



Prairie Rose



Official Newsletter of the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit

May 2010

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Volume 7 Issue 2

Go East Young Man....

Jackson Center or Bust!



WBCCI Headquarters in Jackson Center, Ohio

By Cathy Ruebel, #10081

Bismarck to Jackson Center, 1,155 miles [sigh]. That big ol' dent in the rear view mirror put a scowl on Larry's forehead every time he glanced back.

It was lovely when we left here, 70° on a calm, cloudless afternoon. That sure changed. We stayed overnight at the new Walmart in south Fargo. Nice store, picked up some stuff I had already realized didn't make this first trip of the season.

Clouds were moving in as we left Fargo, and by the time we pulled into the Wisconsin Dells KOA, it was raining, and so marked the rest of the journey to Jackson Center. We chose the Dells KOA because the Wisconsin Unit was holding their spring campout and luncheon there that weekend and we knew we'd be among friends.

Indiana is a relatively narrow state, as compared to North Dakota, with beautiful flat

farmland, and green as far as the eye could see. They are a good month ahead of Bismarck in weather – the lilacs were finishing up blooming. One hears so much about how Indiana and Ohio have suffered so greatly in the poor economy with loss of jobs and homes. Must be a proud people there, because they hide it well, with their manicured yards and tidy homes along our route.

As with towing that silver hail-magnet, the wicked storms were taking a good bead on us across Indiana, forcing us to call it an early night at Monticello, as we would only be driving back into the storms that threatened to wash us off the road. We arrived at Air-stream's "Terraport" RV park around supper time. We deliberately didn't have much in the refrigerator, as we knew that it would be turned off for the period it was in the service bay. Jackson Center is not overly well endowed with eating establishments, although there is a little café adjacent to the factory parking lot where



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Enchanted
Highway Rally
June 4th - 6th in
Regent, ND

Ballot to vote for
Region 7 Officers

*State Fair Rally
Cancelled*

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President's Corner

by John Krabseth

We were happy to see all the people who came to the **May Day Luncheon** in Minot May 1st. We had a great time catching up with everyone's news and meeting some new people. Joining my wife, Joyce and I for the luncheon were Shirley and Robert Detlaff and Alan and Janet Kurth from Minot, Art Idso from Absaroka and his friend Kathleen Schultz, Ron and Rose Larson from Bowman, Don and Lillian Thomson of Cavalier, Judy Koester of Cando, and Vern and Bev Zink from Bismarck. Weather was less than spring-like and some people were driving in snow. Everyone was left with a May Day basket to brighten their drive home.

The **Enchanted Highway Rally** in Regent June 4th - 6th is coming up fast. Campground registration is at the Enchanted Highway Gift Shop. **Make reservations by calling 701-563-6400** - make sure to tell them you are with the Airstream group. A cabin with two individual bedrooms is available at \$25.00 per night.

Pre-Rally will begin at Assumption Abbey in Richardton ND on June 4th; Interstate 94 exit 84 north. A picnic lunch will be provided between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m.; followed by a tour of the Abbey and wine cellar. Then we will caravan to Regent.

Directions to Regent: going west on interstate 94 take Exit 72, and travel 32 miles south on Enchanted Highway. Alternate route: Straight south of Richardton on highway 8 to Mott and right on highway 23 to Regent.

Happy Hour after Abbey tour at camp ground, approximately 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. followed by potluck supper.

9:00 a.m. Saturday morning breakfast: biscuits and gravy etc.

After Saturday morning breakfast, Gary Graff, sculpture creator will conduct tour and explain each sculpture. Bring a sack lunch and beverage on tour.

Saturday Happy Hour at 4:30 supper each one eat on own or at café.

Sunday Morning: pancake and sausage breakfast; followed by church service.

Now the Bad News: **The State Fair Rally July 23-25 has been cancelled.** The Roughrider Campground in Minot, where we were going to have our State Fair Rally has new owners this spring, and they have no record of the arrangements we made for the rally with the prior owners. And their new policy is that all sites reserved must be guaranteed with a credit card, which would be cost-prohibitive when we don't know who will be attending the rally. As it is during the State Fair, all other campground were booked full for those days. With the Region VII Rally in Medora the following week, we decided it would be best to cancel the State Fair Rally.

Looking forward to seeing you in Regent!

John Krabseth, Unit President



Unit President

John Krabseth #3682

1st Vice President

Vern Zink #4114

2nd Vice President

Bev Zink #4114

Treasurer

Lillian Thomson #4304

Recording Secretary

Arlene Bailey #235

Corresponding Secretary

Joyce Krabseth #3682

Membership Chair

Larry Ruebel #10081

2010 Calendar of Events

June 4 - 6, 2010

Enchanted Highway Rally - Regent, ND

June 27 - July 4, 2010

53rd International Rally - Gillette, Wyoming

July 23 - 25, 2010

~~Cancelled Cancelled Cancelled Cancelled~~

North Dakota State Fair Rally - Roughrider Campground, Minot, ND

Aug. 2-9, 2010

Region 7 Saddle Up to Medore Rally - Red Trails Campground, Medora, ND

Sept. 10-12, 2010

Fall Installation Rally - Frontier Fort Campground, Jamestown, ND



Airstream Factory Visitcontinued



Terraport at the Airstream Factory in Jackson Center

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we found our breakfasts.

If you take your rig into the factory service facility, have it ready to be towed out of your Terraport site by 7 AM (or earlier). Even with appointments, you will need to check in right away - Monday mornings are very busy. Each customer is assigned a service advisor who will review with you what work is to be done. Wayne was most helpful for the 2+ days we were there. We had a laundry list of work to be done, including servicing the wheels and brakes, replace the lavatory sink, and re-seal the rub rails as they have known leak issues. They also checked all the seals on the roof, installed a few items we found in the Store and couldn't leave with out.

