

Trailhusker

The Newsletter of the Nebraska Unit, WBCCI

May 2012

From the President's Mobile Desk Sue Heist



As most of you know there has been a proposed revision to the WBCCI Constitution on the table for almost a year. The revision was presented to the delegates at the 2011 meeting but was tabled until the 2012 Delegates Meeting. At this year's Delegates Meeting there will be a vote on two amendments to the **CURRENT CONSTITUTION**. Amendment 1 is the revision to the Constitution. Amendment 2, if passed, would allow Life Members to remain Regular Members if they replace their Airstream recreational vehicle with a Class A motor home manufactured by a division of Thor Industries, Inc.

There are also three motions to amend or modify the revision to the Constitution. These motions were proposed to address at least some of the concerns that were discussed at last year's delegates meeting. These will be discussed and voted on prior to voting on the revision (Amendment 1). If passed the revision (Amendment 1) would be accepted or rejected "as amended."

In addition to the votes on amendments and motions, there will be a vote on the slate of nominees for the officers for 2012-2013 year.

Each member (one family/rig) that is either a Lifetime Member or a Regular Member who paid their dues this year has a vote. I sent a ballot to each voting member who was not at the Business Meeting on April 21st, either by email or USPS. Please use your ballot to let me know how you want me to cast your vote. Please mail the marked ballot to me by June 11th.

I realize it is all very confusing but please take the time to vote. WBCCI is a member controlled and driven organization.

On the lighter side, Bob and I returned home from the Civil War Part 2 Caravan on April 3rd having seen a lot of Georgia and eastern Tennessee. It was a great caravan and we're hoping to be on next year's Civil War Part 3 Caravan. (We're 7th on the waiting list.) We were home for about 2 weeks when it was time for the Spring Rally at Lancaster Event Center. The rally committee did an excellent job of entertaining us. Our tour of the capitol was outstanding!!!

Directly after the Spring Rally we caravanned with five other members of the unit to Region 8 Rally in Springfield, MO. We always have a good time traveling with our Nebraska Airstream friends! As will be reported in another section, our unit won First Place at Region 8 for our bulletin board. Let's all give Glenda Savicky a big *THANK YOU* for all her work and creativity. Also the unit won second place for donating the most hats; all thanks to Donajean Sherwin.

Bob and I left Region 8 Rally early to join the Springtime in Kentucky Caravan. We'll be traveling through Kentucky until the end of May. It looks like the main topics will be horses, bluegrass music, Corvettes and bourbon. We're looking forward to all of them.

Hope to see a lot of you at the September rally at Fort Robinson. It's a joint rally with DenCO, so let's show the Colorado people some Nebraska hospitality.

**Nebraska Spring Rally
Lancaster Event Center, Lincoln
April 19 – 22**

Those attending the rally were: Mary Ann and Sam Boman; Mimi and Roger Brandt; Jo and Ivan Curtis; Sue and Bob Heist; LaDon and Bill Kallmer; Fran and Bob Olson; Lana and Dwight Olson; Donajean and Bert Sherwin; Leona and Roscoe Shields; Betty Ann and John Sutton.

Roscoe and Leona Shields chaired an excellent rally. Their research and planning were evident throughout the busy weekend.

The cold, rainy weather on Thursday didn't hinder our tour of Fairview, the William Jennings Bryan home, followed by pizza dinner at the Shields' home. Roscoe also showed the video of Wally Byam's Cape Town to Cairo Caravan. We all agreed that those caravanners were a hardy crew and wondered if we would measure up under such primitive conditions.

On Friday morning we toured the Nebraska History Museum. The Shields also made arrangements for us to lunch at the state capitol building, followed by a tour that took us from the Archives Room in the basement, to the Supreme Court and Legislative Chamber, and up the tiny elevators to the outdoor walkway under the dome.



Some members of the group at the end of the capitol tour

The Event Center was also hosting the Nebraska Collegiate Rodeo, so we were surrounded by handsome young people and their beautiful horses. Several of us attended the rodeo on Saturday, while others rodeo-ed around the Joker board.



Mary Salmen and her daughter Terri and son-in-law Dennis drove in from Hastings on Saturday. They joined us for Joker and dinner at the Lone Star Steakhouse.



Capitol Archivist Karen Wagner explains the importance of preserving records

Former members Jan and Jan Perrin from Lincoln also joined the group and reminisced about travels with their Airstream and the Nebraska Unit.

Following Fr. Sam Boman's Sunday service, the caravan departed for the Region 8 Rally in Springfield, MO.



Roscoe and Leona Shields in the Legislature chamber

Dinner at Sakora Restaurant



Region 8 Rally Springfield, Missouri April 25 – 29

Unit members attending were: Mimi and Roger Brandt; Roscoe Corell; Sue and Bob Heist; LaDon and Bill Kallmer; Lana and Dwight Olson; Leona and Roscoe Shields.

