



# Trailhusker



The Newsletter of the Nebraska Unit - WBCCI

October 2017

## *A Note from the Former President*

**Mike Sisk**

**Former President of the Nebraska Unit**

This will be my final letter as President of the Nebraska Unit. What a pleasure it has been for me. I want to thank the Officers, Rally Committee Chairs, Rally Committee Members, Caravan Leaders, and all those who gave me sound advice, which is basically the entire membership. I especially want to thank Cheryl for her valuable support with this team effort.

I hope you agree that we have had great attendance at our rallies, and the new members stepped up and readily pitched in. They volunteered to be not only Rally Committee Members but some as incoming Officers for the next year. Best of luck to them! Volunteering is the best way to learn how the Unit functions and a great way to get to know other members. Larry has some great rallies and a Mystery Caravan planned for the coming year. Your support to him, as it was for me, will be greatly appreciated, I'm sure.

Fall is Cheryl and my favorite time of year. The beautiful fall colors are coming, the weather will be cooler, and Halloween will soon be upon us. Enjoy this season and the bounty it brings.

*~ Mike*



## *A Note from the New President*

**Larry Link**

**New President of the Nebraska Unit**

It will be a humbling and learning experience to serve our Nebraska Airstream Club as your president. Thank you for this opportunity. Mike Sisk has been a great president. One of his goals was to implement a mentoring system for new

members, and I plan to continue this great program. Thank you, Mike, for starting this program, and good luck on your Region VP responsibilities. Let me know if any of you would like to continue to help us mentor our new members!

Marcia and I purchased our 2006 25' Safari in March, 2014 and like many of you, traveled outside the state to buy it and bring it home – in our case, El Dorado, CA. Within a few days after arriving home, we received a call from none other than Roscoe Shields. I had chosen the same RV storage facility as he and Leona and was parked a few trailers away from theirs. His words to the owner; "If anyone shows up with an airstream, call me", and of course, he did and the rest is history. The Shields are the type of people we have found in our NE Airstream Club – caring, loving, and always willing to help out! Marcia and I thank you all for your friendship! We have learned a lot from all of you!

The year ahead will be fun, and I know interesting: a region rally in Branson, MO; an international rally in Salem, OR (what a beautiful state); a mystery caravan in Nebraska; and rallies at Branched Oak Lake SRA near Raymond, NE; Yankton, SD; and conclusion in Madison County, NE. I am sure most of you will include other trips in your schedule. Please take a look at our Region 8 neighbors for their many interesting rallies and caravans.

Marcia and I will be leaving for Texas October 13<sup>th</sup>. First we'll travel to Amarillo to spend a month near our son and family, then on to Donna, TX to spend rest of the winter, and arrive home sometime in mid-March, 2018. Our address is 200 N. Val Verde Rd., Lot # 488, Donna, TX 78537. So if you are ever in the area, stop by and see us. There are always a few empty lots available in Palm Shadows RV Park. I am sure Ryan Knowles and Jim Wright will fill in for me admirably, at our monthly luncheons.

In the near future, I will be in contact with you to see how we can work together to make our Nebraska Airstream Club a shining star – ideas you may have for this new year and asking for your help with upcoming rallies. Please feel free to volunteer your services before I call or email.

May the roads be straight and may your travels be great!

Marcia and I will be anxious to hear from you during your fall and winter travels. God Speed!

~ Larry



### 2018 RALLY SCHEDULE

April 19 – 22	Fix-It-if-You-Can Rally Branched Oak State Park SRA Area 4 Raymond, NE
April 25 – 26	Caravan to Branson, MO Region 8 Rally
April 26 – 29	A Bit of Branson Region 8 Spring Rally Branson, MO
June 20 – 23	Caravan to International Rally Salem, OR
June 23 – 30	Living the Dream International Rally Oregon State Fairgrounds Salem, OR
August 22 – 30	Mystery “Catch Me if You Can” Caravan
September 13 – 16	Sail and Serenade Buddy Rally Yankton, SD
September 27 – 30	Golden Harvest Installation Rally Madison County Fairgrounds Madison, NE



### 2017-2018 Nebraska Unit Officers

President	Larry Link
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Ryan Knowles
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Jim Wright
Corresponding Secretary	LaDon Kallmer
Recording Secretary	Lana Olson
Treasurer	Marcia Link
Trustee (1 yr.)	Cheryl Sisk
Trustee (2 yr.)	Roger Young



### Skipping Through Michigan Our First Rally

**A**t the completion of the WBCCI International Rally at Escanaba, Michigan, we attended a short caravan traveling along the East side of Lake Michigan with seventeen Airstream trailers. This was a short caravan that lasted only eight days but was perfect for a first timer. Here are some of the highlights of our trip.

