



The Aluminum Chronicles

WBCCI Northern Illinois Unit

May 2014

Editor, Dave Mayo

[e-mail Editor](#)



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Ramblings by Bob,

May 27, 2014

Well the season has definitely started and we have had a great time so far. The Illini Rally was well attended and we all had a very nice time. For me, it doesn't get better then having a large site on the Illinois River and watching the barge traffic go by. The barges are so close to the shoreline that you could shout out to the crew if you had the mind to. The meals, company, happy hours, activities and weather

were all great. (OK I admit, it was a little too cool Saturday night but we have furnaces).

How could we top the 50th Northern Illinois Unit Birthday Celebration Rally? I don't think we could! The planning committee comprised of Carol Dixon, Anita Koch & Nancy Morrison outdid themselves in putting this weekend event together. We had 21 Rigs and with Saturday drive-ins, about 78 folks at the gala Saturday night banquet. Check out the pictures on the WBCCI web site and on our Facebook page for a pictorial description of the weekend. Again, a little cold when we arrived on Friday

(snow on the ground), but it made for an amusing and challenging job getting everyone parked and not stuck in the snow. The weather during the weekend just kept getting better and we all had a wonderful time. Thanks again Carol, Anita and Nancy.

We had our business meeting on Saturday and all our club business was addressed and handled.

Hope to see you all at Illinois Beach State Park in Zion, Illinois on June 20th. Get there early and grab a spot on the most west road of the park and we will see you there. Happy hour at 5:00PM on Friday.

Let's wear them out!

Bob

Miscellaneous Rivets

IN THIS ISSUE

The "In This Issue" section at the beginning of the newsletter (by the President's message) now has clickable links. So if you want to go directly to a particular section without having to scroll through the entire newsletter, just click on the section title in the "In This Issue" section.

UNIT CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

A motion was made from the floor to modify article III, section 3 to eliminate "or by e-mail" and to add "or via the internet". After much discussion, it was voted to state "or by e-mail, or via the internet" in this section. Upon this amendment the revised Unit Constitution was voted upon by the attending members and approved. The approved Unit Constitution is now in force for the next five years and is good until 2019.

Unit Bylaws are approved by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee approved the revised Unit Bylaws on April 17, 2014.

VOTING ON WBCCI CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

The amendments to be voted upon were listed in the May Blue Beret. Copies were also provided to members. The members voted in favor of accepting the amendments. Bob Koch has volunteered to be our unit delegate at the International Rally. Peter Schwarz has volunteered to be our alternate delegate. Peter has also volunteered to carry our unit flag at the International Rally.

VOTING ON WBCCI INTERNATIONAL CANDIDATES

The candidates to be voted upon were listed in the April Blue Beret. Copies of the candidate profiles were also provided to members. The members voted for the entire slate of candidates.

COMMUNICATION

Reminder

A WBCCI NIU e-mail address has been setup and will be used for communications from the leadership team with the membership. **Please add this e-mail address to your contacts list:**

WBCCI.Northern.Illinois.Unit@gmail.com

INTERNET UNIT INFORMATION



By clicking on our WBCCI NIU logo above, you will be taken to our unit website. By clicking on the Facebook logo above, you will be taken to our unit Facebook page.

You do not need to have a Facebook account to view our Facebook page. You can visit it just like visiting any internet web page. If you have a Facebook account, you can also post comments.

Unlike a personal Facebook page, an organization Facebook page does not have "friends". For an organization's Facebook page, Facebook users (those with a Facebook account) can go to an organization's Facebook page and "like" the organization. If you are a Facebook user, please go to www.facebook.com/wbcciniu and click on the "like" button to "like" our Facebook page. We now have 15 likes. WBCCI Quebec has liked our Facebook page, how cool is that.

Thanks!!!

Member News

Membership Committee Chairman Position

Hal Withey has come forward to volunteer to be our new Membership Committee Chairman. We thank Bob Koch for being our Membership Committee Chairman since 1999 and the great job he has done. Bob will work with Hal to make for a smooth transition. Thanks Hal for stepping forward. It is our volunteers who help to keep this unit going.

2nd Vice President Candidate

Rick Wendorf has volunteered to be a candidate for the position of 2nd Vice President for 2015. Since Rick is currently a Trustee in his first year of a two year term; we need a candidate to complete Rick's second year as a Trustee. Dolores Mayo has volunteered to be a Trustee to complete Rick's second year.

