



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018

KAREN SUKSI, EDITOR

The Joy of Airstreaming... finding that special somewhere:



Last newsletter, we sent out a request to our membership to share special campsite photos of their Airstream. Our first response came from Past President & First Lady Kurt/Mary Jorgensen (#06104; Prairie Du Chien, WI) of their special campsite in Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado. The photo was taken by their son Dan.

Now that the Jorgensen's have "broken the ice"...find a photo of your favorite Airstream adventure campsite, tell us where it was taken/when & we will put it in the newsletter. **It's all about living your best life and how good you can stand it!**



Thoughts from Greg...

Happy New Year

If you are a new member or a member that hasn't attended one of our events, make a New Year's resolution to do so this year. Owning an Airstream already makes you a bit adventurous so why not join us this year. I'd love to meet you and get you connected with some really interesting, knowledgeable and fun people. We'll have some good adventures together.

One of my favorite Guy Clark songs (The Cape) is about someone who, since he was 8 until he was old and gray, tied a flour sack cape around his neck and jumped off the garage roof believing he could fly. "All these years the people said, he was actin' like a kid. He did not know he couldn't fly and so he did." The chorus goes, "We'll he's one of those who knows that life is just a leap of faith. Spread your arms and hold your breath and always trust your cape." Make a leap of faith, join us for one of our events.

Make your campsite reservations soon for Cherry Picking, Fort Wilkins

and Cranberry Festival - if you want to stay with/near the group. Sites at Fort McCoy and Bailys Grove can be made now. A Bailys Grove group of sites are being held through February; Fort McCoy sites are likely to fill up for the ever popular Cranfest - no block of sites is held; just tell them you want to be near our site. Fort Wilkins sites, a State campground, can be reserved starting February 23rd. I'll make Fort Wilkins reservation on February 23rd and let you know the site number so you can reserve near it.

Join us in March to celebrate Spring and St. Patrick's Day a bit early on March 10th. Dave Sherman and Vicki Englestad have personally inspected and sampled each and every beer at Erin's Snug Pub near Sun Prairie to make sure everything is perfect for us.

I've resolved in 2018 to take Guy Clark to heart and have many leaps of faith... spread my arms and hold my breath and always trust my cape. Here's to a healthy joyful and adventurous new year.

Best
Greg Hyer

Unit events to consider ...

February Luncheon, February 17, 2019 [rsvp by 2/14/2018]

Place: Pullmans at Trolley Square, 619 S. Olde Oneida St., Appleton, WI
Hosts: Connie Sheasby and Sandy Emerick
Contact information: semerick4425@gmail.com

St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, March 10, 2018:

Place: Erin's Snug Irish Pub, Madison, WI
Hosts: Dave Sherman & Vicki Englestad
Contact information: dws Sherman@wisc.edu; vengelstad@yahoo.com

Easter Bash March 30-April 1, 2018:

Place: Peninsula State Park: Tennison Bay Campground, Door County, WI
Hosts: Ed & Sand Emerick
Contact information:
edward.emerick@gmail.com; semerick4425@gmail.com

Note from Sandy on the Easter Bash...

"Yes, it is already time to start planning for the annual Easter campaign Weekend in Door County. This weekend is a very loose, relaxed weekend. We start arriving on Friday, looking for campsites that are dry and in the sun. Outhouses will be open, but no "flushies" or showers and the water at the park can be pretty orange & rusty colored... so fill your tank at home. "

"Saturday is your day to roam...collecting supplies for the evening cookout. Bring a side to share; an appetizer, a beverage of choice and your good to go.

This weekend is a beautiful time to visit Door County without the crowds.

Look for an event announcement on facebook and let us know your interest.

Send me an email if you plan to attend."

