

REGION 8 NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2017

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE –

I know that you were not expecting another newsletter until December, but after looking at the calendar over the next four weeks and receiving a phone call from our “on the ball” Treasurer, I felt that there was no better time than now to do this.

I want to let you know that **THE BRANSON RALLY IS FULL**. We will now begin to take names for a “standby list”. Please send your registration with a check to June Ryan at her address in Arizona that is on the bottom of the registration form. These will be numbered in the order of their receipt. Your check will be held. If a space becomes available she will contact you. A registration form is attached to this newsletter.

I know that there will be a few of you who will be disappointed, but great interest was reflected in the preliminary sign-up sheet at this spring's rally. I say again, that this sign-up was only an indication of interest, it did not guarantee you a site. The overwhelming response to this rally surprised all of us on the board, and is a definite indication that this type of rally would be well attended if we made this a National or Special Event Rally in the future. We will be discussing that in more detail at our Saturday morning meeting at Branson.

There is one major thing, however, that is not full. That is the Region 8 caravan to Salem next year. Dave and Pat Shaw have planned an amazing trip across our beautiful nation. To secure the sites that they have reserved, they need to have a commitment from those who are interested in going by December 30th. They are currently in a holding pattern for twenty sites

along the route. You only need to pay a deposit of \$150.00 to hold your spot. All of the information is at the back of this newsletter.

As for other news, I spent four glorious weeks attending installation rallies and having one rally here at our home. My driver (i.e. hubby) took us through some beautiful countryside in the wind and rain, through road construction, and slow farm equipment, but we really enjoyed seeing the roads less traveled and the sites along the way. All the units that we visited were welcoming (could you expect less?) and as diverse as anyone can imagine.

* We were in Carthage, Missouri first with the Kansas City unit and of course, a trip to Colaws was on the agenda. This is also the home of the Precious Moments Chapel and a Civil War battleground. The Coachlight RV park manager even had a scavenger hunt for us and a dance! The Kansas City Unit loves to play Joker and Five Crowns. Many members wandered through the campground on paved roads and the sites were level and under gorgeous oaks and maples.

* We had driven by Nebraska City several times on the way back from trips to Omaha, but had never gone into downtown. Wow! Kreigel Windmill Museum, Kimmel's Orchard, the Mayhew Cabin and Underground Railroad tunnel, and Lewis and Clark Museum are just some of the wonderful sights in this small river town that we visited with members of the Nebraska Unit. Victorian Acres RV Park was extremely accommodating and the owners came by to say hi on our installation night.

* Arrowhead Point RV Park east of El Dorado Springs, Missouri, was the site of the Missouri Greater Ozarks rally. We had been to this park before and were excited to go back. This quiet little park is far enough back from 54 Highway that you can't hear anything but the pair of owls that roosted in the oak tree above us. A campfire was going almost all the time at this laid back rally. Many of the ladies headed to the quilt shop at the end of the driveway, and men sat around the campfire telling tall tales. A visit to a local phenomenal toy and car museum, pot lucks and working puzzles took up the three days.

* In between the Kansas City and Nebraska installations, we spent one weekend home, but we weren't alone! Ten trailers were in our yard and hayfield for a vintage rally and all four states were represented! Much of the activity centered on food or fire, with pulled pork, fried chicken, chili and homemade noodle soup on the menu and a Swedish torch burning next to the fire pit one night. Attendees were also given a tour of JET Produce, operated by Beth's family. The farm tour included petting a two-day old lamb, feeding the pigs and a walking tour of the two connected farms. A scavenger hunt at the local Farmer's Market the next day, reaped surprises for those who, based on clues given, chose the right booth and said to the manager "I Love Airstreams". If they had chosen wisely, they were given a treat. If they did not choose wisely, they were given some confused looks. The guys also managed to contribute to ammo purchases by having target practice down by the creek. For those of you who know the Allen's dog, Byam, she got to run in the field until both she and Scott were exhausted. And the weather cooperated the whole weekend! The consensus was that this should be at least a semi-annual activity.

The reason I described all of these to you: Rallies can be held anywhere and plans can be diverse as you want them to be! We stayed at full service rv parks and boon docked in our own yard. We visited national museums, local attractions, played cards, watched the Nebraska football game, flew kites in the hayfield, but also just sat by the fire at night and visited. The idea of a rally is to get together with friends with a common interest, share information, enjoy each other's company, and go see the world around you.

Have a wonderful holiday season – and as David says, “Don’t eat too much, just eat steady”

Beth

1ST VICE PRESIDENT MESSAGE –

Many of us are winterizing our rigs and putting them away for a few months. Those who are not doing this are grinning and feeling great about being “down south” already.! During our winter months - wherever we spend them - we have wonderful memories of rallies, caravans, and other gatherings during the last year.

