



GOOD LIFE NEWS



Letter from the President

Greetings from Florida

I would guess that most of our unit is successfully playing the game of snowbirding this summer and I hope you are having a good time doing it. Our summer started with a trip to Alaska with the Airstream Fly & Drive Caravan. There were 16 motor homes and 40 people on the two-week trip leaving from Anchorage on May 19. We took as our guests one of my brothers and his wife in our motor home. We had a great time! I really enjoyed a fishing trip for halibut in Homer and an airplane trip over Mt McKinley. The bus trip into Denali National Park was also a very fun day. We saw 3 bears very close to our bus, many caribou, two wolves out hunting, lots of mountain goats and moose very near to our campsite. John and Thelda Guy do a great job leading this caravan.

We have heard that only a few of our unit made it to Boseman this year. Thanks go out to our 2nd V.P., Randy Godfrey, for being the delegate for our unit and for representing me in the opening exercises.

We have just returned home from Massachusetts after spending three weeks with our son and his family. They have two sons: one is 22 months old and the baby is 1 month old. Grandpa and Grandma really enjoyed our time with the boys. The rest of the summer we plan to be home and will try to keep cool. Remember the Election Luncheon in Orlando on Nov. 1. Hope to see many of you then. (More to follow in the next newsletter!)

Dave

2009 Florida 027 Unit Slate of Officers

President.....Tom Moore
1st Vice President..... Randy Godfrey
2nd Vice President..... Willard Pickrel
Treasurer.....Frank Carson
Corresponding Secty.....Joan Carson
Recording Secty..... Pat Finn
2 Year Trustee.....*Phil Drugge*
Vic Smith

1 Year Trustee.....*Joe McMillen*
Earl Leggett

Committee Chairmen:

Membership.....Joan Carson
Historian Louise Kramer
Cheer..... Joan Carson

Vic and Josie's Summer

Josie and I left Florida on the 7th of May and headed for New York. We made a couple of stops, one in Richmond VA and one near Manassas VA to visit relatives. We arrived at the Saratoga RV Park on the 13th and got settled in. Many of the folks here work at the Saratoga Race Track as grooms and exercisers. When summer racing season opens there will be a lot more folks here at the Park.

We attended our grand niece's high school graduation and the family picnic that followed the next day. My sister and brother-in-law live nearby and we visit with them often.

The highlight of the trip so far was the Vintage Trailer Jam 08 which I have commented on in another article. Next month we plan to spend 2-3 weeks in Sterling Hill Connecticut at Josie's sister's. We are looking forward to the annual lobster bake that she and her husband put on each year. They allow us to park next to the pool although they still haven't put in the 30 amp hook-up or the sewer system, but we will tough it out, regardless. After the stay in Connecticut we will return to the RV Park and stay until early October.

The weather has met our expectations. It is cool at night and warm during the day. The humidity is much lower than in Florida. Also it is nice to be in the Adirondack area. It is truly God's country. We are looking forward to getting back to Palm Bay and our family and friends there.

Vintage Trailer Jam 08

July 10th-14th, 2008

Vic Smith

The Vintage Trailer Jam was held at the Saratoga Spa Park, Saratoga, New York across the Avenue of the Pines from the Auto Museum. The Jam was sponsored by **Rich Luhr** and **Brett Greiveldinger** of Airstream Life Magazine, **Steve Hingtgen** of Vintage Trailer Supply and **Colin Hyde** of GSM Vehicles. Eighty-nine vintage trailers with about 65 Airstreams and a few Avions, Spartans, Scottys and others were there. While not a WBCCI function, it had a definite Airstream flavor.

The setting was fantastic, within walking distance of some of the finest pools, mineral baths and spa's at the world famous Saratoga Spa. Mineral springs in kiosks are dotted around the area with water free for the taking, just bring a jug. The mineral water is an acquired taste but healthy for what ails you.

The Trailer Jam is the third organization allowed to camp on the grounds. The first two were Boy Scout jamborees. The folks at the park were thrilled to have us there and there was liberal coverage from the local news media.

Early arrival was on Thursday, July 10th. Josie and I tried to generate interest in a vintage trailer parade through downtown Saratoga. We had the support of the sponsors but we got started late and we were a parade of one through the city. Next year we will get an earlier start.

The highlight of the Jam was the open house on Saturday. Hundreds of folks from the local area attended and toured through the units. We didn't keep count, but we were the first trailer at the gate and had a steady stream of folks coming in for a peek at our unit.

People were generally impressed with our trailer and our lifestyle of living in Florida in the winter and coming north for the summer. Many got that faraway look in their eye and said that was what they wanted to do when they retire. It made us feel very fortunate to be living our dream.

Scattered throughout the Jam were seminars held by the sponsors. **Rich Luhr** talked about writing and photography for magazine articles. **Steve Hingtgen** talked about polishing aluminum trailers and the construction method used by Airstream. **Fred Caldwell** was flown in from Denver to talk about the Airstream history. There were several other seminars all of which were well attended.

Other activities included a country music band, a sword swallowing act and a catered evening dinner of grilled chicken and pulled pork with all the trimmings.

All in all it was a highly successful rally. Everyone had a wonderful time in the historic surroundings.

Florida Unit member, Larry Scovotto, travels the state promoting the Friends of the Florida State Forests. "I'm not sure if it's the Friends logo or the Airstream that have people coming by, but I'm signing up new members for Friends and promoting Airstream," said Scovotto. "Friends of the Florida State Forests" is a non-profit organization membership assisting the Florida Division of Forestry in expanding opportunities in recreation, environmental education, fire prevention and forest management and helping preserve Florida's state forests for the enjoyment of future generations. Need information, email Larry at

wbccci3451@mac.com

It's all about us!