Region 8 First Lady Dottie Steurer wrote and directed a melodrama titled "Rendevous at Slippery Slope." A member from each unit participated and LaDon Kallmer played the role of Sweetie Pie. All the characters of the play were exaggerated stereotypes of people who could be found on a caravan. LaDon said, "The whole play was such a hoot. The murderer was Wild Bill Hickup, a caravan leader imposter."



Chuck Cabalka (Iowa Unit) and LaDon Kallmer ham it up in their melodrama roles

Bean Bag Baseball Tournament By Bill Kallmer, Trailhusker Sports Reporter



By the morning of Thursday, April 26th, the air was overflowing with humidity and the sun was just coming over the treetops of our campground. A perfect day, for this was the scheduled day for the infamous dual of Bean Bag Baseball.

All eleven members of Nebraska's unit were up early after the previous night of practice throwing the bean bag in the rally's meeting hall. Each member calmly met at the prescribed time to partake in the morning's breakfast of cereal, fruit, yogurt, and coffee; each waiting for the kickoff, or rather, the first pitch of the bag.

Tension was high. The Nebraska team, called the *Thunder Dunders*, were anxiously waiting and having that thrill up our legs. Pat Shaw, our regional BBB Leader-in-Chief, called the games to begin at 8:30.

The *Nebraska Thunder Dunder* roster began something like this, from seat 1 to seat 9: Dwight Olson, Roger

Brandt, LaDon Kallmer, Bob Heist, Leona Shields, Roscoe Corell, Sue Heist, Mimi Brandt, and Lana Olson. Roscoe Shields was appointed scorekeeper and the oily eyed, one armed umpire watching the line and scores was yours truly, Bill Kallmer.



The first game was between *Missouri Greater Ozark Muskrats* and the first International Champions, the *Nebraska Thunder Dunders*. During the first part of the game, the *Thunder Dunders* pulled out ahead, only to be quickly overtaken by the *Missouri Muskrats*. Each team scored well, but in the end, the *Muskrats* hit the hole, as muskrats do, and the *Thunder Dunders* "dun" didn't do it.

The final score: Missouri 18; Nebraska 13. I, as the BBB's captain, was proud of all our bag tossers, especially Roscoe Corell, Roger Brandt, Mimi Brandt, and LaDon Kallmer. When we needed to score, they met the challenge. We all managed to swallow our pride and shake the hands of the victors.

The *Missouri Muskrats* continued to win until the regional playoff championship on Friday where they lost by only a couple runs to the *Missouri Delta Mud Hens*. A fun time was had by all.



Dwight Olson conducted a safety seminar. He recommended that trailers have 2 – 3 fire extinguishers, use a tire pressure monitoring system, and secure pets with appropriate restraints. He reported that there is a security system available that plays a tape of a barking Doberman.

Following his presentation, participants shared and discussed their ideas on brakes and breakaway switches, pet safety and tire pressure monitors.



Nebraska Unit members who participated in the choir were: Dwight Olson, Pat Shaw, LaDon Kallmer, and Lana Olson.



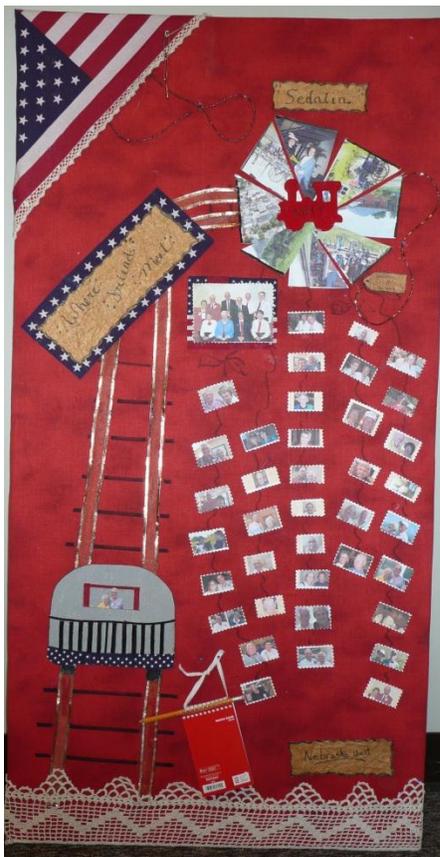
Congratulations also go to Donajeane Sherwin! She crocheted 54 children's hats. Yes, that's right – 54 hats. Her efforts earned the unit a second place ribbon.

A special thank you to Glenda and Donajeane for their creative work.

Congratulations to Glenda Savicky! Her bulletin board earned first place.



Unit President Sue Heist carried our flag during the opening ceremonies.



First Vice President Lana Olson called names for the raffle.

Member News

Thank you from Mary Salmen

I would like to thank all our Airstream friends who came to visit while Dennis was sick or called while he was in the Heart Institute, Hastings Hospital or the nursing home. It is always comforting to talk to good friends.

Also, thanks so much for all the beautiful cards, memorials, calls, and those of you who were able to come to Dennis' funeral. We have travelled many miles together and have gone to so many caravans. Those memories I will cherish forever and that time together has made us like family.

