities coming up---more details will be included in the newsletter and in your Unit Directory.

Dec 12, 2015 - Holiday Luncheon, Buck & Honey's Restaurant, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

February 13, 2016: Valentine's Luncheon, Spring Garden Restaurant, Waunakee, Wisconsin

March 12, 2016 - St.Patrick's Day Luncheon, Vagabond Milwaukee 1122 N Edison St., Milwaukee, WI 53202

March 25-27, 2016 - Easter Camp Out, Peninsula State Park, Fish Creek, Wisconsin

April 22-24, 2016 - Wisconsin Dells Campout, Wisconsin Dells KOA, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

April 23, 2016 – April Luncheon & Business Meeting, Moose Jaw Pizza & Dells Brewing Company, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

May 12-16, 2016 - A Day on the Bay, Apple Creek Campground, DePere, Wisconsin

May 26-29, 2016 Mackinac Island Tour Straits State Park. St Ignace, Michigan

Make reservations SIX months in advance (i.e .180 days) to stay at the Straits State Park for the Mackinac Island Tour. This means that you will want to reserve your site on or after Nov 26, 2015. (See below for how to reserve your site.)

May 29-30, 2016 - Caravan #1, from St.Ignace, Michigan to Jackson Center, Ohio

May 31 - June 5, 2016 Alumapalooza
(<http://alumapalooza.com/> to register)

June 28- July 5,2016 -WBCCI International Rally, Lewisburg, West Virginia

July 22-26, 2016 - Kids' Rally, Indian Shores Campground, Minocqua, Wisconsin

August 2-3, 2016 - Boondock Campout, Hiawatha National Forest, Wetmore, Michigan

August 4, 2016 - Caravan #2, from Wetmore, Michigan to Marquette, Michigan

August 4-7, 2016 Mardi Gras in August, Tourist Park , Marquette, Michigan

On January 1, 2016 Tourist Park begins to take reservations; call (906) 228-0460 or go online to: <http://mqctcy.org/>

August 7, 2016 - Caravan #3 (by Ed), from Marquette, Michigan to Wisconsin

August 17-21, 2016 - Region 7 Tall Ships Rally, Buffalo Valley Campground, Duluth, Minnesota

September 16-18, 2016 – 7th Annual Road America Campout, Road America race track, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin

September 22-26, 2016 - Wild Time for All Rally, Business Meeting, and Installation, Evergreen Campsites, Wild Rose, Wisconsin

September 29 -October 2, 2016 - Wake Up Downtown Urban Air Rally, Eaton Rapids, Michigan

Online Reservations for Urban Air usually start in May

There will be several things to do in conjunction with these events. You may want to create some side trips on your own and share them with the group. In any case, as always, you are welcome to join or to avoid any and all activities!! More details to follow in subsequent newsletters and all questions are welcomed.

At the end of November, you may want to reserve your campsite at Straits State Park -- for the Mackinac Island Tour. You may cancel or change for \$5, but campsites may go quickly for this special weekend. To reserve go to: www.midnrreservations.com

If you have problems with the website, call 800 447-2757. I have reserved Site 130.

I wish the very best for our group of Airstreamers and their extended families this holiday season.

From the Glorious Upper Peninsula, Jane

Merry Christmas to All. . . .



And to All, a Good Night!