Comments from the Unit:

From Kurt Jorgensen:

I thought I would just ask the collective wisdom of our group about cold weather camping in our Airstreams. The question is at what outside low temp would one feel comfortable sleeping inside the trailer, assuming either using our furnace or an electrical heater or both. Also assume that one is still winterized and your are dry camping so that you don't need to worry about water line freeze-ups, etc. Experiences such as (we tried it when it was 10 degrees, or 15, or 20 and it worked well or did not work well) will be particularly helpful as we head south in a week during what seems to be a relative cold spell. I have done 28 degrees, and it worked well, but not colder. Contact information: kurtspda@centurylink.net

From Teri Boehmer:

Hi Wisconsin Airstream Friends! I am wondering how many of you will be heading to International Rally. Also, I am going to do 3 presentations, including collecting recipes for a camping cookbook. So, even if you aren't coming, please feel free to send me your favorite camping recipes to be included. Your name will be included unless you don't wish to have it included. Label each with its category—appetizer, dessert, etc. thanks in advance! I hope to see some of you this summer. And the Boehmer Forest is always open for camping here in the Great Northwest!
Contact information:

From Karen Suksi:

I think our unit should refine its name to better reflect the land mass it covers; especially now that the Upper Peninsula has been incorporated into the Wisconsin Unit from Michigan. So let's see what we can come up with that demonstrates that presence...how about **WIC-UP** (wick-up) or **WI-UP** (whee-up). Send your thoughts to the newsletter editor and let's talk about it during our annual meeting in April.

Message from Region 7 President: Pete Yanke

The IBT has come and gone. You could say it was somewhat of a circus, in a good way. We completed the tasks before us and set up another list to tackle. The Region 3 folks did an outstanding job putting together the rally. The weather cooperated, the facility was good and the food was great. We were even entertained two evenings by a family that has been in the circus business for eight generations. The 2019 IBT rally will be on the gulf coast of Alabama. I have always been a proponent of this rally as it gives members good access to the decision makers of the club.

There were a number of unit name changes, flag changes, and unit badges approved. There were also changes made to the model unit constitution contained in Blue Book. The changes made reflect what some units are actually doing. If your unit is in the process of certifying your Constitution and By-Laws [C&BL], and you are using the model as a starting point, please review the new model before submitting. Remember, any changes to your C&BL has to be voted on by your members.

There will be a motion on the floor at the delegates meeting in Salem. The current timing of the IBT meetings are set in stone. They have to be just before and just after the International Rally. The proposed motion will ease that restriction and allow the president to possibly schedule the meetings during the rally. This may allow the members a better opportunity to observe the workings of the IBT. Please discuss with other members and have your delegate ready to vote.

Two new special committees were formed to hopefully help make region officer positions a little less demanding in regards to time and duration. One is to look at shortening the overall number of years to complete a region term. The second is to look at using electronic communication to attend meetings when travel is not practical.

On to other matters.....

The camping season should almost be upon us. The winter parties are coming to a completion. Look at the WBCCI calendar to find out what is going on. If you don't have your events listed on the calendar, get them out there. If you don't tell Jackson Center about your event, they can't tell the world. Wisconsin and Minnesota have a St Patty's day party in March. The Wisconsin Easter Rally is the end of March.

We will spend most of the month on the Cajun Caravan and are really looking forward to the experience.

Get out there and enjoy your trailer or motorhome.

As always.....travel safe

Pete Yanke, Region 7 President

pyanke@aol.com

Some final thoughts...

One of the greatest things about January is that it gives you the ability to pause...think about a lot of things; think about what would be fun to see and do next summer and begin the plan of what to do when you can get your rig out of storage and just go.



Its the planning... the search for the spot, sometimes solitary, sometimes not. If you crave “your space” finding options and destination to escape the crowds of Snowbirds that can cram RV parks, can really take some planning. I found an article that gave some tips you might consider if you want to avoid the crowds...

1. Choose RV parks on the fringe of town

Wanting to see and swim in the ocean may be delightful but that comes at a price... those are usually more crowded and expensive. If you are planning impromptu visits to these locations it becomes difficult to get in. A suggestion is to look at campgrounds inland, away from major attractions. There you might even get to roll out the awning.

2. If you are interested in the Southwest...principally Arizona, look at BLM lands, national parks or surrounding RV parks

Many people start clustering in small towns like Quartzsite, Arizona (near Yuma) as early as Christmas and stay for the whole winter season. This can be more people than you want. And then there are some who like to test their boon docking skills by using the BLM campgrounds/sites.

3. Read the RV discussion forums

If you want more solitude... go somewhere ELSE instead of where the flock is headed.

So looking for a winter destination can be challenging, but there are plenty of options to support “your escape plan.”

I just want to let you know that I am moving to Wisconsin in March. After 30+ years in the Upper Peninsula is it time for a change... a new journey. As of this writing, I am knee-deep in bins: pitching and sorting items that need new surroundings or ... not.

Keep warm and dream the dream.

Karen