Trustee Candidates

Dick DeHahn and Hal Withey are completing their second year as Trustees this year. Article IV, section 3 of our unit constitution states "No Trustee shall serve more than one two-year term consecutively." Thus, candidates are needed for these two Trustee positions. Sandy Whitesell and Marge Kraner have volunteered to be candidates for these two open trustee positions.

Thus we will have a full slate of candidates for all of the unit officer positions. Our elections will be held at our business meeting taking place on Saturday morning of our Thanksgiving rally in October.

Suggestion Box


Jim Tome suggested that we have a rally at Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park; click on this link [Lake Le-Ocqua-Na State Park](#) to see more about this state park. Jim stated “This park it's outside of Lena, up on Rt. 20, about a half hour from Galena. A fantastic park with a good size lake, hiking trails and within easy driving distance of Galena. Debbie and I have stayed there many times and have never been disappointed. Lake Le-Aqua-Na is pretty big. The campsites remind me a lot of Starved Rock, though a bit more wooded. The road around the lake is super, super hilly and curvy. Freaks out my wife every time we go there. I just floor it and enjoy the ride!”

I have never heard of this park; it sounds great. We will keep this park in mind for future scheduling.

By clicking on this [SUGGESTION BOX LINK](#) , you can e-mail your suggestion to your leadership team. Please type in “**Suggestion Box**” in the e-mail title. We will respond to your suggestion within 30 days. Suggestions being implemented will be listed in this section of the newsletter.

Highlights - Recent Events / Rallies

Illini State Park Rally – April 25th to 27th

The Illinini State Park rally kicked off our rally season. We camped together in the Great Falls (river front) Loop on sites 2-20. Eleven Airstreams were on-site. Our attendees included five newer members - Bush/Broedlow, Comer/Sanders, Gardners', Schwarzs', and Tomes', plus regulars: Damish, Dutton, Koch, Kraner, Rita, and Whitesell. The temperature was moderate for happy hours on Thursday & Friday afternoons. Saturday's potluck had lots of great side dishes to pass, we had more than enough food. The weather was great during the day but the temperature got brisk in the evening, so we retired to the warmth of our trailers early. It was a good start to an active camping season for the Northern Illinois Unit. See  for an album of pictures.

50th Anniversary Rally – May 16th to 18th

The Northern Illinois Unit celebrated their 50th Anniversary as a chartered Unit of WBCCI on May 17, 2014 at the Lee County Fairgrounds at Amboy, Illinois.

Our Golden Anniversary celebration was attended by twenty-one Airstream trailers plus an additional 33 current and past members who drove in for the celebration on Saturday.

A catered banquet, consisting of pulled pork and Italian beef, plus a wide assortment of side dishes was served to 74 members, past members, friends and family. They then enjoyed our anniversary cakes and ice cream. The cake brought by the Lincolnland Unit was decorated in blue, with an airstream trailer. The cake from Northern Illinois had the unit logo, gold decoration with a miniature Airstream trailer.



Carol presented a short program, including the reading of a poem about the history of the unit.




The microphone was then passed around, so the members could recount their fondest memories with the unit and their Airstream trailers. A commemorative booklet about our history was passed out to those present. Additional booklets will be mailed to current members and those expressing interest, but were unable to attend.

There were four tables of history books, pictures and other memorabilia for reminiscing. The members enjoyed looking at the history of the club. Everyone was focused on the “fun” of meeting new people and renewing their “fellowships” with old acquaintances. It was a “golden adventure” for all.

Carol Dixon, Anniversaries Committee Chairwoman

The planning committee comprised of Carol Dixon, Anita Koch & Nancy Morrison out did themselves in putting this weekend event together. We appreciate their hard work – thanks.



See  for an album of pictures.



Member Spotlight – Jean & Dick DeHahn

This month we are spotlighting **Jean & Dick DeHahn**.



Type of Airstream:	2006 Classic 75 th Anniversary Edition 30 ft. With Slide
Tow Vehicle or Towed:	2003 Chevrolet Silverado ¾ ton Heavy Duty
Number of Years in WBCCI:	12 years
Number of States Slept In with Airstream:	15
Favorite Campsite:	McClain State Park On the Keweenaw Peninsula in Northern Michigan with “Ores, Shores, & Lights” Caravan. We had spectacular views of Lake Superior and awesome sunsets.
Outside Temperature Camped In:	
Coldest	17 F
Warmest	100 F

In a few words tell us about yourself:

We were married in 1965 after having met and dated at Illinois State University. We have 2 sons, 4 grandchildren & 1 great grand-daughter.