WBCCI Wisconsin Unit December Holiday Luncheon



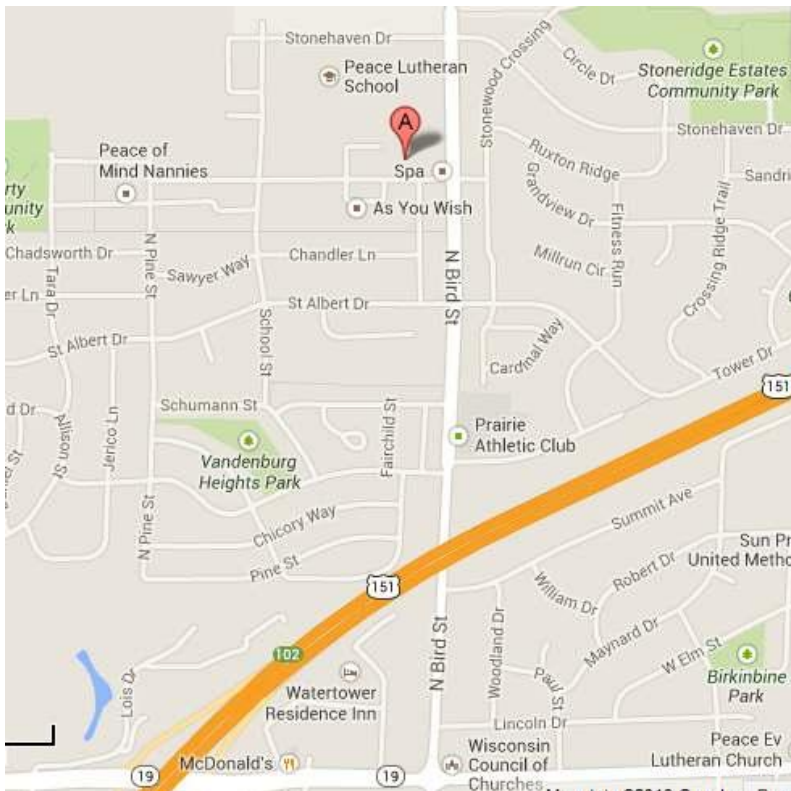
Buck & Honey's Restaurant
804 Liberty Boulevard
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
Phone: (608) 837-3131



December 12, 2015 at 11:30 AM

Hosted by Dave Sherman, dwsherman@wisc.edu
and Vicki Engelstad, vengelstad@yahoo.com
Phone: 608-423-4561

RSVP by December 9 (you may respond on the unit Facebook page)



Please join us for the annual Holiday Luncheon at Buck & Honey's Restaurant in Sun Prairie. Check out the restaurant's web site at www.buckandhoneys.com/.

Sun Prairie (home of "Jimmy the Groundhog") is just a few miles north of Madison. If you haven't been there in a while, you're in for a surprise. Sun Prairie is really reinventing itself. Check out their web site at www.visitsunprairie.com for a list of shops—everything from yarn and beads to guns and ammo!

The restaurant is only a few miles from the new Cosco, Super Target and Woodmans, if anyone needs to do any Christmas shopping.

Please let us know you are coming by December 9 so we can give the restaurant a head count.

Dave Sherman & Vicki Engelstad



Wally Byam Caravan Club International

Renewal Dues Request

2016 Membership

Unit
Name: _____

Unit Number: _____

Member #: _____

Member Type: ☐ Renewal

☐ Transfer

☐ Life Membership

Currently On File

Corrections / Changes

Member(s): _____

Address: _____

City, _____
State/Province, Zip: _____

Country: _____

Correct contact information if needed:

Member:		Member:	
Phone 1:		Phone 1:	
Phone 2:		Phone 2:	
E-mail:		Email:	

Vehicle Information

Type: ☐ Trailer ☐ Class A ☐ Class B Year: _____

Model: _____ Size: _____

Dues Received

International Dues: _____

Unit Dues: _____

Total Received: _____

Date Received: _____

Received By: _____

For Home Office Use:

Date Received: _____

Processed by: _____

Paid by: Unit ☐ Member ☐

Check# _____

Please check all that apply. This **INFORMATION** will **NOT** change in our database **UNLESS** we are notified in writing:

I **DO OFFER** Courtesy Parking YES ☐ NO ☐

☐ I do **NOT** want to receive a print copy of the Blue Beret

☐ I do **NOT** want to receive a print copy of the Annual Directory

☐ I do **NOT** want my contact information included in the PRINT directory.

☐ I do **NOT** want my contact information included in the DIGITAL directory.