



# Prairie Rose



Official Newsletter of the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit

November-December 2014

[www.nodak.wbcci.net](http://www.nodak.wbcci.net)

Volume 11 Issue 4



## *In this Issue*

- ◆ 2015 Rally Schedule
- ◆ Installation Rally Report
- ◆ Member News
- ◆ Protecting yourself in the Digital World

*Twilight in South Dakota. Photo by Ryan Jilek #7165*

## 2014 Rally Season wraps up at Aberdeen Installation

Peace Garden Unit Airstreamers made their way to Aberdeen, South Dakota to close out the 2014 rally season September 11 - 14. Several members arrived early, and the rest joined them on Thursday afternoon at the Centennial Campground at the Brown County Fairgrounds on the city's northeast edge.

According to the rumors, the Wells got there just in the nick of time - backing into their campsite, the rear wheel broke off their trailer. If you are going to have a mechanical failure, that was a good job of timing and location!

Thursday evening, President Allan Towles opened the rally with Happy Hour that just slid into heavy hors d'oeuvres and copious amounts of great conversation.

Friday started out with an Airstreamer favorite - oatmeal and ice cream. After breakfast, the group left for a tour of Anderson Industries. This company specializes in metal fabrication, providing components for equipment manufacturers in the agriculture and construction industries. After the tour, the group headed out of town to a country antique shop for a bit of leisure time.

Friday evening everyone was invited over to Doug and Marie Jensen's home for dinner. Doug had to be out of town for a family funeral, but Marie stayed home to entertain the group. Kathleen Schultz commented that "Her tables were set beautifully! It was a night of good food and lots of laughs and visiting. **A heartfelt Thank You to the Jensens** who

*(Continued on page 3)*

## North Dakota Peace Garden Unit Officers

**Unit President**  
Art Idso #1397

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Larry Ruebel #10081

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
Chris Wells #7394

**Treasurer**  
Bev Zink #4114

**Recording Secretary**  
Bev Wells #7394

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Roxanne Towles #4103

**Membership Chair**  
Rose Larson #5606

**Nomination Chair**  
Allan Towles #4103

**Past President**  
Allan Towles #4103

**Newsletter Editor**  
Cathy Ruebel #10081

## President's Message

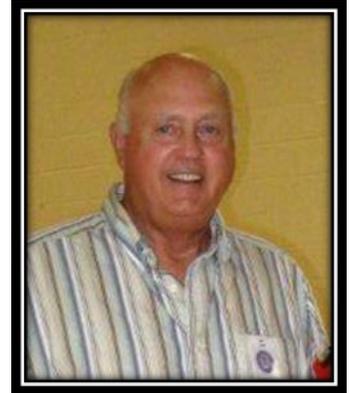
Fellow Airstreamers.

Now that the leaves have fallen and snow is near, I think about Arizona. Kathleen and I will be heading to Yman, Arizona for four months. We are very excited about the four rallies that are planned for next year.

If you have any questions, please call my cell, 701-388-0615. As I sit in the sun, I am always glad to visit.

See you in May. Art

....by Art Idso



## A Note from the Past President:

Greetings from the Towles. It has been a warm September except, of course, for the one weekend that we had the Installation Rally. Fortunately we had a nice room available for meetings and meals, so we were able to stay warm and avoid the mosquitoes.

The rally went well and I want to thank everyone for all the help during the rally and throughout the year. As a first time President, I appreciated all the encouragement and coaching to make the year a success.

I want to wish our new President Art Idso and First lady Kathleen Schultz a great year. We are looking forward to your rallies.

Thanks, again, everyone for a great year.  
Allan Towles

## 2015 Calendar of Events

January 19-24, 2015	Richard M Borchard Regional Fairgrounds, 1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd. Robstown, TX
May 2, 2015	Spring Luncheon, Valley City, ND
June 4 - 7, 2015	Summer Opener Rally, Fort Sisseton State Park, Britton, SD
June 26 - July 4, 2015	58th International Convention/Rally, Farmington, New Mexico
<i>To be announced</i>	2015 Region 7 Rally
Aug 20 - 23, 2015	Buddy Rally, Absaraka, ND
Sept 24 - 27, 2015	Fall Installation Rally, Fort Ransom State Park, Fort Ransom, ND

## Fall Installation Rally - Aberdeen, South Dakota



*Attending the Fall Installation Rally were (L to R) President Allan Towles and First Lady Roxanne, Don and Lillian Thomson, Jack Bailey, Bev and Chris Wells, John DeYoung, Marie Jensen, Sandi DeYoung, Ron and Rose Larson, Arlene Bailey, Ben and Vern Zink, Art Idso and Kathleen Schultz, and Region 7 First Mate Bruce Harrower—Region 7 President Gail Harrower was the photographer on duty.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

were so gracious in their own time of sadness. Their hospitality was above and beyond the call of duty.

