



August 30 2014  
 Editors- Chuck & Doris Jean Cabalka

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- Secretary, Doris Jean Cabalka  
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- One-yr. Director, Marilyn Mulbrook  
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- Two-yr. Director, Pat Dellamuth

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PUPs Luncheon	2
Recipe, Herron's, 25 yr Ago	3
Pearl Crispin, Wininger's, Beu's Trip	4
October Caravan	5
VAC Rally	6
Muir's on Blue Ridge Caravan	7
Folklorama Rally	8
2015 Int'l. Rally	9
Aug. 14 Rally Minutes	10
Sept. 11-14 Rally Schedule	11

## STATE FAIR, AMES AND DES MOINES ALL-IN-ONE RALLY

Pat and Larry Dellamuth did a wonderful job organizing the August "State Fair Rally" at the Corps of Engineer's Prairie Flower Campground at Saylorville Reservoir north of Des Moines. Those attending were Gary & Cheryl Burrows, Chuck & Doris Jean Cabalka, Steve Cochran and friend, Lynn Reading-Woods, Larry & Pat Dellamuth, John & Carol Heckman, Chuck & Nancy Helle, Richard & Martha Jirus, Mike & Dana Johnson, Ian & Carolyn Muir, Mike & Linda Rickert, Paul & June Ryan,



# IOWA UNIT WBCCI

## LAVONNE'S LINES



What a great August this has been weatherwise and for the Iowa Unit. This summer has been cooler than normal except for the last days of August when the heat and humidity of summer finally arrived. The State Fair Rally was a great experi-

ence. Thanks to Pat and Larry Dellamuth, the rally hosts, for providing our unit with this experience and lots of good food. Parking in a circle reminded me of the pioneers and their wagon circles when they traveled west. The Iowa State Fair experience was wonderful. I could have spent another day there. Des Moines and Saylorville Lake had lots of opportunities for touring. The Trestle Bridge near Madrid was also a fascinating sight.

This is the year to update the Iowa Unit Constitution. This needs to be done every five years because WBCCI is incorporated in

Ohio and is under Ohio regulations which require this. The Constitution Committee met and you have a copy of our revised constitution to approve at the September meeting. Please read it and recommend any changes. Our Recording Secretary, Doris Jean Cabalka, did an outstanding job in getting it ready for approval.

Have any of you read the children's book, "Sh! They're Writing the Constitution" by Jean Fritz. This is the story of writing the US Constitution. Working on a constitution is a labor intense job and when the Constitution Committee was working on our Iowa Unit Constitution, I often thought of this book.

Looking forward to the September Rally at Scott County Park, Mike and Dana Johnson have a great rally planned. The Davenport area is another great location in Iowa to explore. Plan ahead for the October Caravan up the Mississippi River to be led by Chuck and Doris Jean Cabalka.

**SEE YOU DOWN THE ROAD!**

*Lavonne*

## CONSTITUTION CHANGES

WBCCI International requires that each unit review its constitution and by-laws every five (5) years and bring them up-to-date. With the Iowa Unit's last review of these documents being in 2009, that means that 2014 is the due year. There have been several changes/additions to the International constitution that are to be incorporated into unit constitutions. This has been done by a committee. All Iowa Unit voting members have been sent the proposed revised

documents, either via email or US mail. Per the present constitution, balloting on the documents will be at the September Rally business meeting. You may email your vote anytime up to Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Regular mail must reach the Recording Secretary before Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> (we plan to head to Davenport on the 10<sup>th</sup>). Or, better yet, come to the rally and bring your completed ballot with you.

**IOWA UNIT WBCCI**

Lavonne Sandersfeld, Don and Sue Storjohann, Donella Watkinson and Ben & Marcia Woolley. After gathering at the campground circle on Thursday morning (the 14<sup>th</sup>) many of the attendees car-pooled to Ames that afternoon to tour Reiman Gardens. There they walked through the Butterfly Garden, as well as the well-tended outdoor gardens, enjoying the beautiful flowers and plantings. The group was joined at the Hickory House in Ames, by those not wishing to visit the gardens, for a scrumptious dinner of various BBQ'd meats and **ICE CREAM!** You name the sundae and they had it.

Attendees awoke on Friday morning to find a light rain falling, but still enjoyed a breakfast casserole, beverages and quick breads before starting out on their activities for the day.



Prior to heading out, a short business meeting was held (it was too noisy to do that Thursday evening at the Hickory House as publicized). About mid-morning the rain did let up and several couples went to the State Fair, while at least two couples drove to Madrid to view, walk or ride bicycles on the High Trestle Bridge. Others visited relatives in the Des Moines area and still others visited such places as the Des Moines Botanical Garden, the State Historical Museum and the Better Homes & Gardens Demonstration Garden, among others. Of course, there was some shopping to do (Ben and Marcia Woolley found a bargain on four chairs they needed for their basement in Independence). Friday evening's sub sandwich and "State Fair Quality Dessert"



contest resulted in a variety of wonderfully tasty and abundant desserts. Pat even enlisted a couple camping in a nearby loop to be judges for the contest. They selected Nancy Helle's brownies as the top cookies, Chuck Cabalka's angel food-pudding dessert in the miscellaneous category and Lavonne Sandersfeld's pecan pie in the pie category, as winners, although the couple admitted they had an extremely tough job in the judging. Needless to say, a lot of calories were consumed by everyone.



