

Region 8 News



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Your Region 8 Officers and Committee Chairs for 2011-2013

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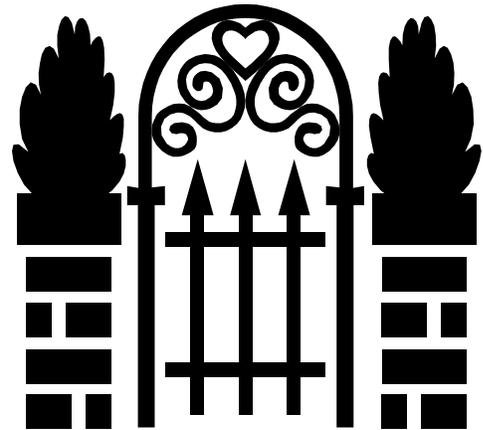
Betty Sullivan basullivan@prodigy.net

Installation and Holiday Season

Here in Region 8, a Region Officer will travel to a Region 8 Unit Installation rally. It is our goal to visit each of our 8 Units at least once a year. This visit by the Region officer is a good time to ask questions about the club and what is happening at the IBT board level.

This year, Glenn Waters, one of our Region officers, was unable to travel due to a recent operation. We were fortunate that Darrell and Sharon Waters were able to step up and visit the three Units that were assigned to Glenn. As you know, Darrell is a past Region 8 president and maintains his contact with the club by being chairman of the Special 2020 Committee, and therefore attends all the IBT business meetings. You may ask Darrell anything about the club.

Another season that is almost upon us is the Holidays. It won't be long be-



A rustic graphic describes love beyond the gate.

fore we have our Christmas or Holiday club function. Be sure to attend your Unit's Holiday gathering. Many of you have left your Airstream idle this year. Attending your Holiday party is a good way to see your friends, welcome new friends, and keep up on all the news.

Contributing Editor visits Hospital

Pat and Dave Shaw are our WBCCI Contributing Editors. They write the articles for Region 8 which you see in the Blue Beret.

On their Great Adventure trip this year, Pat became dizzy and required a hospital visit...for 5 days. After Pat was discharged, there was an addi-

tional day's wait while her records were prepared and updated before they could leave the area.

Pat was very glad the problem didn't occur during their stay in the Florida Keys. They are on their way north again at this time. Get well, Pat.



Fred Steurer

President's Message

Hi Everyone.

There is one item happening at the IBT board level. There is a committee formed to look at changing the borders of the Regions. I am not sure if there will be any recommendation

but my sense is no one is going to be very interested in making changes after having dealt with the constitution changes and the motorhome issue.

So that you know where I stand, I will not vote for any motion that will change the borders of Region 8 which would cause a transfer of any of the present Region 8 Units into a different region.

The motion to review the present Region boundaries was made at the last IBT meeting. It was voted by majority to take a look at revisions. It is my thought the problem is in the east where the regions are too large. I believe the largest region should look at splitting itself into two and let Region 8 alone.

Dottie and I will be traveling to the IBT winter meetings at Blythe, California in January. I will keep you informed about the meetings in the next Region 8 Newsletter.

Region 8 Membership

By Dan Zile, Region 8 Membership Chairman

As of June 30, 2012 our region had 227 members. Between July 1 and today our Units have gained 19 new members. That is GREAT; however, to actually keep that gained amount we need to RETAIN ALL OF OUR EXISTING MEMBERS! I know that several of our units continue to have some opportunities for new members. Keep working to gain those new members and extend the advantages of WBCCI membership to them.

You have heard me say before that membership is not just the job of your unit's membership chairman. Especially for the month of October retaining members is everyone's job. The incoming President and the new officers should be real concerned with their unit's membership numbers when they take over the unit's leadership for the upcoming year.

Since the deadline for dues to be paid, to be included in the 2013 Directory, is November 1, I would think the incoming President (and officers) should be in daily contact with your unit's person who is collecting the dues. The question is: "Who **has not** renewed their membership?" Find out, split the names up between the incoming officers, and give them a call. It wouldn't take long to accomplish, just a little effort that could pay HUGE dividends for the club.

So if you are reading this and have not paid your 2013 dues, don't wait, go write your check now.

RETENTION IS CRITICAL TO OUR CLUB, it's all of our jobs, especially in October!

Region 8 Caravan to Hutchinson, Kansas

Units - Plan your unit caravan to join the Region 8 Caravan to Region 8 Rally in Hutchison, Kansas April 24-28, 2013.

Before Dec 1, 2012 contact Region 8 Caravan Chairman Ed Knernschield Email ehk9559@aol.com or Cell 573-480-5441

The Region 8 Caravan to the Region 8 "Let the Games Begin!" Rally in Hutchison, Kansas will rendezvous in Independence, Missouri on April 19, where we will visit the Harry S. Truman National Historic Site, Home and Library. The next stop in Lyndon, Kansas includes a Potluck Dinner and board games. In order to plan campground reservations Ed needs to know if your **unit caravan is considering** joining in Independence, MO or Lyndon, KS.



A Tragic Event

Let me share with you a personal experience that happened to my family. When a strapping six foot EMS fellow came to the bedside of our great granddaughter with a beautiful stuffed doll and with tears in his eyes he laid it beside our dying baby. The act was very

right for the moment and the whole family felt the concern and caring of the giver and the gift. He made us acutely aware of the importance of the collection of our stuffed gifts for these workers and others who receive them. He had been the first to arrive on the scene when our baby stopped breathing and the grief touched him as he tried to rescue her as if he were family. For him it was an act of condolence and empathy in regard to the loss of the child and for the parents. It was a perfect gift.

