



Official Newsletter of the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit

Prairie Rose

Wally Byam Caravan Club International
The Airstream RV Owners' Club



February - March 2008

www.nodak.wbcci.net

Volume 5 Issue 1



In this issue...

Calendar Updates

Region 7 Ballots

Region 7 Rally Info

Report from the
2008 Rose Parade
Rally

A toast to those member who were unable to attend the Holiday Luncheon in Bismarck Dec. 1st. Braving the weather were Larry Ruebel, Harvey Pedersen, Vern and Bev Zink all of Bismarck, Joyce and John Krabseth from Williston, Robert and Shirley Detlaff from Minot, and Cathy Ruebel behind the camera.

Mother Nature slows up Holiday Luncheon Dec. 1st

Despite a persistent snow fall, several out of town members braved the roads to come to our Holiday Luncheon in Bismarck. We met at DiDonna's Italian Restaurant for a leisurely lunch and good conversation.

From there, we went over to the Ruebels' home nearby for coffee and dessert, and what Airstreamers do very well -

more conversation; there was a long winter ahead before we'd see each other again. Many of our members were already down south for the winters and more would be leaving after the holidays.

Coming in for the luncheon were the Detlaffs from Minot, Krabseths from Williston, Harvey Pedersen, the Zinks and the Ruebels all from Bismarck.



Unit Scrapbook featured in *North Dakota Living Magazine*

A couple years ago, at the suggestion of our unit Secretary, Arlene, all our historical scrapbooks except the most current one, was given to the Historical Society of North Dakota to be permanently archived.

Joyce K. from Williston read an article entitled, "Historical scrapbooks offer glimpse into the past" by Luann Dart in the January 2008 of

the *North Dakota Living* magazine.

"The Scrapbooks are paper treasure chests for historians, because they have preserved those paper items which are usually thrown away, explains Mark Halvorson, the curator of collections research with the State Historical Society."

"Look through the scrapbook donated by the Wally Byam Caravan

Club International, and discover the rambling lifestyle of those living and vacationing in airstream trailers decades ago." See www.ndarec.com

While those scrapbooks are just a brief journal of our club and members who shared their lives, thanks to Arlene for her insight, as the memories will continue to depict Airstreamin' for decades to come!



Unit President

Cathy Ruebel #10081

1st Vice President

Rose Larson #5606

2nd Vice President

John Krabseth #3682

Treasurer

Lillian Thomson #4304

Recording Secretary

Arlene Bailey #235

**Corresponding Secretary-
Past President**

Larry Ruebel #10081

Membership Chair

Darina Lindroth #268

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In an effort to protect our members from having their personal information being made available ONLINE when this newsletter is posted to our website, we will no longer include phone numbers or e-mail addresses. Please consult your unit membership directory or contact that officer through our web e-mail address:

0145@wbcci.net

President's Corner.....

by Cathy Ruebel

Oh, before you know it, the geese will be flying north, and bringing with them some snowbirds.

Region 7 Ballots

Only five North Dakota units returned their ballots for voting for Region 7 officers. As it turned out, there were five votes for Don Rogers as President, five votes for Stan Schwenke as 1st Vice Presidents, four votes for Joan Lahr and 1 vote for Ed Emerick for the office of 2nd Vice President.

Unit Survey Results

Feedback from the Unit Survey included in the last newsletter indicates we should stick to our rally planning basically the way they have been, maybe lighten up a bit on daily tours, and a little more potluck type meals.

Spring Buddy Rally Location Change

The location of the Spring Rally has been changed, due to a serious overstatement of facilities in Underwood. **Robert and Shirley Detlaff** have offered the use of their farm for the rally, which we gratefully accepted. In years gone by, twenty trailers showed up for one rally on the farm, with plenty room to spare. The farm is located about 10

miles north of Minot on Highway 83, across from the Minot Air Force Base.

Constitution & Bylaws

As requested by the International Constitution & Bylaws Committees, our unit C&B has been revised to conform with their recommendation and instructions. **Thank you to Vern Zink** for all his time and effort in seeing that this task was completed. The C&B has been submitted to WBCCI/Jackson Center for review.

Protecting our Members' Information

In furtherance of our discussion about what information was available on our new website, you will notice that the phone number and e-mail address of **club officers in the newsletter** have been removed. I discovered that if you "Googled" one of those names online, it came up with the officer listing in past newsletters. Until I can figure out how to make the newsletter "non-searchable", that information will not appear in this or future issues. While this omission will cost us points in any future publications competition, protecting our members is more important.

