



Prairie Rose



Official Newsletter of the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit

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Beautiful weather at Installation Rally wraps up 2013 season

By Cathy Ruebel, Kathleen Schultz and Lillian Thomson

The 2013 rally season has come to a close; the snowballs have already chased some of our members south. For us, it was a “one-trip wonder” – we wonder what happened to the summer that passed us by. But, Don and Lillian Thomson were gracious hosts and put on a good rally to close out the year. With Larry and I both having served as unit presidents, we fully understand what’s involved in a successful season: hard work, multi-level coordination, and plain dumb luck. Add into their chore basket was the International Rally in our backyard and keeping the Hands of Peace Project moving forward. Our hats off to everyone who made this season a success!

Weather was ideal for the Installation Rally at Icelandic State Park – we had never been there before and were looking forward to visiting the area. Thank you to Don and Terrol Rogers for helping us find our campsite so quickly – your leading us around the detour in the dark sure took away some of the stress of getting there late. Icelandic State Park was in its autumn décor for the Rally and served as a very relaxing backdrop for the weekend’s activities.

As with any of our rallies, people were kept busy with tours, a couple unit business meetings (see the Minutes



in this newsletter), and copious amounts of socializing. Nobody could go hungry as usual; there was always an abundance of good food.

Friday morning, the group toured the Woodside Industries in Cavalier a locally owned business from of Neche. They make custom cabinets and furniture for residential and commercial customers as well as special projects, such as schools and prisons with a series of computer-automated ma-



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Travel Safely this Winter.

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North Dakota Peace Garden Unit Officers

Unit President
Allan Towles #4103

1st Vice President
Art Idso #1397

2nd Vice President
Larry Ruebel #10081

Treasurer
Bev Zink #4114

Recording Secretary
Bev Wells #7394

Corresponding Secretary
Roxanne Towles #4103

Membership Chair
Larry Ruebel #10081

Nomination Chair
Don Thomson #4304

Newsletter Editor
Cathy Ruebel #10081

Past President
Don Thomson #4304

Time to Plan Ahead for 2014



The President's Perspective ...by Allan Towles

The Presidents Perspective

Greetings fellow Airstreamers. I begin this year excited about the upcoming Airstreaming season. I have received lots of encouragement, so with your help and patience, we'll have a great year.

I want to send out many thanks to Don Thomson for a great year as our President, as well as a special thanks to Lillian for all the years serving as our treasurer. You are both greatly appreciated. I'd also like to give a special thanks to Bev Zink for accepting the job as our new treasurer.

It's exciting to know the club continues to grow. We have a new couple from Dickinson. **Welcome Ryan and Kelly Jilek!** We look forward to getting to know you. We also have new associate members this year from surrounding units. Greetings to everyone.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at next year's rallies. We'll start in May with a luncheon in Casselton, and some of us will have our trailers at Absaraka Art's! Art Idso has invited any of us that would like to park our trailers at his place to come on over. So, we'll have a little mini rally as well at that time. We'll then move on to June for a special rally in Medora, N.D. hosted by Ron and Rose Larson. This fun rally is scheduled two weeks before International in Gillette, so plan on this rally on your way to Gillette. Our next rally will be the Region 7 Folklorama in Winnipeg hosted by our very own Gail Harrower. Stay tuned for more info on the Region 7 Rally. We'll close the year out in September at Aberdeen with our fall installation rally.

I look forward to seeing everyone next year. Have a safe and warm winter.

Allan



2014 Calendar of Events

Jan 8, 2014	Region 7 Luncheon, Chef Roy's Frog City Cafe, 1131 Church Point Hwy, Rayne, LA
May 10, 2014	Spring Luncheon, Casselton, ND. Hosted by Art Idso & Kathleen Schultz
June 12 - 15, 2014	Summer Opener Rally, Medora, ND. Hosted by Rose & Ron Larson
June 28 - July 4, 2014	57th International Rally, Gillette, WY
Aug 6-14, 2014	2014 National Event Region 7 Rally "Around the World" with Folklorama Oakbluff Community Centre Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Sept 12 - 14, 2014	Fall Installation Rally, Fairgrounds, Aberdeen, SD

Installation Rally Highlights....continued



Front - Vern & Bev Zink, Lillian Thomson, Bev Wells, Roxanne Towles, Gail Harrower; back-Bruce Harrower, Allan Towles, Don Thomson, Art Idso, Larry Ruebel. Below-A toast to the Krabseths.

chines. There was also a tour of the Pembina County Museum grounds and the Victory Garden which was a new project by Lillian's committee. Tomatoes were given to those who wanted them.