Saturday dawned somewhat cloudy, but no rain. Following a meal of breakfast pizza from Casey's General Store, attendees scattered to do some of the things they had missed on Thursday. It had been decided earlier that we would have a "heavy" hors d'oeuvres social hour at 5:00 PM and, as usual, that turned out to be our evening meal. With clear skies, the campfire was lit and members enjoyed sitting around the fire (visiting and watching the stars) until bedtime. A thick fog didn't delay the



short Sunday devotion, followed by a breakfast of pastries, juice and coffee, which wrapped up the rally activities. Then it was time to "hook 'em up and head 'em out". Pat and Larry did an excellent job hosting the rally and they deserve a big **THANK YOU** from those that attended. Way to go!

**THEY MAY BE PAST - BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**

At noon on Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, sixteen past Iowa Past Unit Presidents and/or Past First Ladies, along with a Past President of the Iliamo Unit and one guest, gathered at the Ronneburg Restaurant in Amana for the annual PUP's Luncheon.



In approximate order in the picture, L. to R.—Those attending and their respective years in office are Lee Jones (PUP 1987), Lorraine Axtell (PFL 1992), Wendell Beckley (PUP 1995), Joan Beckley (PFL 1995), Chuck Helle (Past First Mate 2006 & 2010), Nancy Helle (PUP 2006 & 2010), Lavonne Sandersfeld (PUP 2005 & 2014 and PFL 1996),

Past President Jack Schintler (PUP 1985) and wife, Fern (PFL 1985), from the defunct Iliamo Unit, Ben Woolley (Past First Mate 2007), Marcia Woolley (PUP 2007), Pat Dellamuth (PUP 2012) and Larry Dellamuth (Past First Mate 2012), June Ryan (PUP 2002 and PFL 2008), Paul Ryan (PUP 2008 and Past First Mate 2002), Sandy Teggatz (PFL 1991), Doris Jean Cabalka (PUP 2009 and PFL 1974 & 2011) and Chuck Cabalka (PUP 1974 & 2011 and Past First Mate 2009). Lorraine Axtell brought her daughter, Linda to join the group. In keeping with past luncheons, there was no business meeting, no action taken, no officers elected, no decisions made; in fact, nothing was done except to eat and visit, reminiscing about Iowa Unit days and rallies of the past. Norm and Linda Beu had planned to attend, but, due to tow vehicle problems, only made it back from the West Coast as far as Sioux Falls, SD by the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There is only one way for unit members to join this group and that is to say "YES" when asked to be a vice president of the unit and then progress through the presidency. Right now, we have a vacancy for the 2015 office of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (President in 2017) and a volunteer would be appreciated. Where the group will meet next year in August will be a location determined by Past President Linda Beu.

## IOWA UNIT WBCCI

### DEALER SPOTLIGHT

**Shorewood RV Center South**  
4975 Hubbell Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50317  
515-262-8450  
515-418-5786  
www.shorewoodrv.com

**Bill Thomas Camper Sales, Inc.**  
101 Thomas R.V. Way  
Wentzville, MO 63385  
1-800-367-5767  
www.btcamper.com

**US Adventure RV**  
5120 N. Brady Street  
Davenport, IA 52806  
Phone: 563-468-4678  
FAX 563-468-5191  
www.usadventurerv.com

### DUES ARE DUE

Just a short reminder to get your dues sent to Marcia Woolley by Oct. 15 to be included in the 2015 Intl. Directory.

Marcia's address is:  
1997 Three Elms Park Rd  
Independence, IA 50644

### 25 YEARS AGO

The September, 1989 Iowa Unit rally was held at the Boone County Fairgrounds at Boone, IA, with 35 trailers and 9 walk-ins attending. Three new members were approved, with two present and installed. First Vice President Wayne Sutherland asked for information concerning the winter luncheons so the info could be included in the newsletter. Six past unit presidents attended the rally. They were Ernie Travis, Virgil Anderson, Lloyd Johnson, Paul McRae, Lee Jones and Don Pearce. At the Board Meeting, the Board approved doing away with one of the two history books being kept each year, with the remaining one to be called "The Club Book". The unit had a Treasurer's balance of \$3,807.23.



### BIRTHDAYS SEPTEMBER

11—June Ryan  
20—John Heckman  
(unlisted) - Ed Pauley

### ANNIVERSARIES SEPTEMBER

2—Larry & Pat Dellamuth  
5—Norm & Linda Beu  
7—Gary & Sharon Ulrich  
8—Chuck & Doris Jean Cabalka  
24—Gene & Carolyn Haller  
25—David & Candace Jones



At the rally in August, Linda Rickert brought a very tasty bar cookie to the dessert evening and several attendees asked for the recipe. Linda was kind enough to send it for publication. It is called:

#### "Salted Peanut Chews"

##### Basic Bar:

½ cup butter	2/3 cup of firmly packed brown sugar
1 tsp. vanilla	2 egg yolks
½ tsp. baking powder	½ tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. soda	1 ½ cups of flour
3 cups miniature marshmallows	

##### Topping:

2/3 cup corn syrup	1/4 cup butter
2 tsp. vanilla	10 oz. peanut butter chips
2 cups rice krispies	2 cups salted cocktail peanuts