What to do while waiting? The Factory Tour starts promptly at 2 PM with Airstream veteran Don Ambos leading the way. Ambos worked at Airstream for thirty-five years and since retirement eleven years ago, is back to give the daily tours. He started out with a history of Airstream and how it came to be in Jackson Center, and fielded questions. Parked out in the Service Department are two sights to behold: A custom made Airstream-themed West Coast Choppers motorcycle

autographed by owner/designer Jesse James, and a 1930s vintage Boles Aero trailer. The motorcycle was traded for a custom Airstream trailer by James as a gift for his wife, Sandra Bullock. The Boles was recently obtained by Airstream and is ready for the restoration process – the door is in front over the hitch and the interior looks like the galley of a pre-WWII aircraft.

No photos are allowed in the factory, where you are led through the manufacturing process, from cutting out the floor boards to cleaning a dusting at the end of the line. Nearly every stage is completely hand assembled. It was interesting to note a 25-foot trailer was being

finished and prepped for shipping to Europe. It was finished but empty inside of all fixtures, tires were smaller, no propane tanks and the narrow body style for their narrower roads.

For a short drive, about a 15 mile drive to the north is Wapakoneta, where you will find an assortment of places to eat and shop, along with the Neil Armstrong Air & Space Museum. As our luck would have it, they are closed on Mondays in the off season, but out front is the only remaining F5G fighter jet that Armstrong flew; it was designed to simulate flight into space and be able to return and land back onto earth - the precursor to the Space Shuttle.

A good hour's drive to the south will take you to all that the city of Dayton will provide, including Wright Patterson Air Force Base Museum – If coming in from the north, follow the interstate signage-suggested route to the museum – it's a bit longer, but much faster. Unfortunately, leaving isn't nearly so easy, especially if you leave at the 5 PM closing time – it's rush hour then.

In Jackson Center is the headquarters for WBCCI – that will take five minutes or less, and the most to do there is buy a few club logo items you might need. They could add that to their marketing plan.



The Airstream Factory with trailers ready for delivery

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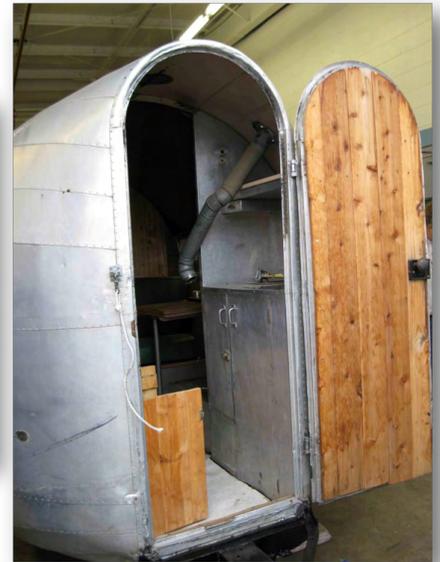
Airstream Factory Visitcontinued

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The panel replacement took the entire second day and was interesting to watch. All panel replacements come with a water leak check; we also had them perform a pressurized leak test for peace of mind. Tuesday night we were done and ready to go, when the water heater started acting up. I guess if you are going to have problems, this is the



Boles Aero trailer ready for restoration



West Coast Choppers custom motorcycle



Ready for Delivery

place for it to happen. Wednesday morning, Larry raced over at 7 AM to see if anyone would have time to look at it. Sure enough – Wayne was able to make the appropriate adjustments. We were VERY happy with the bill at the end, and passed on our appreciation to the service team with a batch of right-out-of-the-oven cookies for their morning break. Nothing underscores sincerity like melts chocolate chip cookies.

We headed out Thursday morning after a last minute visit to the Store. By the time we were westbound across the plains of Indiana, the winds were threatening to shut us down yet again, howling out of the south at 38 mph, gusting to 48 mph. T'was a slow road, until we got to the northbound interstate in Illinois. We spent the night at



Water leak test

the truck stop-RV parking in Rochelle, Illinois. It was a bit noisy at first, but as tired as we were fighting the wind, we slept well.

On the road again, we decided to make a detour to visit family in central Wisconsin, spending the night on my brother's lawn. We left after supper just so we could get a few hours down the road, and stopped for the night in Hudson. Sunday, we took an ever increasing wind right on the nose, and drove into the drizzle and rain before Alexandria, and so the story went, all the way back to Bismarck.

While we left in beautiful springtime weather, we were hunting for our winter coats by the time we got home. And what happened to the leaves on the trees and flowers blooming everywhere? Oh yeah, that's right. We're home now, and there's snow in the forecast.

OFFICIAL BALLOT

**Wally Byam Caravan Club International
North Dakota Peace Garden Unit
Official Ballot
Election of Region Officers for 2010/2011**

Only full North Dakota members are eligible to vote on this ballot. (Affiliate Member should vote in the unit that they pay their National dues.) Listed below are the names of those individuals selected by the Nominating Committee for the Region VII offices for 2010/2011. Provision is also made for write-in candidates for each office.

Indicate your preference for each candidate in the space provided and be sure your name and WBCCI number is entered in the appropriate space.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>WBCCI No.</u>	<u>Unit Vote (X)</u>
President:			
Nominee	Joan Lahr	21183	()
Write-in			()
First Vice President:			
Nominee	Linda Agree	5628	()
Write-in			()
Second Vice President:			
Nominee			()
Write-in			()

ND Member Name (print) (Unit No.) Date)

Voting for write-in candidates is permissible provided their written consent to serve has been obtained. Vote one name only for each office.

All ballots must be received by the unit president not later than May 25, 2010.

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