Another important event is the installation of new officers for the coming year! First, we send our thanks to those who have served our units over the past year. Next, we thank our new officers for stepping into positions of leadership. This annual renewal is crucial for the success of our units. This is true from an organizational point of view, but also it is important for each of us to have a part in the planning and execution of the club's activities!

On another topic, keep your eyes on the list of caravans being presented. There are likely to be some new ones available!

Best wishes for the upcoming Holiday Season.! Dwight & Lana!

2ND VICE PRESIDENT MESSAGE –

The rally season is drawing to a close and new Unit officers have been installed. Congratulations to all the newly elected officers. And thanks again to those that served this past year. There were many great rallies and I'm sure they will continue in this coming year. There is even a Region 8 Caravan to the International Rally in Salem, Oregon.

Snowbirds are preparing to head south to warmer climates for the next several months. Cheryl and I decided to ride out the winter in Nebraska again. Although we don't mind the snow, going back to Arizona is certainly appealing. Where will you be this winter?

The “big” holidays are rapidly approaching. They are a time for families to gather, celebrate and share time. It is also a time to be thankful. Best wishes and safe travels to all of you!

Happy Thanksgiving! Mike and Cheryl

NOTICE TO UNIT OFFICERS

Please send a copy the list of unit officers and a copy of the unit activities for 2018 to the region presidency when you submit them to the main office. The region presidency wants to attend as many unit activities as possible this coming year.

MEET THE REGION 8 PRESIDENTS

In the next two newsletters, I would like you all to meet the new Region 8 Presidents. Each one of these individuals has something special to offer their unit and the Region 8 Presidency appreciates their willingness to volunteer to lead their units in this coming year.



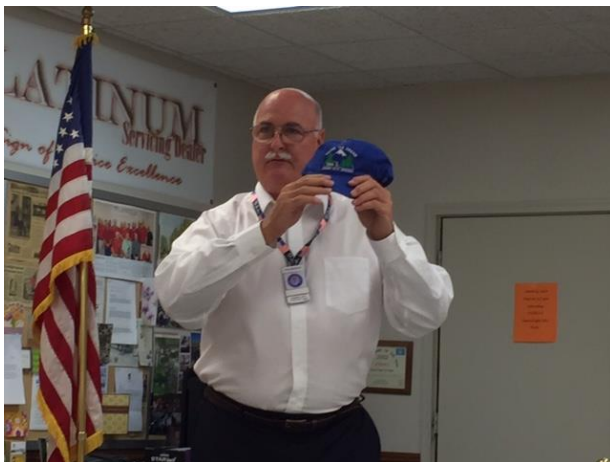
Joyce Allen – President of Missouri Greater Ozarks Unit

I and my husband Mike have been members for 11 years. We own a 1998 Excella Airstream trailer and enjoy sightseeing and doing volunteer work in it. Both of us are retired teachers. I am active in my local church serving on the hospitality committee and in the children's program. When I'm not doing that, I volunteer at a local charity and participate in several neighborhood activities.



Larry Link - President of Nebraska Unit

Born in Broken Bow, NE where I attended school; spent four years in US Air Force in Air Police; the last two years in the K9 Corp. I married my one and only wife, Marcia, in August 1968. I graduated from University of Nebraska with BS in Business Administration, major in Accounting and minor in Economics. We have two children and five grandchildren living in Lincoln, NE and Amarillo, TX (where we currently are vacationing). Worked for Price Waterhouse CPA's, International Paper Co., Allis Chalmers, Chief Industries, Edward Jones, Harlan Municipal Utilities, and Western Engineering. We also owned an Ace hardware in my home town for 11 years. Enjoy hunting and fishing; walking our dog, Chloe; reading; visiting grandchildren; and traveling in our Airstream. We joined WBCCI in 2014 and own a 2006 25' travel trailer bought used on EBay from El Dorado, CA.



Mike Bedinger – President of the Kansas City Missouri Unit

(Mike Bedinger continued)

I was born and raised in the Kansas City area, and graduated from Wentworth Military Academy & Washburn University. I entered military service in 1973 as a Commissioned Officer in the 82nd Airborne Infantry. After 4 years of active duty, I transitioned to the civilian business world, but continued service with the U.S. Special Forces active duty units and overseas contingencies. I retired from 30 years of service as a Colonel (USAR). I was the owner of Bedinger Furniture Corporation in Liberty, Mo. for 25 years. I hold an Honorary Commission 78 Fraser Highlanders (Canada) and Knight Commander Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem.