Airstreamer's have collected multiple thousands of stuffed dolls and animals, toys, books, blankets and hats to be distributed to emergency personnel, police, hospitals and organizations that care for children, knowing that their effort may bless and comfort the children and their families, without hearing many thank you's. Such actions are a gift of love and are very important to those receiving them. For a family who has received this gift, we thank you for continuing such a warm and meaningful tradition.

Leonard and Betty Sullivan



Recovering

I am not the type of person that is comfortable with talking about my personal affairs - however I want to make an exception in this case.

At the International this past year there were several members of Region 8 that asked me if everything was alright because I did not seem to be my usual self and I told them that I was fine. There were very few

that knew the whole story. I was also not at the region breakfast and I know that Fred told you that I was not feeling well -- well as Paul Harvey would say "and now for the rest of the story" (I am telling you this because as Region 2nd VP I think you have the right to know rather than hearing from someone else).

The day before I left for my early worker assignment, I got word from my doctor that I had prostate cancer. This is what was bothering me and I must say that I was not taking the news very well. When Fred told you that I was not feeling well that was part of the reason I was not there but I was also back in St. Louis for x-rays and an appointment with the doctor. I was away for one week.

I will not go into all of the details but to say that I have always heard that you will die of something else before prostate cancer will take you. This may be true for the majority of men but of course I like to do things differently. Like I said I was not well. The stress settled in my neck and still bothers me. I had several talks with the MAN upstairs and when I finally said to HIM that I could not handle this by myself it was within a few hours that the peace that only He can give settled into me and I was ready to follow my doctor's recommendation for surgery. I asked him if he was going to do it and he said no he wanted another doctor that was much better with this surgery than he was. Again I know that God was behind this decision. The surgery was done on August 14, and it was done with a robot. That was a first for me.

The surgery also caused a big change in plans. The Airstream has not been out on the road since the international and will not be for the rest of the year. After the surgery I could not drive for at least two weeks and only for SHORT distances. After eight weeks I go back to the surgeon. I will soon find out if I will need radiation, and I think that there is a 99.9% chance that I will.

I was scheduled to do the installations for Iowa, North Iowa and Nebraska. I hated not being able to come to your rally but had strict orders from my doctor. It was lucky that we knew of another past officer that could fill in for me. I would like to thank Darrell and Sharon for filling in. (at least you got another Waters) I hope next time to have a more upbeat story for you. See you down the road. Glenn

Region 8 Rally Theme

Rally Theme Part 1 —

The theme of the next Region 8 Rally is "Let the Games Begin." So don't be an ole fuddy duddy... get in the spirit of this game theme, and answer this question:

What is a Helianthus annuus? Here's a clue: it exhibits heliotropism.

More about the question later in this newsletter.



Upcoming at the next Region 8 Rally April 24-28, 2013

Encampment Building—Kansas State FG

Rally Theme Part 2—

Okay so a *Helianthus annuus* exhibits heliotropism. Well just until growth stops. Then it typically faces east. It was first domesticated in present day Mexico by at least 2600 BC.

If you haven't figured out what the *Helianthus annuus* is, remember we are going to the Region 8 Rally in Kansas. Yes, Kansas. Kansas is a big clue.

Attention Region 8 Airstreamers!

Have you watched "Dancing With the Stars" or "American Idol" or "America's Got Talent" on TV? Have you ever wanted to be a contestant? Well now is your chance.

Region 8 Rally in Hutchinson Kansas is doing its own version of America's Got Talent. We are calling it "Airstreamers Have Talent." First of all you will notice that our title has better grammar than the TV version.

Secondly, we need you. If you have about a 3 minute act that you or a group of you would like to do in our show, we want to know. You can sing, play an instrument, dance, act, tell a story, demonstrate gymnastics, juggle chainsaws, just anything you would like to show.

If you would like to participate, e-mail Pat or Dave Shaw at theshaws1@gmail.com.

Rally Theme Part 3 —

Yes, yes, *Helianthus annuus* is a Sunflower. The state flower of Kansas. Pretty, happy flowers. Tall. It reminds us of pioneer days and prairies. It is golden. So what are sunflowers good for, you might ask. They are rich with oil. The seeds are high in protein and contain lots of vitamins. They provide a nutritious snack for you and me. Our feathered friends like them too.

Sunflowers absorb toxins from the environment. Long roots reach into polluted water to extract toxic metals. The leaves can be used as cattle feed; the stems contain a fiber that can be used in paper production.

Not to be outdone by International WBCCI rallies, our own Region 8 rally will have an emblem. The wonderful Sunflower with its pretty golden petals. If you have any sunflower duds, wear 'em. Any items, bring 'em. Sunflowers everywhere. Whoopee.



Let the Games Begin!

Region 8 Rally

Hutchinson, Kansas
April 24-28, 2013

REGISTRATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

WBCCI # _____ Unit _____ Region _____

Adults _____ Children _____ Guests _____

Type of Airstream TT _____ MH _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Handicap _____ Vintage _____

Rally Fees

	Before 4/1/13	After 4/1/13	Amount
2 adults	\$220	\$240	\$ _____
1 adult	\$180	\$190	\$ _____
off site 2 adults	\$140	\$160	\$ _____
off site 1 adult	\$100	\$110	\$ _____
Guest (16+)	\$100	\$110	\$ _____
Total Rally Fee			\$ _____

Make your check payable to WBCCI Region 8

Send your check to:

June Ryan
P. O. Box 232
Birmingham, Iowa 52535

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

*We're on the web at
<http://region8.wbcci.net>*

Region 8 Airstream Dealers

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