—CR—

2008 Calendar of Events

April 26, 2008	Spring Luncheon - 12 o'clock noon - Meriwether's Restaurant, 1700 River Road, Bismarck
May 14-17, 2008	South Dakota Unit Tulip Festival Rally, Orange City, Iowa
May 29 - June 1, 2008	Spring Opener <u>Buddy Rally</u> - Detlaff Farm, Hwy 83 North, Minot - across from the Minot AFB
June 28 - July 4, 2008	51st International Rally - Bozeman, Montana
July 25 - 27, 2008	Summer Picnic Rally - Stump Lake Park, 10 mi. S of Lakota on ND Hwy. 1
Aug. 11-15, 2008	Region 7 Rally - Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada
Aug. 13, 2008	Unit Luncheon - Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada
Sept. 11 - 14, 2008	North Dakota 2008 Installation Rally - General Sibley Park, Bismarck
Sept. 18 - 21, 2008	South Dakota Installation Rally and Polka Festival, Mitchell, SD

Region 7 Voyageur Rally is Aug 11-15



Just received updated information on this summer's Region 7 Voyageur Rally, which will be held August 11 through 15th in **Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada**. The registration form for the Rally will be in the February issue of the *Blue Beret* and two subsequent issues.

We will be parking at Confederation College. "As a head's up....we are not having a skit night this year. We are

going to do something different," indicated Terrol Rogers from the Manitoba Unit.

Parking will be on Monday and anyone that wants to arrive early can book in at Trowbridge Falls Campground; it's very near to the city and good hook-ups—look them up on the web at

www.visitthunderbay.com

Don't forget to obtain your identification documents, vehicle registration and proof of insurance for entry into Canada, and for your return to the United States. This includes any documentation needed to bring your pets with you.

Report from the 2008 Rose Parade Rally

By Bruce & Carolyn Coonrod

See the photos on page 4

The Rose Parade was colorful, and an exciting experience. We and 50 or so other Airstreamers were camped in a school administration parking lot. Our chairs were set up on Dec. 31 on Colorado Blvd., about halfway through the parade route. We took turn guarding the chairs. We were able to draw the 2 a.m. to 4 a.m. Jan. 1 shift. Jerry and Joan Larson had the same duty.

We were across from a multi-story Target store in downtown Pasadena. We were also had another row of chairs with fellow Airstreamers in front of us. The parade was just under two hours long. Kooks with causes also preceded and followed the parade.

During the rally we toured the Getty Center and the Reagan Library. Carolyn and I walked to three of the sites where floats were being decorated; two of the sites were at the Rose Bowl.

Carolyn is a big Jeopardy fan, so we toured Sony/Paramount Studio and got to go into Studio 10, the Jeopardy set.

We've hunkered down in Simi

Valley since leaving the Rose Parade rally last Monday because of the weather plus wanting to see some LA area attractions other than freeway traffic. We went to the La Brea Tar Pit and Queen Mary. Queen Mary is nearly 70 miles of freeway from where we're camped.

We're in Paso Robles, wine country, not because we want to be but because the pickup began missing. Dropped it off at the Ford dealer today. The pickup began to miss when we were in Simi Valley. I thought it might just be bad gas. Sometimes it runs OK, then not OK.

We toured San Simeon, the Hearst Castle. What a place! We also watched elephant seals along the beach. So far the high point of the trip for the boys was a large dog park in Thousand Oaks. Five other shorthairs were there the first time we stopped.

The weather has not been very good—50s during the day and 40 at night. It's suppose to warm up some now. After getting the pickup back (if we don't have to rob a bank to pay for the repairs), we'll head to Death Valley.

We just got back from a short trip to Las Vegas this morning. It's only an hour over there from here, Pahrump, NV, about 25,000. We didn't leave any money. Just drove the strip. We did go into the Flamingo hoping to catch some t-shirt bargains.

We pulled into a Coast to Coast Resort after I discovered the Hensley Arrow hitch had cracked. Got it welded yesterday, then took the pickup to the car wash. Now the Ford misses again, and no Ford dealer here. I hope it just needs to dry out.

We'll be here another day. To keep from putting excessive pressure on the hitch, I'm having the same guy who welded the hitch install air bags on the rear of the pickup to raise the back end. I wonder what else might go wrong.

We'll head for San Diego the shortest route. If the pickup continues to miss, I'll find a dealer there next week or one along the way. At least we'll be closer to our rendezvous site.

After this trip I may never want to go on the road again.

—Bruce—

Highlights of the 2008 Rose Parade Rally



1. Float under construction
2. Rose Parade Rally site
3. All facades of the floats must be natural and are hand placed.
4. Beijing 2008 Olympics
5. Rally goers were able to put out their chairs along the parade route the day before, but must be attended at all time.



6. Sitting right up front for the China Airlines float
7. "Transport of the Future" transformed into a fire-shooting flying machine