The installation dinner was at the Bistro in Cavalier, which was closed to host our dinner. It was a Thanks-



giving dinner of roast turkey and all the trimming – it wasn't the standard salty restaurant fare. It was excellent - just like dinner at home! Following the dinner back at the campground, a toast was offered to Joyce and John Krabseth, former past presidents who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary last fall – they sent home with us a bottle of specially labeled wine to share with the group when we next met. The wine, a cranberry malbec, was very good and enjoyed by all! We missed seeing the Krabseths and wish them both much happiness in the years to come.

As their representative for WBCCI Region 7, 1st vice President Gail Harrower installed the 2014 Unit Officers. Incoming were Allan Towles as President, 1st Vice President Art Idso, 2nd Vice President Larry Ruebel, his second tour of duty. Bev Wells will continue as Recording Secretary, and Roxanne Towles and Bev Zink join the Officers as Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Trustees are Don Thomson and Bev and Vern Zink.

Following breakfast Sunday morning, Kathleen Schultz sent us off with some inspirational thoughts to ponder



Above-Terrol enjoys some quiet time with her puppy (I think that canopy needs a little green and yellow paint.) Below-The real passing of the torch—the Unit's STUFF is transferred into Allan's care.

on our journey home. Joining Don and Lillian Thomson at this year's installation Rally were their granddaughter Madyson, Allan and Roxanne Towles, Art Idso and Kathleen Schultz, Bev and Vern Zink, Don and Terrol Rogers, Chris and Bev Wells, Joe Sylvestre, Gail and Bruce Harrower, John and Sandi DeYoung, Judy Koester, Ron and Rose Larson, and Larry and I.



Unit Meeting Minutes

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
NORTH DAKOTA PEACE GARDEN UNIT
Fall Installation Rally, Icelandic State Park
Cavalier North Dakota
September 12 – 15, 2013

The September 14, 2013 meeting was called to order by President Don Thomson at 10:35 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Thomson, Towles, Isdo, Wells, Zink, De Young, Harrower, Larson, Koester, Roger, Ruebel and Sylvestre.

Roll Call of Officers:

Present:

President Don Thomson
1st Vice President Allan Towles
2nd Vice President Art Isdo
Recording Secretary Bev Wells
Corresponding Secretary Lillian Thomson
Treasurer Lillian Thomson
Past President Bev Zink
Additions to Agenda: None

Reading and Approving Minutes: In lieu of reading the Minute of June 8, 2013 they were circulated in the Newsletter. The June 8, 2013 minutes were approved as circulated, with an amendment of the resolution for the Hands of Peace donation "Moved by Chris Wells and Seconded by Bev Zink". Moved by Don Rogers and Seconded by Chris Wells. MOTIONED CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report: New Members are Ryan & Kelly Jilek and new Associate Members are Jerome & Joyce Hoffer and David & Pat Shaw. Audit has been completed for 2011, 2012 and to August 31, 2013 by Baileys. If there are any questions about the audit contact the Baileys or Lillian Thomson could answer questions. The documents provided for the audit were, meeting statements, invoices, receipts and bank statements. An audit sheet was provided for each year with the signature of the Auditors. The cur-

rent bank balance is \$438.32, plus a membership in an amount of \$20.00. A motion to accept the report was made by Vern Zink and Seconded by Ron Larson. MOTIONED CARRIED.

Nominating Committee Report: The current executive has agreed to stay for 2013/2014 for a one year term as follows:

President: Alan Towles
First Vice-President Art Isdo
Second Vice-President Larry Ruebel
Recording Secretary Bev Wells
Corresponding Secretary Roxanne Towles
Treasurer Lillian Thomson

A motion was made to approve the 2013/2014 Nominations for a one year term by Don Rogers and Seconded by Gail Harrower. MOTIONED CARRIED.

The three (3) Trustees are the immediate past presidents with Vern Zink as Third Trustee, Bev Zink as Second Trustee and Don Thomson as First Trustee. A motion to accept the Trustees was made by Don Rogers and Seconded by Joe Sylvestre. MOTIONED CARRIED.

The Elected members and the immediate Past Presidents make up the Executive Board for 2013/2014.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

Logo Committee: Bev Wells reported on the proposed design which will include the shape of Manitoba, North Dakota and South Dakota with the capitals indicated by a "Star". The name "North Dakota Peace Garden Unit" will surround the Province and States. This will be used on golf shirts and back of jackets. The flowers of each area being included on the front of the jacket with North Dakota Prairie Rose in the middle and Crocus on each side for South Dakota and Manitoba. Over the winter samples will

be drafted for circulation to the membership.

Hands of Peace Committee: Gail Harrower reported that Joan Lahr was a member of the committee and unexpectedly has passed away. Fund raising is continuing with 100% of the funds used for the actual project.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: There was a request to purchase flowers for Joan Lahr from NDPG Unit funds. A memorial has only been given to unit members. Card to be sent to Joan Lahr's family and anyone who would like to donate the funds will be sent to the Lahr Family, who will determine where the funds will be donated. The Canadians will donate to the Canadian Wounded Warriors. A motion was made that the funds raised should not go through the Treasury by John de Young and Seconded by Joe Sylvestre. MOTIONED CARRIED.