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. In a large mixing bowl, blend the brown sugar and butter together. Add the vanilla and the egg yolks. Mix the baking powder, salt, soda and flour together and slowly add to the bar mixture. Press into the bottom of a 9"x13" baking pan. Bake for 12-15 minutes, or until a light golden brown. Remove from the oven and immediately sprinkle with marshmallows. Return to the oven for 1-2 minutes or until marshmallows begin to puff. Remove from the oven and set aside to cool while preparing topping. In a large saucepan, heat together the corn syrup, butter, vanilla and peanut butter chips, stirring constantly, until the chips are melted and the mixture is smooth. Remove from the heat and stir in the peanuts and rice krispies. Immediately spoon the warm topping over the marshmallows and spread to completely cover. Chill. Cut into 36 bars.

### NEW MEMBERS

The Iowa Unit has gained several new members over the past few months and this article will familiarize you with one of them. The information shown here is just the basics. They plan to be at the October Rally, so plan to get acquainted with them there. We will attempt to get similar information from the rest of the new members and include it in the next newsletter.

#### Tom and Shirley Herron

Tom and Shirley officially joined the Iowa Unit on July 1<sup>st</sup>, although they attended the tri-unit rally at Clear Lake in May. They reside at 4835 NE 30<sup>th</sup> St. in Des Moines, IA. From previous marriages, they have 5 sons and 5 grandchildren. Both Tom and Shirley are still working; Tom doing handyman and remodeling work on a private business basis, while Shirley sells Tastefully Simple cookware, as well as spices and various foods. The couple attend various shows in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Missouri, in addition to Iowa. Their hobbies include gardening, camping and their dog, Gizmo. In January, 2013 they drove to Houston, TX to buy their 1992 34-foot Airstream and have enjoyed using it as they travel to various shows in the Midwest. Ironically, the first rally they attended, after becoming official members of WBCCI, was the Region 7 Folklorama Festival Rally in Winnipeg, Canada. They presently plan to join the October caravan at the Clinton (Camanche) stop and continue to Prairie du Chien.





**PEARL CRISPIN**

Pearl Rosa Crispin, 95, of Tipton, died Monday, August 11, 2014, in her apartment at Cedar Manor Nursing Home in Tipton. She was buried in Red Oak Cemetery, Tipton. A memorial has been established in her memory.

Pearl was born June 23, 1919, in Farmington Township, Cedar County, Iowa, the daughter of Carl Henry and Emma D.K. Schroeder Wieck. She graduated from Palestine Country School. On April 9, 1939, Pearl was

united in marriage to Carl Alvin Crispin in Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church in Wilton.

Pearl is survived by 3 daughters, one son, 12 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband, Carl, on January 4, 2003. Ed. Note. Carl and Pearl hosted several Iowa Unit rallies at the Cedar County Fairgrounds during the years they belonged to WBCCI.

**THANK YOU THANK YOU**

Larry and I want to thank all the Iowa Unit members who attended the August Rally at Prairie Flower Campground at Saylorville Reservoir. Without the help and support of the members attending, we couldn't have done it. The quantities of food that appeared at meal-times were awesome. A lot of wonderful conversations took place and we all got to know each other a little more. Again, **THANK YOU** for your attendance.

*Pat and Larry*

**SAD SITUATION FOR IOWA UNIT**

Ian and Carolyn will be leaving the Iowa Unit (much to our dismay) as they have sold the acreage outside Milan, IL and will be moving to the St. Louis area. They were concerned that they might not get it sold (how many people are looking for a 17-acre "horse" property in the Quad Cities area?) and were astounded when it sold in the first week it was on the market. Now, their problems concern finding a property in the St. Louis area and getting things boxed up and ready to vacate. The members of the Iowa Unit wish them the best of everything in their new location and know the Greater St. Louis Unit will be getting great new members.

**WININGER'S HAVE MOVED**

Ray and Marcella Winger have moved from their country home to an apartment at Friendship Village in Fort Dodge. Their new address is 712 Kenyon Road, Apt. 105, Fort Dodge, IA 50501 and their new telephone number is 515-573-6901. Ray received his signed birthday card and wants everyone to know he greatly appreciated receiving it. Marcella is improving after her hip surgery, but the progress is slow. They are still holding out hope they will be able to join the unit members for the October caravan. Only time will tell.

When I went to get my driver's license renewed, our local Motor Vehicle Bureau was packed.

The line inched along for almost an hour until the man ahead of me finally got his license.

He inspected his photo for a moment and commented to the clerk, "I was standing in line so long, I ended up looking pretty grouchy in this picture."

The clerk looked at his picture closely, and reassured him, "It's okay. That's how you're going to look when the cops pull you over anyway."

