



MAY/JUNE 2017

KAREN SUKSI, EDITOR

The First Unit gathering was a success despite the cold spring temperatures

Seventeen Airstream travel trailers from our unit met in the Wisconsin Dells on the last weekend in April. This usually is the kick-off camping event for the unit and is the opportunity for a business meeting to share information or vote on issues that pertain to governance of the club. Bob and Heidi Manak were the hosts for the weekend... providing a paced schedule. The luncheon drew a large contingent of seasoned members who wanted to hear club news; meet and greet new members and catch-up with long time camping friends.





Just Because...

by Kurt Jorgensen

"Just because it is a bad idea doesn't mean we can't have fun!" I think that sums up our spring rally in the Dells. Bad weather camping does seem like a bad idea, and the weather was bad. Cold, rain, wind. The Yoopers from the UP had to drive in ice, snow, and fairly good winds up north. BUT....when I watched people at happy hours, at supper, at breakfasts, or whenever, I saw people happy, laughing and truly glad to see each other. Someone mentioned they were worried about being bored at a business meeting, but they thought even that was even fun. I am so proud of our group, in that we truly seem to like each other. Geographic, political, religious, and even sport team affiliation rivalries seem not to matter. So let's keep having fun. And maybe Ed might get a brownie for breakfast next time.

Speaking of having fun, the Governor Dodge campout/rally is only two weeks away as I write this (probably less than a week when you read this) Plans are being made, and it appears we will have a good turnout—16 rigs have signed up so far. I will try to get an email to those signed up by about the weekend prior to this rally. And I still have the second of my double site available for someone who can't get a site.

Don't forget the KIDS, KIDS, KIDS rally; Jane's caravan to Alumapalooza; Ed's caravan to the Spirit of Cleveland, International, etc.

One word about the fall Driftless Caravan—I am getting some interest. We will have a group to go. I submitted a description to our Facebook Page along with campgrounds and numbers, and if I cannot get that description in this newsletter, I will hit you all with a email blast describing it. Those that go need to make their campground reservations for themselves—a block of sites are on hold until about June 1. I am looking forward to it.

Keep on AirStreaming and having fun!



A big THANK YOU to John Cooper for submitting pictures taken at the luncheon in the Dells.

Have you thought about.... Voltage as you plug into power at the campground?

Most campground voltage is running 108 volts...and it can fluctuate or dip lower when the air conditioner/heat pump compressor starts up.

Here are some ideas for you to consider:

- **try plugging into the 50-amp plug with an adapter... sometimes that circuit will have better voltage than the 30-amp one.**
- **get yourself a digital voltage monitor to plug inside your unit.**
- **purchase a voltage monitor which is designed to protect the RV from damage caused by low or high voltage and power spikes.**

FYI.... to you when making reservations....

recreation.gov has been notifying all that subscribe to their postings...

be aware that some locations have received more snow and rain than normal, which may delay seasonal openings. Check in with local offices closer to your reservation date or prior to visiting a first come first served site.

the reservation fees on recreation.gov have increased... you may or may not see the increase when making the reservation. If you are participating in a lottery or permit type the increase may be 4.00 or more.

According to the site... the increases are due to implementing the more complex recreation opportunities and the last time a rate hike was issued was more than 10 years ago.

Driftless Area Caravan
Led By Kurt and Mary Jorgensen

It starts on the Sunday, September 24, 2017 following the Installation Rally. We will tour and explore the Driftless area in southwest Wisconsin, northeast Iowa, and southeast Minnesota.

Stop #1 Rustic Barn Campground in Kieler, Wisconsin, near Dubuque, Iowa. 3 nights—September 24, 25, 26. We will visit the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium in Dubuque. Possible visit to the Field of Dreams movie site near Dyersville, Iowa. Campground info : Rustic Barn Campground <http://www.rusticbarnrvpark.com/> (608) 568-7797

Stop #2 Decorah City Campground—also called Pulpit Rock Campground. 2 nights—September 27, 28
Activities—Norwegian American Museum (Vesterheim), Toppling Goliath Brewery, bike trail around city. Campground information <http://parks.decorahia.org/pulpit-rock-campground>
(563) 382-9551 Warning—Beautiful municipal campground, but new to taking reservations, so process may be a bit bumpy.

Stop #3 Lanesboro, Minnesota 2 nights, September 29, 30 Eagle Cliff Campground and Lodging Great Bike trails near Lanesboro along the Root River. Also canoeing, kayaking. Local Live theater at the Commonweal Theater. This weekend will also be a joint rally with the Minnesota group. Campground info: <http://www.eagle-cliff.com/> 507-467-2598

This is a brief outline. Campgrounds are set, but still working on local lists of activities. Kitty to be determined, but probably will be low as people to make their own campground reservations and purchase own activities. I need to explore for group rates, etc. I have never run a caravan before, so I thought I would keep it a bit small—limiting to 15 units. I have a list of those stating they want to go, and we will get an official sign up soon. In early June, I will open this up to those outside our unit who wish to go. Contact me at 608-306-0330 or kurtspda@centurylink.net or message me on Facebook through our page.

P. S. from the Editor:

I found this pattern on a wall in Gallup NM during the SW Caravan; as a quilter I love to find patterns hidden in the views that we find as we travel in our Airstreams.

I just want to take an opportunity to thank all of my camping buddies who sent support and well wishes as I recovered from hip replacement surgery during April. I was very touched by your encouragement and connection during that time.

At this writing I am getting ready to trek to Cherokee , NC where I will meet a group of folks interested in seeing the Blue Ridge Mountains and studying the native American culture that fostered that region.

I hope you will be at the International gathering in Escanaba...since it is so close to our unit and region. I am scheduled to boon dock in the solar section, so stop by...until then...Happy Trails to you; until we meet again. (I grew up watching Roy and Dale...so cut me some slack!)