It was really wonderful to see so many of you take the time to come to Dennis' funeral. Hopefully between the kids and the Shields, we got all the "Airstreamers" sitting together in the church.

Words cannot express my thanks for all the kindness I have received from all of you. Dennis and I were very glad we bought an Airstream and did all the travelling we did with all of you. Thanks again for everything! Airstreamers are a special family of people.

Murt Letcher Health Update

For those members who don't have email, here's some information. Murt has been busy retrofitting her home to make it more accessible for use with her new Evolution Walker, the Porche of walkers. She still has her B-Van for sale. If you know someone who is interested, contact her directly at 308-760-0359. She appreciates calls and notes, so keep her posted on your activities.

Jim Wherrett

Jim suffered a major cardiac problem while travelling through New Mexico. He and Mary were on their way home to Omaha when he became ill. After hospitalization and surgery in Albuquerque, family members made arrangements to bring him and Mary home. Please give them a call or send a note to let him know you are thinking about him.

Marvin Hoyt

Marvin Hoyt, Dan Hoyt's father passed away on April 7, in Missouri Valley, Iowa. He was 84 years old and had lived in the Missouri Valley area his whole life. Our sympathies go out to Dan and Dale Ann.

Ruby Ciciulla

Former Nebraska Unit member Ruby Ciciulla passed away on April 8. Even though she and husband Chuck no longer had their Airstream, they stayed active in the Unit. They attended the monthly luncheons in Omaha and stayed in touch with many members.



**Fran Olson, Ruby Ciciulla, Mary Ann Boman,
Donajean Sherwin - May 2009**

The ladies at the luncheons will always remember Ruby as a beautiful lady with an active mind and love of God and her family. Ruby had interesting stories to share about her children and their families, including the five great-grandchildren. And she never failed to ask us about our family events and health.



**Donajean Sherwin, Lori Lorenz, Ruby Ciciulla,
Katie Peterson - May 2010**



**Goodbye dear friend,
we will remember you
and miss you at every
luncheon.**

September Caravan and Rally By Dwight Olson

We Airstreamers generally have a busy summer travelling and enjoying the glorious weather and all that it produces in our yards and gardens.

But this year, September could be the biggest deal. There's nothing new about the September rally, but it will be a gem among several other events.

First there will be a relaxed caravan through the middle of Nebraska (maybe with a surprise for some). The caravan will leave on September 11th to arrive at Fort Robinson for a joint rally (Sept. 13 – 16) with the Denver Colorado Unit. The area around Fort Robinson is arguably the most beautiful part of Nebraska (at least for us open-space people!). There will be tours, food and good times.

When the rally is over, we will caravan with the Denver Unit to Gering, Nebraska for a rally organized by DenCo Unit members Bill & Donna Lindgren. Then we'll travel on to the 48th National Antelope Rally near Medicine Bow, Wyoming, running from September 23rd to the 27th. On the way, a stop is planned at the Terry Bison Ranch at Cheyenne, WY.

If you have never attended the Antelope Rally you are missing a great time and good food. Some of those attending will hunt antelope. Others will photograph elk and other wildlife, take scenic drives, visit museums, or gather petrified wood. This is a true hunting camp experience, and is hosted on the Heward Ranch. If the hunters are successful, there may be a meal of tenderloin and all the fixin's. When you are there you can add your name to the "wall" alongside several other Nebraskans. The fee for the Antelope Rally is \$85.00, which includes: 30 amp, 5 breakfasts, 5 dinners.

For more information about the Antelope Rally email Texfoley@msn.com or Debbie Eccli, Treasurer WY Unit, deccli@wyoming.com.

Details and the coupon for the caravan and Fort Robinson Rally will be included in the July issue of the Trailhusker.

April Luncheon Old Country Buffet – Omaha

Several members had returned from their winter travels. Those attending were: Mary Ann & Sam Boman; Sue Heist; LaDon & Bill Kallmer; Lori & Don Lorenz; Lana & Dwight Olson; Glenn Sanders; Leona & Roscoe Shields; and Betty Ann & John Sutton.

Next luncheon: May 14, same time, same place.

Jo Curtis's Date Ball Cookies



Jo brought these cookies to the April Rally in Lincoln. They are fabulous – actually, Jo is fabulous, too. Our theory is: the fruit and fiber from the dates and Rice Krispies cancel out the calories from the sugar and margarine.

½ lb. chopped dates
1 stick, plus 1 Tablespoon margarine
¾ cup sugar
2 cups Rice Krispies
½ cup chopped nuts
sifted powdered sugar

Cook dates, margarine and sugar over medium heat until thick. Add cereal and nuts. Roll into small balls and coat with sifted powdered sugar.

These also freeze well.



Mary Jo Anderson emailed her new photo for the 2013 Nebraska Unit Directory.

Please be sure to have Betty Ann take your picture or email one to John.



Nebraska Unit 50th Anniversary Logo

The next issue of the Trailhusker will be published in late July. Please submit any news and photos by July 15.

Betty Ann Sutton, editor

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