

MARCH / APRIL 2019

KAREN SUKSI, EDITOR

Let the Planning begin...

It's now late February and the snow continues to fall (for those who stayed behind). So I thought you might be interested in some stimulating material to begin your planning for the coming camping season...

Have you considered...watching movies to inspire an outdoor adventure? Well, Michael Nystrom wrote an article about 9 movies/documentaries that may just “whet your appetite” for such an adventure...(these can be “streamed” to your computer/phone).

Here's just a sample:

Valley Uprising— rock climbing in the Yosemite Valley (Netflix)

Planet Earth II—includes episodes on islands, mountains, jungles, deserts...(Netflix)

Into the Wild—adapted from Jon Krakauer's book... (Netflix)

Meru— a documentary of 3 climbers scaling a wall in the Himalayas

Fishpeople—this film shows that no matter your background, the sea can be a unifying and healing force in our lives. (Netflix)

The Barkley Marathons: the Race that Eats Its Young—takes place in the mountains of Tennessee; emphasizing endurance and hiking trails. (Netflix)

Or...recreation.gov has re-imaged their web page and provides planning guides, camping recommendations, and specific stories of experiences that their readership have taken at parks.

Some of these listings are:

- 7 Bucket List Whale Watching Camping Trips

- American History Parks and Monuments to Visit

- 9 Reasons to Visit Utah in 2019

- 9 Romantic Camping Destination

- Americas 9 best Swamp Adventures (must be something about the number 9)

- 7 Delicious campfire Dessert Recipes (those of you that know me, understand why this part of the listing.)

Or...Try visiting your state's DNR webpage.

Many have monthly newsletters to keep you apprised of the events schedule at them all year round. Try bookmarking yours and find out exactly what is going on near you.

Our unit begins its yearly gatherings...with a couple events ...

Unit Events for Your Calendar

March 23, 2019

Saint Patrick's Day Luncheon

Where: **St. Brendan's Inn**

234 South Washington Street

Green Bay, WI 54301

Time: 11:30 am

Hosts: Vicki Englestad and Dave Sherman (#2412)

April 19-21 2019

Easter Campout

Where: **Peninsula State Park**, Fish Creek, WI

Hosts: Sandy and Ed Emerick (#4425)



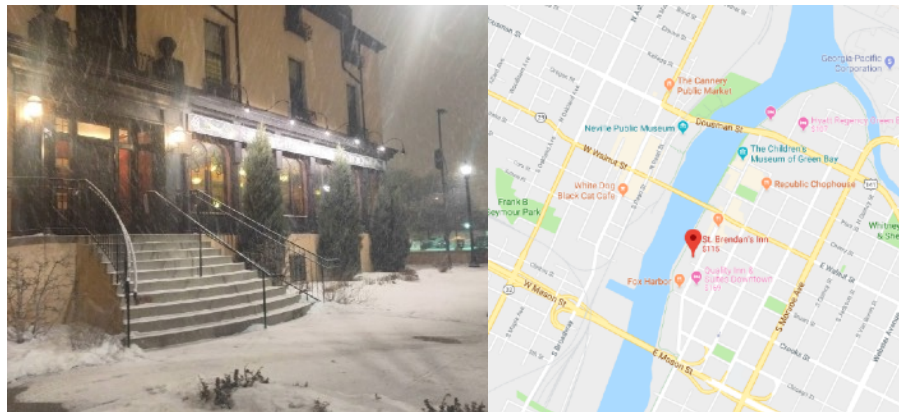
Message from President John and Terri Cooper...



Even with our Wisconsin weather forecast is sounding like a broken record for the next few weeks – cold, windy, and 1-12 inches of snow, followed by cold, windy, and 1-12 inches of snow, followed by ..., I'm getting excited about what's coming up this year.

The white **WILL** turn to brown, then green. The howling of the wind **WILL** turn to the buzz of mosquitos (although I'm not really excited about that part.) We **WILL** be able to get our Airstreams out of storage, de-winterized, and go camping again. I'm ready!

Our next event is the St. Patty's Day Luncheon on March 23, 2019 at 11:30 AM in Green Bay at St. Brendan's Inn.



Thanks to Vicki Engelstad and Dave Sherman for their tireless travel and research to find just the right place for this event. Terri and I are looking forward to seeing everyone there!

The Mid-Winter International Board of Trustees (IBT) meeting was held January 21-24 in Robertsedale, AL, about 30 miles from the Gulf Coast. Our unit was well represented, with Jane Carmichael (and Eddy), Kenn and Beth Zelten, Pete and Kathy Yanke, as well as Terri and I. Jane, Beth and Pete are also officers in Region 7.

In addition to attending the IBT meetings, walking on the beach, and not slipping on any ice all week, Terri and I also attended National Caravan Training to get a better understanding of the process used to develop a caravan, and to gather materials that may help any members who may want to lead a unit, regional, or national caravan. Please let me know if you have an interest in leading a caravan.