Saturday, July 29th we met thirty Airstream friends at Bay Mills Resort and Casino RV Campground in Brimley, Michigan. Yes, we gambled, and no, we did not win anything. Sunday, we visited the Soo Locks in Sault St. Marie, Michigan. We cruised through the locks, traveling twenty-one feet straight up in our boat, and along the waterfronts of Lake Michigan and Canada. We went over and under the International Highway Bridge with a view to remember.

On Monday, we all left for the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum at Whitefish Point Light House Station. There we visited the oldest operating Light Tower on Lake Superior and saw the bell of the Edmund Fitzgerald. On Tuesday, we left Bay Mills and traveled to the campground at St. Ignace, Michigan preparing for a full day on Wednesday at Mackinac Island. We toured the island in a horse-drawn carriage, visited Fort Mackinac, and had lunch at the Grand Hotel.

Thursday we set off to Holland, Michigan; the longest leg of the caravan at 275 miles, arriving in time to visit the President Gerald Ford Museum. Friday was the tour of a 1761 Dutch Windmill and Gardens. Here we learned how to make wooden shoes (if you need any see Jim). Saturday we all said our goodbyes and started home. Seymour is now in the driveway at home getting re-supplied for our next trip on August 30th to Mesa Verde. To be continued...



~Jim and Jeanine Wright



**Pow Wow Rally by Iowa Unit  
In Tama, IA at Meskwaki Casino RV Park**

The Pow Wow rally was August 10th - 13th in Tama, Iowa, hosted by the Iowa Unit. Attending from our Nebraska Unit was Scott and Kathy Allen; Gary and Cheryl Burrows; and Larry and

Marcia Link. The rally was held at the Meskwaki Casino RV Park, west of Tama. Hosts were Norm and Linda Beu; Mike and Linda Ricker, and Mike Donahue (he will be President of Iowa Unit next year). On Thursday, we toured the Weiting Theater, a 100+year old opera house in Toledo, Iowa. With over \$1 million dollars in wonderful renovations, the theater is beautiful with replicas of the original ceiling and wall murals, seats, original oak flooring, and fabulous original stage curtain. In over 100 years, the building has always been used for stage shows, classes for actors, and as a movie theater. They have also had wedding/anniversary celebrations there over the years and plan to add an addition once funds are raised for the second phase of the renovation. All people working there are volunteers, so all proceeds go into the second phase future project, which is an addition for community events, etc.

Our second tour was of the Midwest Sleep Mattress Factory which is also in Toledo. Here they make both foam and spring mattresses and can turn out over 600 mattresses a day. They make stock mattresses as well as "made-to-order". Turn around is within two to three days from order until shipment. If you are in need of a mattress, go to their website at: [www.midwest-mattress.com](http://www.midwest-mattress.com) where there is a list of dealers. The factory was very impressive; wood framing pieces for box springs come from outside Amish personnel and then built in factory. They sew all their own mattress covers. Cloth/foam material arrives in rolls and converted to mattresses; springs are made outside the factory.

On Friday/Saturday, we observed the 103rd Annual Meskwaki Pow Wow put on by the Sac and Fox Indians from various states. They wore their native costumes and head gear and performed ceremonial dances within every age group. This Pow Wow originated from the traditional



religious and social beliefs of the Meskwaki Tribe, but it is currently more of a social event. Tents surrounded the ceremonial grounds with Indian merchandise, and food and drinks available for

purchase. The land where the Pow Wow took place was the original land purchased by the Meskwaki, not a reservation.

~Larry Link (Marcia)



### Installation Rally

We had a rainy, but good, installation rally in Nebraska City on October 5th - 8th. Chloe, our dog, was a basket case during the heavy, noisy thunder storm on Friday night. Marcia and I were a little better, off but I didn't get much sleep that night. RV sites were in great shape and had excellent drainage, at least on the high-side, where five of our nine units were parked.

Thursday evening we had carry-in Valentinos Pizza and other nourishing goodies that everyone brought to make for a great evening meal in the Victoria Acres RV Park Club House. Friday morning we headed to the Lewis & Clark Museum; a great place for kids and adults alike and gave us a chance to get out of the rain. I think we all enjoyed the movie and museum. On Friday afternoon, our meal at The Depot was



outstanding with a great atmosphere. In the evening, the abandoned Kregel Windmill Factory Museum tour was very interesting; nearly all of us can remember a windmill on our farm or at friends or relatives if

you were a "city slicker". I can remember my mother telling the story of a 2-1/2 year old boy climbing to the top of our windmill, and she, 8 months pregnant, had to retrieve him (I was always an adventurous child!).