Following pancake breakfast Saturday morning, the unit business meeting was held, with the nominations and election of officers for the coming year being the main item on the agenda. The Minutes as provided by Recording Secretary Bev Wells are published on page 6 of this issue.

Saturday evening, the Installation dinner was a casual "Grill your own" affair, guaranteed to have exactly what you ordered. Region 7 President Gail Harrower presided over the installation of the new slate of officers and trustees for the unit. Incoming Unit President Art Idso passed out the 2015 Rally Schedule, with dates and locations so everyone could get a jump on planning their adventures for next year.

In the morning, every one pulled together for a potluck breakfast, followed by a short reflective service led by Jack Bailey. Accompanied by Arlene on the keyboard, Jack gave an interesting talk on the



*Enjoying dinner at the Jensens' home, with hostess Marie (far right)*

hymn "How Great Thou Art".

There were lots of hugs as everyone said their goodbyes for another long winter ahead. The Wells got to spend another night in Aberdeen, so they could get their trailer in for repairs, and a return trip to retrieve their trailer when it was finished.

## Member News



*Bruce and Carolyn Coonrod : We're somewhere in the Blue Ridge Mountains along the Blue Ridge Parkway having lunch. Slow going at 30-40 mph. Did the Skyline Drive in Shenandoah National Park yesterday. Once we get to Asheville, NC area, will get a campsite for a week and tour, including the Biltmore even though tours are \$79. We're in no rush.*

### Impromptu Get Together

Fargo was the location for a Monument of Peace Committee meeting on October 25th. In attendance were Don and Lillian Thomson of Cavalier, Bev and Vern Zink, Bismarck, Bev and Chris Wells from Warren Manitoba, Bruce and Gail Harrower of Ste. Anne, Manitoba, and Linda Agre from St. Cloud, Minnesota. Following the meeting, the Harrowers headed out to Absaraka with their trailer, to spend a couple nights at Art Idso's place.

On Sunday, Kathleen Schultz arranged to have a casual luncheon at the Holiday Inn - joining them were the Wells, Zinks and Jack and Arlene Bailey. There was lots of laughs and good conversation. Following lunch, Art, Kathleen and the Harrowers took in a bit of shopping. On the return to Absaraka, they stopped at Art's son's place to check out his 1957 Dodge pickup that he had completely restored over three years' time. That evening they went into Tower City for supper. In the morning, the Harrowers headed out for Long Prairie, MN for some maintenance and repairs. Fun weekend for all!

### Past Int'l President John Shull

From Past Region 7 President Linda Agre 11-19-14: Ruth Mary Anderson-Shull called me this morning to let me know that John Shull passed away early the morning. At the time he was a patient at Hill County Regional Hospital. John was a W.B.C.C.I. Past International President. Mary is a member of the MN Unit and instrumental in the planning and starting the MN Airstream Park. Our prayers are with Mary and family. Services are pending. Address for cards: Mrs. John (Ruth-Mary) Anderson-Shull; 200 Walnut Hill Ave. #54; Hillsboro, TX 76645

### New Rolling Accommodations for the Zinks

For several years, Bev and I have talked of downsizing from our old Airstream Motorhome to a B-Van. We don't make the longer trips nor 'winter' in the motorhome like we did for several years in Fredricksburg, Texas. So we turn to our 'in-club Airstream dealers when we need something "Airstream" i. e. Ron Larson or Chris Wells. This time Chris Wells found a B Van on a Sunday evening. It looked good in the pictures and in our price range. We drove to Des Moines, Iowa, looked it over and drove it home in stiff wind for nearly 800 miles. Another example of membership benefits. Vern Z.