On a more local note, many of us have benefitted from Jim Guthrie's help during rallies, at luncheons, or pretty much anytime in between. Jim is always ready, willing, and able to help. It is just a part of who he is.

In addition to Airstreaming, he is active in a Wisconsin BMW motorcycle club and rides a R1200GS dual sport motorcycle.

Jim recently received the Helping Hand

Award from the BMW Motorcycle Owners of America for assistance that went "above and beyond" for another rider. No surprise there! Next time you see Jim tell him congratulations and thank Joanne for sharing him with us.

In the December newsletter I asked each of you to think about a new name for the unit that better represents our geographic area, and to let me know your thoughts via [email](#).

(jcooper@new.rr.com) I must tell you, those new email filters I put

in to send all your suggestions into oblivion are working perfectly because I have not received a single one!

To get your creative juices flowing, I offer the following contest: If you come up with a name that passes through the executive committee review, and is selected by the membership as our new name, I will buy your lunch at Moosejaw Pizza on May 18.



A Word from Jane Carmichael, 1st VP for Region 7:

These are YOUR REGION 7 OFFICERS (John Cooper, Wisconsin Unit, took this photo of all the Region 7 members)



GREETINGS! We just wanted to let you know a little bit about the Winter International Board of Trustees (IBT) meeting that was held January 21 - 25, 2019 in Robertsedale, Alabama. During the IBT, your officers reviewed motions, discussed ideas for improvement of Blue Book language, and voted on several issues. Their work culminated in the approval to develop an improved website and internet communication. This project will improve the ability to find information on the Wally Byam Airstream Club website.

In addition, a motion passed to allow all units to submit their requests for unit name changes; unit badges; or unit flags, directly to their Region President. These changes must then be approved by the Corporate Manager, Lori Plummer and the Corporate Airstream officers & legal team.

You may recall that there are 12 Regions in the Wally Byam Airstream Club. Each region has a President and 2 Vice Presidents (VP). Our Region is 7, which has 3 Units: North Dakota Peace Garden Unit (included North/ South Dakota, & Manitoba, Canada), Minnesota Airstream Club; and the Wisconsin Unit.

At this year's IBT, Region 7 was represented by 1st VP Jane Carmichael (#3230) and 2nd VP Beth Zelten (#5375). Jane and Beth are members of the Wisconsin Unit and are Yoopers too boot. Region 7 unit submitted their updated Constitution's and Bylaws changes to the IBT: CBL Chair, Tom Smithson. Tom continues to streamline the Blue Book and monitors all units for compliance. Stephen Piowtrowski (#2900), another Wisconsin unit member, is on the International Board of Trustees: CBL Committee as well.

The value of these 3 statements can be summed up this way:

Constitution—WHO we are

By-Law— WHAT we do

Policy—HOW we do

One of our IBT take aways: to solve problems, start with kindness

And now a word from Jim Guthrie

Do you occasionally check your tire temperature of each tire & wheel immediately after traveling some distance?

Carefully touching the rotating parts of the tire & wheel...can reassure you that everything is in order there. Or conversely, can tell you that something is amiss and needs attention.

You'll want to do this cautiously because a hung up or mis-adjusted brake or, a failing or failed bearing, can generate a fair amount of heat. If the sensed temperature seems to be the same for all wheels you should be good to go, but, if one wheel is warmer/hotter than the rest you'll want to attend to that issue rather quickly.

(For those that like gadgets...)An option to touching the wheels would be to use an **infrared thermometer** which are relatively inexpensive and fun to play with. Another strategy for monitoring your rotating parts would be to install a **TPM (tire pressure monitoring) system**. There are systems available that monitor both tire pressure and temperature of each wheel; Depending on the product the transmitters are either mounted inside the tire or outside on the valve stem. The receiver is a small device that resides on the dash (inside the tow vehicle) and "reports" frequently on the condition of each wheel. The receiver can also alert if any condition goes outside the parameters that can be set by you for your unit.



In order to avoid problems with running gear, a maintenance plan would be a good idea. I think it's fair to suggest that once a year would be an appropriate time line to check on the state of that gear. I'm not convinced that this option requires an RV dealer, many auto or truck repair facilities that have physical space should be able to handle this activity but, the RV dealer/repair center might be the better option in the event that replacement parts are required as they are more likely to be in stock at that facility.

However, if you're reasonably handy, don't spent a lot of time on the couch and don't mind getting your hands dirty pulling wheels and brake drums is not difficult; not much worse than changing a tire. There are a number of DIY videos on YouTube that can walk you through the process of repacking and adjusting wheel bearings, and checking, repairing and adjusting the brakes. I would suggest you look at several different video clips in order to find the most effective process for you. The tools required are few and very basic items that probably ought to be in your tool kit anyway.

Have safe trouble free travels – keep the rolling side down.