*What a great time we **Airstreamers** have sitting around the campfire swapping stories and tall tales! If you haven't been to a rally recently, for the sake of your fellow members who want to see you/meet you, would you make a special effort to come to the **Annual Business Luncheon/Meeting (Nov 1) AND/OR the Cracker Christmas Rally (Dec3-7)**. Even if you can only come for a day, **PLEASE TRY!***

These next few years have some exciting plans in the making with an expanded rally schedule and the slated officers want YOU to be a part of it. As you tell Dave & Betty, our outgoing president and first lady, that you are coming, Dave will make sure he has a Unit T-Shirt for you (if you haven't received yours.)

McMillans in OHIO

Joe and Ellen McMillan have spent most of the summer down on the farm, "Goat Roper Hill," near Athens, Ohio.

"As farm hands, twice daily we feed five horses, two male donkeys, two female donkeys, and one jackass names LeRoi. There are numerous barn cats, and two goats. Recently Foxy, a mare, was added to the equine list, and it has been most interesting to see how the horses sorted out the pecking order, something very important to them.

"Farm life has its tragedies too. Cinnamon, a beautiful Haflinger mare, was hit by a train at the bottom of the kids' property, where a railroad fence was in disrepair. She had to be put down. Life goes on when two sets of goat twins were born. One thing about farm life, the animal feeding schedule goes on regardless of weather or reluctance.

"We head west the beginning of August."

How to help the economy

by Bill and Janet Cordsen

First you hook your 34 foot Airstream to your diesel truck, then travel from Dade City to Texas, Arizona, California, Seattle, Northwest Territories, Alaska then home. What a trip!

REGION 3 HIGHLIGHTS

Thank you notes were received from Region 3, Community Service Coord., and from the Director of "Interact" for our Unit's donation of \$50 to "Interact," a program which helps victims of domestic violence.

ENJOY THE BLUE BERET? - ENJOY THIS NEWSLETTER? - PAY YOUR DUES!

Thank you to the members who have already sent in their dues. This has saved our Unit Treasurer both time and money! So, TO SAVE OUR UNIT POSTAGE – PAY YOUR DUES before receiving a reminder in the mail! If we all mail in our **dues BEFORE the end of August**, how happy Frank will be:

Make checks to "WBCCI Florida Unit" in the amount of \$65.00 (past FL Unit Presidents, \$55).

Mail to: Frank Carson, Treasurer

PO Box 135

Crosswicks, NJ 08515-0135

GET WELL CORNER

Miss Lilly reports: During Boseman rally Ewart had a kidney stone. While he was in the hospital, Ms Lilly fell and broke a pelvic bone; then SHE was in the hosp. 2 nights! Both at home in TX and doing well.

Joan Carson: " I want to thank those that sent cards and called during Joan's emergency

hospital stay. I appreciate the thought as much as Joan does. Joan is home and, except for the bumps and bruises from passing out, is mending nicely.”

Frank

Phil Drugge: “I had lung cancer surgery on June 10 and it was successful (but difficult).

After a month’s recuperation, I have been put on a regimen of 4 chemotherapy treatments, preventive maintenance, once every three weeks; I had the first on July 10th. It wasn’t too difficult, no really bad side effects and I hope it continues that way. I am home, Doris is caring for me nicely, and I look forward to being on the road again. I’m bored silly!! But trusting the Lord!”

Harvey Carlisle is on oxygen 24/7 but says “I cheat a little.” Sends greetings from Chesapeake, VA, and hopes to be at Land Yacht Harbor, Melbourne, FL, in November for the winter.

PS: Harvey collected 48 lbs of pop tops and turned in \$24 to International Community Services. Could not make it to the rally at Bozeman!

Wray Finn had 2 stents placed in arteries leading to kidneys. The procedure was a piece of cake – lying flat for several hours after the procedure was hardest. All is progressing nicely!

Helen Leggett: Earl reports Helen is in the hospital again and having a difficult time. (We hope you bounce back again, Helen.)

FLORIDA STATE RALLY ONLY 6 MONTHS AWAY

If you have access to a pc, here’s the web address is for the Florida State Rally www.wbccfsr.com
Also, local libraries should help you see this. Just take the above www address with you to your next library visit.

Welcome: New Members

James and Barbara Higgins
1719 Queen Palm Drive
Edgewater, FL 32132
Telephone # (386) 478-0108
Email: higgy116@yahoo.com
WBCCI # 10424

Gary and Anita Hutson
16535 Majestic Ct.
Clermont, Florida 34711
Telephone # (352) 242-2655
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WBCCI # 2708

Frank DeCandis
1015 Atlantic Blvd.
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Atlantic Beach, FL 32233
Telephone #(904) 563-0918
Email: Frankied48@yahoo.com
WBCCI ##3240

THANK YOU, JEANNE PICKREL

On behalf of your fellow Unit 027 members, a big thank you for a fantastic bulletin board for International. Great job, Jeanne. Hope we will all get to see it up close at the next rally!

Randy reports that, due to the heat and bouncing from the rough roads on the way to Bozeman, the bulleting board was quite shaken and would not have been up to competitive status if it hadn’t been for Pat Godfrey and Marion Krajewski from our unit plus Elyce Paridon from the FL Sun Coast Unit putting it back together again.

So, thanks team!

Randy and Pat's Western Adventure

Randy has been blogging his entire trip to Bozeman and beyond www.silvercabin.net. You can read his daily reports on the Travel Blog page at that website. It starts on June 1st, so there is a lot to read.



1939 Airstream Clipper



Unit Bulletin Board at Bozeman



Randy and Pat at Bozeman



President Dave and 1st Lady Betty in Alaska



Randy doing flag duty at Bozeman



Larry Scovotto showing off his Friends of Florida State Forests logo on his Airstream