**TALK ABOUT A TRIP FROM HELL!!**

Norm and Linda Beu experienced that, or the next thing to it, on their way back to Iowa from Washington State. They left Gillette, WY on July 4<sup>th</sup>, along with Past International President Tom and Norma Collier, to take their rigs to Lacey, WA. They stored their rigs in Lacey and flew to Alaska where they stayed in bed-and-breakfasts, as well as with friends, while enjoying the Alaska scenery. On the way to Gillette, they had experienced engine overheating problems in the Sioux City area, but they were able to make it to Gillette. On their way to Lacey, they had experienced more overheating problems with their tow vehicle, but they made it. Upon returning to the "Lower 48" via cruise ship, they took the truck to the Ford dealer in Olympia to have it looked at. The dealer found everything to be within allowable parameters, so Norm and Linda headed toward Iowa on August 1<sup>st</sup>, getting as far as Spokane that day. The truck was still overheating, so they got up early the next morning to drive during the cooler part of the day. About 62 miles east of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, while on an uphill grade on I-90, the truck started slowing down and finally quit altogether. Norm was able to just get off the travel lane and onto the shoulder before the

rig stopped. A phone call got two tow vehicles to the scene (one for the truck and one for the trailer) and they were towed back to the Ford dealer in Coeur d'Alene. It being Saturday afternoon, coupled with the service department already booked for the following week, Norm and Linda were stuck in Coeur d'Alene for about 2 ½ weeks before they could get back on the road. Norm said Coeur d'Alene was a great city and they were in a nice campground, but they ran out of things to see and do. It turned out that there had been an internal oil leak in the engine which had caused a drop in the oil pressure and, as a safety precaution, that drop in oil pressure caused the engine to stop. After getting the engine put back together, the service techs found that a failed head gasket, along with blockages in the transmission and coolant filters, had caused the overheating problem. So, on Saturday afternoon, August 23<sup>th</sup>, Norm and Linda finally returned to Reinbeck. Norm said the costs of towing, repairs, campground, and rental car exceeded \$6,500. He and the warranty company are still having "serious" discussions. The trip was to be in celebration of their anniversary in September. It goes without saying, this will be one anniversary they won't soon forget!

**DEADLINES APPROACHING FOR OCTOBER UNIT CARAVAN**

At the writing of this newsletter, we have several rigs signed up for the October "Caravan Along the Mississippi". The deadline for joining the group is rapidly approaching. Those who have indicated they will join the caravan in Keokuk are Richard & Martha Jirus, Donella Watkinson, Lavonne Sandersfeld, Norm & Linda Beu, Ian & Carolyn Muir, John & Carol Heckman and Chuck & Doris Jean Cabalka. Paul & June Ryan and Tom & Shirley Herron plan to join the group at the Clinton stop. In all probability, Region 8 1<sup>st</sup> VP Gary Rush & wife, Linda, will join the group at the Dubuque stop. Gary will be installing the 2015 Iowa Unit officers on Saturday evening following dinner at a local restaurant. The following is the proposed schedule for the caravan;

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Saturday, Oct. 4  | Gather at Hickory Haven Campground (\$23.00/night, FHU, 30A)<br>PM possibilities: Visit Chief Keokuk's Grave or view Lock & Dam 19<br>Buffet dinner at Ogo's  |
| Sunday, Oct. 5    | Carpool to Nauvoo to the Mormon Visitor Center  |
| Monday, Oct. 6    | Drive to Rock Creek Campground @ Camanche in forenoon (\$17.00/night w/ electricity, limited water & dump station)<br>2:30 PM Visit Curtis Mansion in Clinton.  |
| Tuesday, Oct. 7   | 10:00 AM Visit Sawmill Museum in Clinton<br>1:30 PM Visit Dutch Windmill & Cultural Center in Fulton, IL<br>2:30 PM Visit Heritage Canyon in Fulton   |
| Wednesday, Oct. 8 | Drive to Miller-Riverview Campground @ Dubuque in forenoon (\$15.00/night w/ electricity, limited water & dump station)<br>PM possibilities; Visit arboretum, Mississippi River Museum, Grotto @ Dickeyville, WI, Mines of Spain Rec Area, Fenelon Place elevator or Eagle Point Park   |
| Thursday, Oct. 9  | Day in Galena, IL<br>Trolley tour of city (\$16.00 ea.)<br>US Grant Home (donations)<br>Belvedere Mansion & Dowling House combined (\$18.23 ea.)<br>Old Market House Historic Site (donations)  |
| Friday, Oct. 10   | Drive to Sports Unlimited RV Park in Prairie du Chien, WI (\$33.76 tax included)<br>2:00 PM Visit Villa Louis (\$8.50 ea.)  |
| Saturday, Oct 11  | 8:00 AM Breakfast - Oatmeal & ice cream, coffee & juice<br>Day to do your own thing.<br>Possibilities: Effigy Mounds NM, Froelich Gen. Store & Tractor Museum, Spook Cave boat tour (\$10.00) and 39 <sup>th</sup> Arts & Craft Festival, all in or near McGregor, IA, Fort Crawford Museum in PDC and orchards @ Gays Mill, WI, golf (\$21 w/ cart) right there at the campground or just drive around NE Iowa to see the pretty landscapes (provided the leaves have changed color)<br>6:00 PM Dinner & Business Meeting (with installation) to follow @ Huckleberry's Restaurant in PDC<br>Following dinner & meeting, everyone is invited to the campground Halloween Party in campground rec hall. Wear costume and/or masks and join in the fun, if you like. |
| Sunday, Oct. 12   | 8:00 AM Breakfast - rolls, coffee & juice<br>Short devotional service after breakfast before hooking up   |

Except for Saturday evenings in Keokuk and Prairie du Chien and the Saturday and Sunday breakfasts in Prairie du Chien, no meals have been planned. However, if the group desires, we can see about dining at either Breitbach's or the casino on one of evenings in Dubuque. The schedule shown above is pretty well set, but may have to change if circumstances demand. **Anyone not planning to caravan, but just join the group in Prairie du Chien on October 10-12 MUST call the campground to reserve a space. Phone 608-326-2141 to make reservations.** By September 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be releasing the hold on the 20 spaces and after that date, you may, or may not, be able camp with the group. Remember, this is the time of colored leaves (normally) and camping spaces will be in high demand. Driving directions to Hickory Haven RV Park will be sent to all who are on the caravan and a drivers manual will be distributed at the Saturday dinner at Ogo's. Directions to Sports Unlimited will be in the October newsletter.

**BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME – 140% ATTENDANCE**

By Kathy Allen

Our first rally-hosting (called "Home for the Holidays) was successful, so we decided to try hosting our second rally. For our Region 8 VAC (Vintage Airstream Club), we wanted to center a rally around a local event. Co-host Jeff Peterson knew about the "39<sup>th</sup> Annual Graffiti Night" in Onawa, IA, located near the Missouri River. With the rally scheduled for June 19-22, that meant some fellow WBCCI members might join us as they traveled to the International Rally in Gillette, WY. The plan worked!!

Responding to our "call to rally", Airstreamers from all areas of Iowa reserved campsites. Lee and Joyce from Kansas joined us, as did Steven and Carol who were traveling from Virginia to California. We would fill 10 of the 12 sites on the fairground that first night. That day, Thursday, we took a scenic drive through the geological wonder of the Loess Hills. Happy Hour's grilled bratwursts were enjoyed in Missouri Valley before their June Concert in the city park.



Friday, after an eggs and sausage breakfast, we visited the Lewis and Clark Keelboat Museum. Butch, the keelboat replica builder, was there to give us a behind-the-scenes tour. Unexpectedly, he also treated us to a keelboat cruise on the water. The lake was once part of the Missouri River, so we were exactly where Lewis and Clark had traveled. We even fired the onboard cannon twice!

Back at the campground, our rally had expanded! Jim and Rosalie joined us and, traveling on their way to Gillette, George and George from North Carolina arrived. Then some clown "just looking to stop for the night" pulled his Airstream into the fairgrounds. Dennis "Obie the Clown" and Carol stopped and joined the rally, filling 13 of the campground's 12 sites. Happier Hour was followed immediately by a smoked turkey potluck. When the fiercely blowing rain threatened John and Carol's tent, the hospitable ladies of a nearby assisted living facility opened their sunroom for our potluck dinner. After dinner, Zach entertained the ladies with his walker racing.

Saturday morning was our oatmeal-and-ice cream breakfast. Then we opened our Airstreams for tours. That afternoon brand new owners of a vintage Airstream, Greg and Marcella, arrived in time to watch Graffiti Night's classic/muscle cars cruise down the wildest Main Street in the USA. Our day wound down with fresh popcorn and the movie "Graffiti Night" under the stars



**Of the 10 trailers registered for the rally, we enjoyed laughter and fun with people from 14 Airstreams. WONDERFUL!! A 140% PARTICIPATION RATE!!**

Sunday morning's early rain found each trailer getting a breakfast delivery from Jeff and Scott's "Donut Delivery Service". The skies cleared for travel and only one trailer was stuck until pulled out by Scott and Denise's truck. Thanks so much for the help.

*One rainy evening, my husband, John, and I emerged from a restaurant only to find that he had locked the keys in the car. He insisted he could open the door with a wire coat hanger, so we went back to the restaurant to get one. There were none to be found.*

*John then ran to a department store a quarter-mile away and returned with a hanger. After a few attempts, he got the door open and we climbed in. As we sat there, soaked and cold, he stuck the hanger under his seat.*

*With a smug grin, he said, "Now if this ever happens again, I'll have one handy."*

A young man excitedly tells his mother he's fallen in love and going to get married. He says, "Just for fun, Ma, I'm going to bring over 3 women and you try and guess which one I'm going to marry."

The mother agrees.

The next day, he brings three beautiful women into the house and sits them down on the couch and they chat for a while. He then says, "Okay, Ma, guess which one I'm going to marry."

She immediately replies, "The one in the middle."

"That's amazing, Ma. You're right. How did you know?"

"I don't like her."

**THE BEAUTIFUL BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY, BY CARAVAN**

By Carolyn Muir

On Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ian and I pulled our Airstream into the KOA in Cherokee, NC and eagerly began meeting fellow Airstreamers who would be with us on our first WBCCI caravan, "Taste of the Blue Ridge 2014." They had come from 14 states and Canada in 13 trailers, 4 motorhomes and 2 B-vans. Being a shorter duration caravan, we had some participants who were not yet retired. We were led by Jim and Bobbi Matkovich of the Northern IL Unit and they did a magnificent job of keeping everything running smoothly, with a "hands off" style.

Caravan members spent 3 days in the KOA getting to know each other and all things "Cherokee", including the moving pageant, "Unto These Hills", which local members of the Cherokee Nation have been re-enacting nightly for over 60 years. Ian and I spent a short time hiking some of the Appalachian Trail in the Smokey Mountains and we gained a new appreciation for those who conquer it.