**THANK YOU to Ryan, Kathleen, Gail, Vern, and Bruce** for their contributions for this issue of the *Prairie Rose* newsletter

# Protecting Yourself in the Digital World

By Cathy Ruebel

My boss at work asked me to take part in a webinar to better understand how to improve the office's digital security. It was only a couple hours long, but even before it was over, I wanted to deadbolt the door, shove the credenza in front of it and unplug every bit of electronics in the office. No, I didn't, but I wanted to. Then I thought about all my family and friends and decided to share some of what I was able to get out of the presentation.

You've all heard about the other hot topic, Identity Theft. Here's a few suggestions that you can do to keep your personal world a bit safer, or at least make that hacker work a bit harder to get at it.

- The movement these days is towards The Cloud, with internet banking, shopping on the web, e-receipts instead of paper, digital photos, and the endless emails and text messages. The companies that supply online services generally have security and technical expertise in place that far exceed any that you could afford to keep up to date. Stick with name brands. Free is not free.

- Physically protect your belongings. Don't assume because you are in a "good neighborhood" that there isn't one bad apple lurking around waiting for an opportunity. Keep it out of sight and lock it up.

- **The most important action you can take to protect yourself is using "strong" passwords.** (I plead guilty here). **Your password should never be a word found in the dictionary** – they teach this one in kindergarten hacker school. Even clever variation of regular words are easily revealed, like D33R for DEER.

- Passwords should be more than 6 characters long and consist of uPPer and lower case letters, numerals, and other characters such as those found above the numbers on your keyboard.

- **Change passwords frequently.**

- Don't write your password, PIN or login on a sticky note and paste it to your computer. Or iPad, tablet, smart phone, credit card, etc..

- Don't put your passwords in a file on your computer.

- Don't use the same password or login for everything because it's easier to remember that way. If a hacker finds your file that has all your passwords, or even just one, they will think, "hey I wonder if he has a Wells Fargo, or credit card account that the same login name will work for all." It won't take them long to figure out where you bank, how to get into your house, run up a scary phone bill and max out your credit cards – you get the picture.

- There is software available to manage all your passwords, so you only have to remember that one password. But of course, if you forget that one, you're toast.

- Get GOOD internet security software. That goes for you Mac people, too. Remember here again, Free is not Free. This webinar was hosted by a consulting firm that specializes in digital security practices. On one screen sharing shot I recognized that he was using "Norton Internet Security".

- Do not depend on security vulnerabilities, such as PCs vs Mac or mobile devices, because hackers will go for the most fruitful and easy targets, and many times mobile devices are not protected at all. Do you have antivirus software on all your devices, including mobile?

- **Malware Protection:** He said NEVER turn off your virus protection, even when installing a program and it tells you to turn it off; he recommends enabling scanning e-mails before they come into the system.

- "Click Happy" - Do not click on links for greeting cards or videos that someone you know sends to you, because they can have script running in the background you never see. Even if you REALLY want to see that cute puppy video, or the joke du jour Jim Bob just sent, DO NOT CLICK IT. Step away from the mouse! If you absolutely must see it, go out on the web and google it, but make sure your internet security software is watching out for you.

- Move away from USB sticks and SD cards, as they are easily lost and your data compromised. Stay with name brand external drives, as they usually come with onboard encryption software.

- Use software to destroy data, as deleting only removes the placeholder; the data is still there

- Get rid of the old backup tapes and disks laying around – they are a security risk, even if you have nothing to run them on anymore.

It's sad that we have to take such measures, but there are practices we, as casual users, can do to protect ourselves. The least we can do is not make it easy for the slugs. The holidays are almost upon us, even if it does feel like the dead of January. Safe travels to all who haven't flown south yet. Please remember your poor editor shivering back home with nothing exciting to write about - let us know what's going on where your home is parked!

## Unit Minutes

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
NORTH DAKOTA  
PEACE GARDEN UNIT  
Fall Installation Rally,  
Aberdeen Fair Grounds  
Aberdeen, North Dakota  
September 11-14, 2014

The September 13, 2014 meeting was called to order by President Allan Towles at 9:05 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was held to recognize the passing of Unit member. Present: Towles, Isdo, Wells, Zink, Thomson, De Young, Harrower, Larson, Bailey and Jensen.