We are both retired teachers. Dick taught Industrial Arts and Jean taught 5th grade.

After retirement, we decided to upgrade from a pop-up trailer we towed behind a Honda Goldwing to a 1994 25 ft. Classic Excella Airstream. We then had room to carry Dick's RC airplanes in the truck and really were proud to own our 25 ft. Airstream. At the time we had a sweet 80 lb. chocolate lab, Buster, and had to learn to pass each other in the narrow trailer. We began to look for a 30 ft. Airstream with a slide. We now have a 2006 30 ft. Classic Airstream and really appreciate the room. (We had replaced almost everything in the smaller trailer so the new owners (would) enjoy the "like new" trailer.) We have built an 8 x 10 shed on our site in Green Valley, Arizona with work benches for Dick's airplanes and Jean's stained glass as well as the still needed storage. Buster is no longer with us but we have adopted Lucky, a Jack Russell/Maltese Terrier mix who we affectionately call a Jack Rascal. This larger "Twinkie" makes living in it for 5-6 months a lot easier. Number 1188 has been added to this "Twinkie".

After joining WBCCI Dick has served on the Board of Directors of the Northern Ill. Unit and Jean has served as secretary. We have taken several caravans and rallies as well as 2 International Rallies. The Rallies and Caravans sponsored by WBCCI were well planned including notebooks/binders with schedules of events and enthusiastic leaders.

The member spotlight is to help members become better acquainted with each other. To facilitate this process we have created a format to make it easy. I have attached a Microsoft Word document containing a blank form. We would appreciate members completing the form and sending it to us so we can continue to spotlight our members in our newsletter. We will spotlight one member each month; please help us out and provide us with your story.

Tech Time

This month's tech time is provided by Jim Kraner.

RV water tanks want to be disinfected at least once a year, if not more, especially when you have left water in the tank for a long time. Bacteria grows and develops into a rotten egg smell in the water. I find it best to drain all the water out of the tank and refill the tank with household bleach and fresh water. I pour 6 oz of bleach for a 40 gallon tank, right into the fill hose and attach it to the faucet and fill the tank. You can proportion the amount of bleach for your size tank. With the bleach in the hose you are also disinfecting the hose. Once the water tank is full, run both hot and cold water at the farthest faucet from the water tank until you smell bleach on your hand that's in the running water. Then go to the next farthest faucet and do the same, until all water outlets have had bleach through them, even the toilet. Let the bleached water in the system over night and then drain the tank and fill with fresh water and flush out the bleach water from each faucet. I also have a squirt bottle filled with bleach water and before I use a camp ground water source, I spray the faucet handle, hose attachment threads and my water hose attachment fittings to kill bacteria, especially the water sources that campers use to wash their dishes and sources close to a dump station.

We are looking for good tech time articles. Please write-up your favorite tech time tip and submit it to the newsletter editor for publication.

Upcoming Events / Rallies

Many of our upcoming rallies are being held in state parks. Each member attending will book their own reservation for their site. Illinois use [ReserveAmerica](#) system to reserve sites.

Here is a listing of our remaining **2014 rallies**:

June 20th to June 22nd

[Illinois Beach State Park](#)

Lake Front / Park Office
Zion, IL 60099
847-662-4811

We rally in sites 115 to 149 since these sites are larger and more private.

Happy hour will be at 5:00 pm on Friday and Saturday evenings. At the happy hour we will discuss activities to do.

Things to do:

28th Annual [Nostalgia Days Festival](#) and carnival including a car show.
Live entertainment on Friday June 20th at the Bandshell (in Zion) from 6 PM to 8:30Pm and on Saturday from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Recreational activities at Illinois Beach State Park include boating, swimming, hiking, bicycling, camping, bird watching, and picnicking. Known primarily for the beach, Illinois Beach State Park also includes [dune](#) areas, [wetlands](#), [prairie](#), and black [oak savanna](#). The area at the far southern end of the park is a designated [nature preserve](#), which was named a [National Natural Landmark](#) in 1980

There is the [Lakeside Restaurant](#) at the Illinois Beach State Park Lodge. Friday night all you can eat fish fry for \$9.95.