On Thursday morning, June 5, the deparkers carefully checked out our rigs - especially the brakes - and we began the pull on the first leg of the Parkway to Asheville. (The Blue Ridge Parkway is a national park consisting of nearly 500 miles of mountain road through NC and VA. It is designed for sight-seeing, not as a commuter route. The maximum speed is 45 mph.) From Cherokee, the road went up and up and up and up and UP! Ian began watching the transmission temperature of our truck, as it too was going up. But, it never became critical and the truck produced plenty of power, to our relief!

The road was BEAUTIFUL! Around every curve was a new breath-taking vista and/or mountain flowers in bloom (mountain laurel, rhododendron, flame azaleas). Guard rails are minimized on this well-maintained two-lane.



Over and over, we would round a curve to have the feeling that there was nothing between us and the spectacular dizzying view. We pulled off frequently into the many pullouts so we could savor all the breath-taking views. Additionally, there were over 50 tunnels along the route, most in NC. There was also a spectacular cantilevered viaduct around Grandfather Mountain – an engineering marvel.

of Mt. Everest – TWICE!! Going downhill could actually be more challenging than going up, as the drivers sought to use engine brakes to save the vehicle brakes. Ian experimented with everything our truck could do and found the manual mode to be the best -- sometimes going as low as 1<sup>st</sup> gear, with 2<sup>nd</sup> being the most common. Everyone's wheels exhibited black dust for the duration of the trip.

We did many wonderful things during the 2 to 4 days we spent at each of the 6 stops along the way, but our favorite days were the five we spent driving the Parkway. Our



favorite caravan activities included visits to the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, Jefferson's two homes at Monticello and Poplar Forest, the D-Day Memorial at Bedford, VA and Grandfather Mountain.

On one of our free days, we found a small city museum in Galax, VA (Jeff Mathews Memorial Museum) that had an entire alcove devoted to the Wally Byam Capetown to Cairo Caravan in 1959. A Galax couple who had participated in that caravan had donated all of their souvenirs. The display included a wall painting of the route through Africa and a recording by the wife telling of their experiences.

We loved getting to know our fellow caravaners. One was a retired jazz performer who played his soprano sax for us under the trees at the Peaks of Otter National Campground (where we boondocked for two nights). Other campers appeared from all over as he played and told us how mountain music had originated out in the trees which provide the acoustics. At the final banquet, he entertained us with a song he played using a sewer hose!

The wife of one couple was partially disabled and her husband took the most solicitous care of her. They were obviously very happy together and very happy to be on this trip. But, on the last Satur-



day, she became critically ill, was taken to the hospital and passed away the next day. The WBCCI family was at it's finest as the caravan participants poured out their prayers and support to the family of Harriet Damisch, especially to John, her husband of over 60 years.

We chose this caravan as a good way to "try them out". We are hooked! Our next caravan will be "Viking Trails" to Newfoundland next spring – and we're signed up for "Alyeska, the Great Land" in 2016. See you down the road!

### AROUND THE WORLD AT WINNIPEG'S "FOLKLORAMA"

Chuck and Doris Jean Cabalka recently returned from Winnipeg, Canada where they attended WBCCI Region 7's "Around the World" Region Rally in connection with Winnipeg's Folklorama Festival. Manitoba, and Winnipeg in particular, have done an excellent job in preserving the ethnic cultures that settled the area. To celebrate the province's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1969, a one-time celebration was planned to honor those ethnic groups. That celebration was so popular that public demand brought it back in 1970 and it has been on-going ever since. This year, there were 46 different cultures (23 one week and 23 the next) that, while wearing their native dress, provided food and dance from their native land in "pavilions" throughout Winnipeg. The "pavilions" ranged from buildings owned by an ethnic group to rented community centers and high school gymnasiums.

The rally began on August 6<sup>th</sup>, with 20 Airstreams and three local walk-ins, and attendees left on August 12<sup>th</sup>. During those 6 days, hosts Region 7 President Gail Harrow and her husband, Bruce, along with help from Region Past President Ron Skelton and Evelyn, as well as other helpers, kept rally attendees busy every day. And, one of the nice things about the rally, there was very little cooking. Breakfasts and lunches were "on-your-own" with all evening meals, except one, being provided. The one exception was on Sunday evening (the 10<sup>th</sup>) when all attendees were invited to bring some of their favorite chili to be poured into a common pot for a chili supper with all the trimmings.

Among the activities that kept everyone busy was a 20-mile, each way, train ride from the Prairie Dog Central Station in NW Winnipeg to Grosse Isle, a small community of about 100 residents. The diesel-powered train features wooden passenger cars dating back to the early 1900's. A local historian was on the train and related the history of the railroad and the development of the area. The train was met at Grosse Isle by a local gentleman who led a walk through a parcel of tall grass prairie while explaining the various plants, the ecological background and answering questions.

On another day, the outing from the rally site was an all-day bus ride around the city of Winnipeg, with a local guide on board to provide information and answer questions. That trip included a viewing of the Esplanade Riel Pedestrian Bridge, a visit to St. Boniface and the French quarter, where Louis Riel (the founder of Manitoba) was born and where a modern cathe-



dral was built inside the walls of the original cathedral that burned and on to The Forks which is the historic center of Winnipeg. The historic district now boasts dozens of shops and boutiques selling about anything you could name. Located at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, it has been a gathering place for local residents for more than 6,000 years - from prehistoric people to fur traders to present times. A multi-million dollar museum, the Museum of Human Rights, is scheduled to open this fall at The Forks.