### Roll Call of Officers:

Present:

President Allan Towles  
1st Vice President Art Isdo  
2nd Vice President Larry Ruebel (absent)  
Recording Secretary Bev Wells  
Corresponding Secretary  
Roxanne Towles  
Treasurer Bev Zink  
Past President don Thomson

### Additions to Agenda: None

Reading and Approving Minutes: The May 10, 2014 minutes were approved as read with an addition as follow: The election of International Officers was missed and completed by email, mail or phone as per the Unit's Constitution. At the annual Delegates Meeting at the International Rally, the delegate and alternate will vote on behalf of the Unit. There could be matters that come before the delegates that have not been voted on by the Unit. The NDPGU delegates to vote their conscience. Ballot circulated indicated unanimous vote in favour. The minutes indicate the Delegates meeting to will be June 30th. Moved by Vern Zink and Seconded by John DeYoung. MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report: The current bank balance is \$635.01, plus 4 membership renewals paid for 2015. The membership fee is \$65.00 for International and \$15.00 for Unit. A motion to accept the report was made by Ron Larson and Seconded by Art Isdo. MOTION CARRIED.

Old Business: None at this time.

New Business: That a memoriam be sent in memory of Dorinda Lindroth.

### Reports:

**International Rally:** Bruce Harrower reported on the 2014 International Rally in Gillette, Wyoming, the report was included in the Volume II Issue 3 of the NDPGU Newsletter.

**Regional President:** Gail Harrower reported that there would be a Monument of Peace Meeting directly after the Unit Meeting. To date \$33,000 has been raised. Report will be provided immediately before installations tonight. Had a great 2014 Regional Rally with the 2015 Rally date to be determined. The Region has discussed holding a Regional Rally every other year. The Region may still have a get together, if so desired, but will not be considered a rally. The job description for Corporate Manager WBCCI is being rewritten, will be advertised, with new appointment being determined at the IBT meeting in January. For 2015 International Rally in Farmington, New Mexico a motion is being prepared to speed up the voting process. The second proposed motion is to change the year end of WBCCI from June 30 to December 31. Don Thomson has volunteered to Second Vice President for the Region.

**Nominating Committee Report:** The proposed executive for 2014/2015 for a one year term as follows:

President: Art Isdo  
First Vice-President Larry Ruebel  
Second Vice-President Chris Wells  
Recording Secretary Bev Wells  
Corresponding Secretary  
Roxanne Towles  
Treasurer Bev Zink  
Membership Rose Larson  
Trustees Allan Towles, Bev Zink and Vern Zink

As there were no further nominations from the floor, a motion was made to approve the 2014/2015 Nominations for a one year term by Jack Bailey and Seconded by Ron Larson. MOTION CARRIED.

The Elected members and the immediate Past Presidents make up the Executive Board for 2014/2015.

Presentations: Gail Harrower reported that Cathy Ruebel's NDPGU Membership Directory received first place in the bond director contest. Vern and Bev Zink will present Cathy the blue ribbon. Linda Agre presented Don Thomson with the 2013 Superior Merit Award Unit for his Presidency. Membership Stars were provided to Rose Larson to distribute with Vern and Bev Zink for 20 years, Ron and Rose Larson for 15 years and Allan and Roxanne Towles for 5 years.

Logo Committee: A motion was presented to extend the time period for presentation of a logo by Vern Zink and Seconded by Roxanne Towles.

Other Information: A luncheon will be held in Winnipeg, Saturday November 8, 2014, location to be determined.

New members are Dave and Stacy Martin from Thompson Manitoba.

2015 Rallies: Incoming President Art Isdo reported on 2015 Rallies. A May luncheon at Valley City will be held May 2, 2015. Camping will be available at Art Isdo for those who wish to bring their trailers. The Summer Opener Rally will be held June 4-7 at Fort Sisseton State Park, Britton, SD. The Buddy Rally will be held Aug 20-23 at Absaraka ND. September 24-27 is the Fall Installation Rally to be held at Fort Ransom State Park, Fort Ransom, ND.

Rally Fee: A motion was presented to provide a donation of \$50.00 for the use of the "Bar" building to be included in the Rally fee by Ron Larson and Seconded by Art Isdo.

A motion to approve pay Rally expenses and the Rally fee is \$20.00 per unit was made by Vern Zink and Seconded by Ron Larson. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by John DeYoung and Seconded by Ron Larson. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectively Submitted  
Bev Wells