Membership: Cathy Ruebel reported that the cost of mailing the membership booklet has increased and that the \$10.00 membership fee may not cover the entire cost. The Unit discussed the issue with the 2014 Schedule going out in the Newsletter and membership booklet be distributed at the Luncheon Rally in May of 2014. Consideration of membership increase will be discussed prior to the next membership renewal.

President Don Thomson thanked Cathy for all her hard work on the membership booklet and that the NDPG Unit Booklet is used as a learning tool at the Membership Booklet Seminars by the International Peace Gardens.

Incoming President Alan Towles reported on 2014 Rallies. A May luncheon at Castleton will be held, with special thanks to Kathleen Schultz for her assistance. Camping will be available at Art Isdo for those who wish to bring their

Hands of Peace Project Update

The Hands of Peace project fundraising is on-going. One-hundred percent (100%) of all charitable donations go directly to the project administered by International Peace Garden. There is no overhead and everyone involved is a volunteer. Fundraising has been a challenge, but still continues to grow. Due to the budget restraints, government funding in the USA and Canada is not easily accessible, but avenues are still being pursued.

Support at the International Rally at Huron, SD was great. Individual WBCCI members donated \$1,181.00; Region 6 - \$700.00; Washington Unit - \$775.00; Region 12 Hobo Rally - \$450.00; Region 11 - \$250.00; and the Kansas City, MO Unit - \$100.00.

At the Region 7 "Festival of Tall Ships" rally in Duluth, Minnesota on July 24 - 30, 2013, SkyMed representatives Stan & Mary Schwenke presented the committee with a large check in the amount of \$5,000.00. Stan and Mary donated \$100.00 for every new SkyMed member who signed up at the Region rally and \$50.00 for every renewal which resulted in \$600.00. The rally raised \$746.40 through an auction of donated items and a young entrepreneur, Melanie Costello, set up a Lemonade Sale table and raised \$30.00. Thanks to all for their support of the project.

A big THANK YOU goes to the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit and their members who generously donated a total of \$1,200.00 this past summer. At the Wisconsin Unit Rally held at Marquette, Michigan, the rally participants donated a total of \$272.00 on the condition that Ed Emerick not tell the Badger story again at a Wisconsin Unit rally. There will be repercussions if he does not honour his word! The Wisconsin Unit also donated \$100.00. Thanks to everyone for a great rally and for your support of the Peace Garden Project. Just recently, an anonymous donor gave a generous \$5,000.00 gift. More information on this donation may follow at a later date. The Wisconsin Unit, Region 7, WBCCI and the Hands of Peace committee lost a valued member recently – that being Joan Lahr. Being instrumental in bringing forth the WBCCI International Peace Garden Monument project as a WBCCI project in her tenure as Region 7 president, she worked diligently on the project and as co-chair. Her valued input will be missed, but she will not be forgotten. There were donations in memory of Joan sent to the International Peace Garden for the project.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Harrower, chair

In Memoriam



Past Region 7 President Joan Lahr passed away unexpectedly from natural causes September 8, 2013. She was an incredible LADY, always thinking of someone else. Joan was a very good friend to our unit and she and Mike enjoyed their visits to North Dakota. What a stunning loss!

Joan was a champion of the Wounded Warrior Project and an active member of the Hands of Peace Restoration Project. The Lahr family and her WBCCI family lost a valuable member and she will be missed by so many.

Unit Meeting Minutes....cont'd

trailers. The weekend of June 12 will be at Medora and Larson's arranging the rally. Those attending the International could join the Unit Rally on their way to Jalet, Wyoming. In September will be the Installation Rally at Aberdeen with camping at the Centennial Campgrounds. Members from Manitoba reported that there will be a luncheon in Winnipeg this fall.

Impromptu Rallies are okay, but are not recognized for merits unless announced in the Blue Beret.

Gail Harrower brought greetings from Linda Agre from Region 7 - Luncheon in Rayne on January 8, 2014. The Regional Rally will be in Winnipeg from August 6 - 14, 2014. This will include the mid first week and the mid second week of Folklorama. A charter bus for two nights with 3 stops one

for oeuvres, next dinner and last dessert. Evening should conclude at 11:00 or 11:30 at night. Potential tours Human Rights Museum, Prairie Dog Vintage Locomotive ride, Manitoba Hydro Building. Camping is at the Oak Bluff Community Centre with daisy chain water and electrical for medical purposes, must pre-register. There will be room for 100 units.

As noted previously for the May 2014 luncheon Art Isdo has courteous parking at Absaraka, take Wheatland exist.

The Rally fee is \$25.00 per person and International and Unit Fees are \$75.00 per unit.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Don Rogers Meeting and Seconded by Joe Sylvestre. MOTIONED CARRIED.