I purchased my first Airstream in 2008 (1966 Tradewind) but I currently travel in a 1985 31' Sovereign, previously owned by Gary Rush. My hobbies are restoring Airstreams, teaching karate, range shooting, running with "Airstreamers", AND doing whatever Linda tells me to do.

REGION RALLY
"A BIT OF BRANSON"
April 26-29, 2017

This is to remind all of you who have registered for the Branson Rally, that if you want to stay extra days either before or after the Rally, you will need to do that directly with America's Best Campground at 1-800-671-4399. When you call ask for Michelle and be sure you tell her that you are part of the Airstream group. You will receive the special rally rate of \$33.00 per night. Also, she will be able to park you in a permanent spot and you won't have to move on Thursday. You will have more luck getting prior rally days than after rally days, because another group is coming in that next week.

Officially, you will be able to arrive from 12 noon til 4:00 on Thursday, April 26. If you are coming in by caravan, please contact me with a list of the members arriving together and when. If the caravan is so large that you have divided into smaller groups, that information should be messaged ahead also. Since the campgrounds are doing the actual check in, we want this to run as smooth as possible for them.

It is important that you arrive by 4:00 to get settled in prior to our big BBQ bash at 6:00.

When you come to the first meal on Thursday evening, you will bring all of the Community Service donations. The usual hats, blankets, stuffed animals, tabs, etc. will be collected, counted, sorted and bagged that evening for distribution on Friday afternoon. Don't forget to bring your checks for Common Cents. Glenn Waters, our Community Service Chairman, may ask us to bring other specialized items. He has been in Branson, checking with the various organizations that may need our help. That information will be in the March newsletter.

INTERNATIONAL RALLY

June 23 – 30th, 2018

Salem, Oregon

“Living the Dream”

As we all probably know by now, the International Rally full amenities sites are full, but the main office is still accepting solar and generator reservations. Your reservation form is in the Blue Beret.

The Rally Coordinator is asking for suggestions for classes this year. This is your chance to ask to learn about something that you have been wondering about. Is there some repair that you would like to have demonstrated? Are you trying fit more in your Airstream than your weight limit will hold? Do you want to learn about your microwave/convection oven? Are you trying to figure out if you should polish your vintage? If there is anything that you would like to learn, or have repeated that you missed last year, please contact me at bpoo49@gmail.com and I will forward the request to the Rally Coordinator.

In other news about International, Region 8 will be having a lunch instead of a breakfast this year! I have already reserved a outdoor pavilion for our lunch on Monday, June 25th. Many of our members had asked for this switch so I acted early so that we could get a space. Our menu and other details will be available for our March newsletter.

Region 8 Caravan going to Salem. It will leave from York, Nebraska, on June 6th and arrive in Salem on June 20th. This will be a leisurely drive across country and will visit many beautiful and historic places. Please get **your deposit of \$150** to Dave and Pat Shaw **by December 30th**. What a great Christmas present to each other. It's the gift that just keeps on giving! What memories you'll have!

Areas that will be visited include Snowy Range and Flaming Gorge in Wyoming, three days of sightseeing in Salt Lake City and surrounds, Shoshone & Twin Falls, and Craters of the Moon in Idaho, Oregon Trail Museum in Oregon, and more waterfalls than you can shake a stick at along the Columbia River Gorge! And much more! Plus 15 days with your closest friends !

The caravan details have been sent out previously and we also brought the information to you at the installation rallies. If you did not receive this information, please contact Pat at theshaws1@gmail.com . Or just call her at 515-368-4379 and let her know that “the check is in the mail”.

**REGION 8 RALLY
"A BIT OF BRANSON
April 26-29, 2018**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) _____ Membership # _____

Address _____

Phones: Home _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Other than those named above, will there be any additional person(s) with you? _____ How many?
_____ Names _____

Trailer _____ Motorhome _____ Length of Rig _____ 30 amp _____ 50 amp _____

Number of Slides _____ which side? _____

Need Handicapped Parking? _____ Are you bringing a pet? _____ What? _____

Will there be extra days added to your reservation? _____

Special dietary needs (info needed by caterer) _____

Cost: Couple - \$315.00 Single \$225.00 Extra Person: \$140.00

This registration is also on the Region website, and you may pay by credit card through Pay Pal. There is an additional fee of \$10.00 for using Pay Pal.

Paper registration forms with a check should be sent to June at her winter address of 11313 E. BOISE, # 48, APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85120

There are no refunds after March 24th.

REMEMBER, WE ARE ON NOW ON A "STANDBY LIST" SITUATION. YOUR QUICK ACTION WILL AT LEAST GET YOU ON A LIST IF WE HAVE CANCELLATIONS.