In a day at the Assiniboine Zoo the group not only walked through a great butterfly garden and saw many of the zoo animals, but they also got to visit a very recent 10-acre attraction entitled "Journey to Churchill" featuring the landscape and animals of extreme northern Manitoba. This exhibit included musk ox, wolves, snowy owls, caribou and, of course, polar bears. That evening, the group car-pooled to Assiniboine Downs (a horse racing track) where our rally fee provided not only an opportunity to "bet on the ponies", but an extravagant, luxurious, tasty, filling and whatever else, prime rib buffet dinner with desserts that wouldn't end. No one that bet on the horses lost a lot of money, but no one made a lot, either. It was just a fun evening, with good food and good entertainment.

Even with all the fun and activity previously covered, the highlight of the rally was the two evenings when, via chartered bus, the attendees visited ethnic pavilions for the evening. The first



night, it was hors d'oeuvres at the Russian pavilion, complete with wild Russian dancing. Then, it was on to the Africa-Caribbean pavilion for main course dining and Jamaican music and dancing, including Prince Jo-Jo and his limbo dancing.



The evening ended at the Italian pavilion for dessert and Italian entertainment.



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The second Evening at the Festival started with hors d'oeuvres in the Phillipines, followed by main course at the Andean pavilion and ending with dessert with the Celtic Irish. At all three pavilions, we were treated to dances of that nationality, with the Irish even headlining the World Champion Irish dancer straight from Ireland, "River Dancers" of all ages and a lively quartet of excellent fiddle players.



Phillipine dancers included Tinikling with bamboo poles



Bare-foot Andean ladies and boot-clad man



Champion dancer



Irish Fiddlers



"River Dancers"

All in all, these evenings alone would have given attendees their money's worth and all the extras were just frosting on the cake. If any of you have the opportunity to attend a Folklorama Festival in Winnipeg, don't miss it. You are guaranteed to enjoy it.

**THINGS TO SEE AT 2015 INTERNATIONAL RALLY**

Although it is still 10 months away, it is not too early to make plans to attend the WBCCI International Rally in Farmington, New Mexico in June, 2015. Attendees will have 30-amp electric and water, with pump outs every four days. In addition to all the seminars, contests and programs that are normal at each international rally, there are loads and loads of historic and/or scenic places to visit in the area. Among them is the Durango & Silverton Railroad narrow gauge train that runs daily between the two communities, via the Animas River Valley that cuts through the San Juan Mountains, and it is only 45 miles away from Farmington. Mesa Verde National Park, with it's world-famous cliff dwellings, is just 78 miles away -a good day trip. Aztec Ruins National Monument (the ruins of ancient pueblo-building Indians) is just 9 miles away. Chaco Culture National Historic Park, featuring the densest and most exceptional concentration of pueblos (dating from 900 to 1150 AD) is just 54 miles distant. While in that part of the US, it would be a shame if one didn't also visit (before or after the rally) the historic cities of Santa Fe and Albuquerque. So, with that much to see, make plans to go to the 2015 International Rally. You'll be sorry if you miss it. Chuck and Nancy Helle will probably be leading a caravan from Iowa to Farmington, so you might join them. More information next spring. In the meantime, you can check out the noted places yourself on the internet.



Durango-Silverton Train runs both high and low.

There's a trail both down to and up out of Cliff Palace at Mesa Verde.



Aztec Ruins has a rebuilt building.



Multi-story pueblos at Chaco Canyon.

**IOWA UNIT WBCCI**

**IOWA UNIT INFORMAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014  
GOLDENROD CIRCLE, PRAIRIE FLOWER CAMPGROUND  
SAYLORVILLE LAKE ANKENY, IOWA**

President Lavonne Sandersfeld called the group together about 7:30 PM following a viewing of Reiman Gardens and dinner at Hickory Park in Ames. Other officers present were 1st VP Paul Ryan, Rec. Secy. Doris Jean Cabalka, Corr. Secy. Donella Watkinson, Treas. Marcia Woolley and Dir. Pat Dellamuth.

**Nominations for 2015:** Chuck Cabalka reported for the Nominating Committee of himself, Linda Beu and Pat Dellamuth. Those nominated are President, Paul Ryan; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Marcia Woolley; Recording Secretary Doris Jean Cabalka; Corresponding Secretary, June Ryan; Treasurer, Norman Beu; Directors 2014-2016, Don Storzjohann and Donella Watkinson. There were no nominations from the floor. Ballots will be included in the next newsletter for those members paying their International dues through the Iowa Unit. Those mailed-in ballots must be received by unit secretary Doris Jean Cabalka by September 4. Our bylaws provide that ballots can also be returned by email (cdjcabalka@juno.com) or can be brought to the September rally.

**Rally hosts Pat and Larry Dellamuth** asked for a show of hands for those going to the State Fair. About 10 indicated they were going. Pat laid out information on other things to do including the Historical Museum, Botanical Garden and the Better Homes and Gardens test plot open house. Sub sandwiches are planned for 6 PM Friday night along with member-supplied "Prize Winning Desserts." Saturday morning activities include a trip to the downtown Des Moines Farmers Market with a possibility for lunch at nearby Hesson Haus restaurant.