Mid June

Caravan to the International Rally

Many times members going to the International Rally will caravan together. Members wishing to caravan this year should contact Bob Whitesell so we can get a listing of members interested.

June 28th to July 4th

[International Rally](#)

Gillette, Wyoming

July 18th to July 20th

[Shabbona Lake State Park](#)

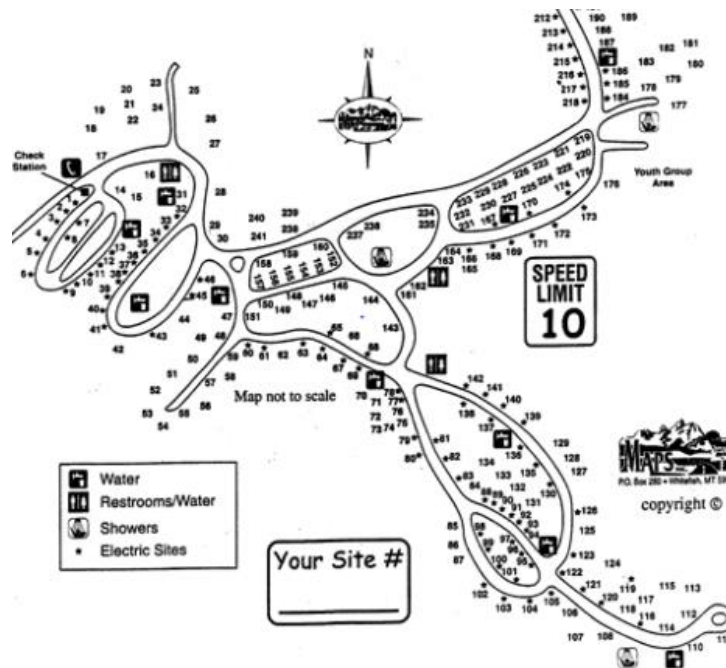
100 Preserve Road
Shabbona, IL 60550
815.824.2106

We rally in the Merganser circle loop starting with site 85.

August 22nd to August 24th

[Mississippi Palisades State Park](#)

16327A IL Rte. 84
Savanna, IL 61074
815.273.2731



We should try to get in sites in the 60 to 80 range. These sites are in the bottom middle of this map

Sept 10th to Sept 14th

Region 5 Rally

State Fairgrounds
801 E Sangamon Ave.
Springfield, IL 62707
Contact: Monte Barksdale (815) 458-3895

Note: The Road America Vintage Festival, in the past several years, was a joint rally between the Northern Illinois Unit and the Wisconsin unit. The festival this year is being held a week later and as a result conflicts with the Region 5 Rally. **Thus our unit will not be participating in the 2014 Road America Vintage Festival.** Any WBCCI member may attend any WBCCI event; this will be a Wisconsin Unit event only.

[Road America Vintage Festival](#)

Sept 12th to Sept 14th

N7390 State Hwy 67
Plymouth, WI 53073
(920) 892-4576

Oct 17th to Oct 19th

Thanksgiving & Installation Rally

Lee County 4-H Center & Fairgrounds
1196 Franklin Rd.
Amboy, IL 61310

We install our new officers for 2015.

December 6th

Christmas Event

White Pines Dinner Theater

White Pines Inn

6712 W. Pines Rd.

Mount Morris, IL 61054

Branson On The Road - Christmas Style

Musical

December 2, 3, 4 & 5

*** Evening shows November 28, 29 & 30 & December 5 & 6**

What do you get when you bring together a fiddle, mandolin, banjo, guitar, upright slap bass, beautiful rhinestone costumes, hilarious comedy and country Christmas, bluegrass, rockabilly and gospel music? Only one answer Branson On The Road® - Christmas Style, direct from the live music capital of the world, Branson, Missouri. Those seeing the show for the first time, can not only expect great Christmas music, old country favorites and amazing instrumental abilities, but also plenty of hilarious comedy every step of the way. Branson On The Road® are regular performers on the national television show, "Midwest Country" on the RFD-TV network seen in over 100 million homes. White Pines has to add on a \$9 per ticket upcharge to the matinee show prices and a \$7 per ticket upcharge to the evening & Sunday show prices.