On Saturday morning, although still rainy, some went to the Civil War Battle Reenactment at the Wildwood Historic Center. Then in the early

evening, we had dinner at Chops Restaurant in down town Nebraska City, followed by the installation of officers at the RV park club house. We wrapped up the evening watching Nebraska get beat up by Wisconsin in a football pounding.

Thanks to all of our officers for their acceptance of their positions and the opportunities and responsibilities before them, as well as the outgoing officers. Mike has been an outstanding leader and president this past year. Thank you, Mike! Also, thank you to the nominating committee members for their hard work.



I want to thank our very capable and talented "rally" team of Bill and LaDon Kallmer; Jim and Jeannine Wright; and Marcia Link. Also, our thanks to Beth McCall (our Region 8 President) and her husband, Dave, for attending our rally, including her excellent ability for making the installation entertaining but professional. If you weren't there you missed a great rally. Great friendship had by all!

~Larry Link (Marcia)





## Buddy Rally

The September Buddy Rally in Kearney was chaired by the Hoyts, Vannemans, Sherwins, Roger Brandt, and David Olson. It began on Thursday the 14th when 12 rigs checked into the Fort Kearny State Recreation Area Campground. The weather was great and the leaves were just beginning to turn, giving us a sense that fall was in the air. The Kallmers actually brought buddies (Mike and Carla Blevin) and therefore received the "buddy prize". The members brought cans of beans to pitch into the pot for a bean dinner. Following dinner, we circled around in our lawn chairs and played the true or false game that Wrights brought. Actually, every evening we circled around for fellowship and a campfire!

The Rowe Sanctuary is just down the road from the camp, and on Friday, their staff put together a day camp experience for us. We hiked, looked for birds and wildlife, toured the grounds via wagon, watched videos, and enjoyed the sack lunches we had packed for ourselves. At the dinner hour, we crammed ourselves into the small space of a converted gas station, now known as



Flippin Sweet Pizza, and dined on some great Italian food.



Then, we met at the Alley Rose Restaurant for some fine dining and our official meeting. We elected the

new officers, discussed the name change of the club, and conducted regular business.

The weather turned cold and windy on Sunday. Perfect timing for us to return home. Those attending the rally were: Al and Kay Becher and Kay's sister; Bill and LaDon Kallmer and the Blevins; Jim and Jeanine Wright; Ron and Bobbie Vanneman; Mike and Cheryl Sisk; Ryan and Amy Knowles; Larry and Marcia Link; Sam and Mary Ann Boman; Roger and Margo Young; Roger Brandt and Jan Land; Roscoe Corell and his son, Ray; and Dan and Dale Ann Hoyt.



~Dale Ann Hoyt (Dan)



## Milestone Membership



Recognition of a special person occurred at the October Luncheon. Fran Olson has been a member of WBCCI and the Nebraska Airstream Club for 50 years. LaDon presented her with a card and a potted plant in behalf of the members. Fran and her late husband, Bob, joined the club in



1967 while their children were young enough to tag along. They have gone from travel trailer to motorhome and from coast to coast. Although they loved the rigs, Fran confirmed what we all know; it is the people that make the difference, and that is what she misses the most. Although she has sold the motorhome, she continues to travel at every opportunity and remains a very active person and a very active participant in our Airstream Club.

~Dale Ann Hoyt (Dan)



### Kudos to Roscoe and Leona Shields

Club members would like to say thanks to Roscoe and Leona Shields who have been members of our Nebraska Unit for many years. They recently sold their Airstream trailer and moved into a retirement community, so had many items that they no longer needed to keep. They generously contributed the items, and our President, Larry Link picked them up from the Shields and brought them to the rally in Nebraska City where many members were able to pick the things that they could use on their Airstream travels. We will miss them traveling with us, but are glad that we see them at our monthly luncheons.



Happy trails to you, until we  
 meet again. Some trails are happy  
 ones, others are blue. It's the way  
 you ride the trail that counts,  
 here's a happy one for you.

Dale Evans

~Dale Ann Hoyt (Dan)



### 2017 – 2018 Luncheons

**D**on't miss out on our monthly luncheons held at Parkers Smokehouse in Ashland, NE. We meet in the reserved party room, about 11:45 AM, on the second Monday of the month. Quarterly, we meet on the second Saturday to accommodate our working members. The food is always good, followed by a short social time. Mark your calendar according to the following chart.



Saturday, October 14	Monday, November 13
Monday, December 11	Saturday, January 13
Monday, February 12	Monday, March 12
Saturday, April 14	Monday, May 14
Monday, June 11	Saturday, July 14

If you have news for the next issue, please email:  
 Dale Ann Hoyt at [hoyt120@gmail.com](mailto:hoyt120@gmail.com)