**September Rally hosts Mike and Dana Johnson** reported on events that may happen. There is a Habitat for Humanity "shopping center," a restored marsh area and a buffalo farm, all of which are possibilities. In LeClare is the American Pickers building and a River Boat Museum.

Lavonne announced that Pearl Crispin, former Iowa Unit member, died on Monday, August 14. Doris Jean Cabalka read an email from Norm Beu about their pickup troubles which stranded them for several days in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Others reported that Linda had to receive medication for bronchitis and that they hope to be home by August 23. It was reported that affiliate members Dave and Pat Shaw bought a lot in Melbourne, Florida.

Treasurer Marcia Woolley reported the May rally raffle collected \$196.00 for Common Cents. There are more Camping World items to be raffled off at this rally. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Drawing will be held Sunday morning after breakfast.

The camping fee for this rally is \$54.00 per unit to be given to Marcia Woolley. This will reimburse the club for the reservation cost of \$756.00.

Chuck Cabalka asked for those going on the October caravan to tell him when they plan to join the tour. Those replying are:

- |                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Cabalka              | Keokuk  |
| Jirus                | Keokuk  |
| Watkinson/Sanderfeld | Keokuk  |
| Muir                 | Keokuk  |
| Heckman              | Keokuk  |
| Herron               | Clinton |
| Ryan                 | Clinton |

After much discussion and visiting President Lavonne closed the meeting about 9:30 PM.

Doris Jean Cabalka,  
Recording Secretary

## IOWA UNIT WBCCI

### SEPTEMBER RALLY

September 11-14, 2014

Scott County Park

Hosts: Mike and Dana Johnson

Park Address is: 18850 - 270<sup>th</sup> Street, Long Grove, IA Phone: 563-328-3282

Incahias Campground takes no reservations: first come, first serve; select your site

Register w/ ranger when he comes to your site; \$20/nite (62+ get \$1 discount) Cash, credit card or check  
30-amp electric, water (**NOT** on each site), dump station, showers, restrooms

#### Directions:

Exit I-80 @ Exit 295B and go North on US Hwy. 61 for 6.6 mi. to 267<sup>th</sup> St. (CR F-41) and exit

Turn right on 267<sup>th</sup> St. for 0.8 mi. to Scott Park Road

Turn left on Scott Park Road for 0.25 mi. to 270<sup>th</sup> St.

Turn right on 270<sup>th</sup> St. for 0.9 mi. to park entrance, turn left and follow signs

#### BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGE AND TABLE SERVICE TO ALL MEALS!

#### Thursday:

Lunch on your own

5:00 Happy Hour

6:00 Supper: Hot dogs, buns, condiments & chips provided

Dessert: Bring your FAVORITE STORE-BOUGHT COOKIES in the original container. Let's hope we have many different favorites!

#### Friday:

8:00 Breakfast: English muffin, sausage patty, slice of cheese

9:00 Carpool to Nahant Marsh for a walking tour (20 min.) and presentation by Friends of the Marsh. The Marsh is a 513-acre wetland community that includes a bottomland forest, open water habitat and marsh and features trails, birdwatching, an educational center and beautiful scenery. \$5 fee per person.

Free time following marsh tour until Board and Membership meetings. Lunch on your own.

3:30 Board Meeting

4:00 Membership Business Meeting.

5:00 Happy Hour

6:00 Supper: Dilly beef burgers, beans, veggie sticks & apple crisp

Following supper, campfire and conversation, weather permitting.

#### Saturday:

8:00 Breakfast: Cereal, milk, juice and yogurt

10:00 Carpool to German American Heritage Center in downtown Davenport. Built in 1861 as a hotel for immigrants, the museum celebrates the German immigrant experience, history and culture through interactive exhibits, exciting programs and a gift shop featuring German-made products. Donations accepted.

Lunch on your own.

Wander downtown Davenport; Figge Art Museum (\$7; \$6 over 60 w/ ID); River Music Experience; Front Street Brewery; Great River Brewery; MidCoast Fine Arts and Bucktown Center for the Arts.

Or

Stray across the Mississippi River to Moline; Rock Island Arsenal Museum (open Tues-Sat., Noon-4 pm); National and Confederate Cemeteries; Mississippi River Visitor Center (watch barges lock thru). **Important: A current photo ID is required to enter the island.**

Or

Return to LeClair and visit shops missed last year (new ones added)

5:00 Happy Hour

6:00 Supper: Grilled Buffalo Burgers and condiments (**Not sure you'll like them? Alternative available. Special Note: Tell us if you want to try a buffalo burger, so we know how many to order from the farm! Thanks**). Bring a dish serving 6-8 people to pass). Do not double or triple recipe.

Following supper, campfire and conversation, weather permitting

#### Sunday:

8:00 Breakfast; Rolls, hard boiled eggs, fruit and juice

9:00 Rally Rap Up; Pack tent, clean up grounds and ready trailer for next rally or home

Look forward to good weather. Let Mike or Dana know **BY SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>** if you'll be attending. Phone – Home (563-391-8170), Cell (563-271—3030) and (563-340-1410). Email – airtandem@live.com