The Southeastern Camping Times

JANUARY 2014 ENJOY THE RIDE ISSUE THREE

New Year, New Unit...Officially!

Mid-Winter IBT casts Votes that Move WBCCI Forward

While many of us were enjoying a great rally at the Canopener, Region 3 President (and SECamping Affiliate) Jay Thompson was tending to club business at the Mid-Winter IBT in Rayne, Louisiana.

The agenda included a number of measures which will bring significant change to the club. Most important to many of us was the approval of a charter for the Southeastern Camping Unit. Regular members of record on January 10, 2014 are "Charter Members". A second measure of great interest was approval of a Unit Flag for that unit. Both measures passed without objection. The flag, pictured above, is unlike any other in the club and brought many comments from those in attendance. The creator of the flag is Antsy McClain. You may be more familiar with his music. You can see and hear more of his work at www.unhitched.com.

There were other measures approved by the IBT. The more interesting include:

- Sending a measures to provide electronic membership renewal, and broaden the permitted dates for the International Rally to the delegates for a vote.
- Remove $45,000 headquarters "fee" from the International Rally budget. This will reduce rally fees significantly.
- Require all IBT votes be recorded to reflect those supporting and opposing all measures.
- Re-instatement of the News and Views electronic newsletter.

Many of these changes have been previously sought and their approval signals change in the air for WBCCI!

The Southeastern Camping Unit Chartered with 39 Regular Members!

To join our Facebook Group, go to Southeastern Camping Unit WBCCI (on Facebook) and request membership.

Membership Update

From Beth Hackney

Since we chartered with 39 members at the recent IBT, we have gained 4 new regular members and 9 new affiliate members. Our total membership for January 2014, is 43 regular and 33 affiliates. That is an increase of 7 regular members and 12 affiliates since last month. The following folks have recently joined the WBCCI club to become members of our unit:

Bill & Robin Harrison, Marietta, GA
Sharon Barnes, Summervillle, SC
Brad & Karen Roberts, Marietta, Ga
Russell & Lisa Arpaia, Woodbridge, CT

Our unit now represents folks from 9 different states. As a result of our growth and some donations, our treasury has now ballooned to $85.03.

SE Camping members serve "Tomato Bisque" at the Canopener in January.

A Note from Roy Beavers

Wow, how time flies! Two more rally weekends concluded with all participants totally enjoying themselves at A. H. Stephens State Park New Year's Eve and Topsail Preserve for the 2014 Canopener. Last week was especially busy for many. Our charter and flag were presented to and approved by the WBCCI Winter IBT making our unit "OFFICIAL". Many thanks to all that helped make this happen, especially Matt and Beth Hackney for drafting the charter and getting it to pass muster before the IBT.

I am continually getting notices of new members joining, as either regular or affiliates. This is exciting. Hopefully, this trend will continue. All the comments I hear reinforce the idea that we are doing the things that appeals to many folks, either established Airstreamers or "Newbies".

If you checked the Calendar or Unit Event Information page lately, you have seen additional rallies posted. While we would like you to attend every one, we realize that is impossible. Pick one, or a few, and join us whenever you can. If you have rally ideas, let me know. If you are willing to host the event, that's even better. We are looking for locations in Alabama and The Carolinas. Rally format is simple. For more details, contact Craig, Matt or me.

Elaine and I hope to see you at Payne's Prairie and Alumaflamingo.

See you down the road!

Roy Beavers
WBCCI 4392

Moving WBCCI Forward

A covered bridge near Watkinsville, GA made an interesting stop

Not your typical WBCCI Unit!

Our activities will all be posted on the website at :

http://secamping.wbcci.net/event/

In addition, we have a Facebook group. This is a "closed" group so your posts can only be seen by other members. We hope this will become an interactive way to reach other members of the Unit for smaller camping trips. If you want to plan a trip and want company or ideas for locations and ideas, just post. If you haven't already joined the Facebook Group, send a request to the Southeastern Camping Unit WBCCI.

New Years Rally Report

We had a fantastic time at A.H. Stephens State Park for New Years. With 12 rigs, including some affiliates and some (now) new members, there was good food, great fun, and a little adventure. For example, ever thought of combining a campfire and a movie? When you camp in January, you sometimes have to use some imagination.

We also visited a few historical site and took a few hikes. Beth and I would like to thank everyone for making it such an enjoyable and easy rally to host. We had a great time! The photos throughout the newsletter are proof.

See you down the road!

Matt and Beth

From Craig Stephens

The deep freeze of January 2014 has now receded, with it came many challenges for those of us who love our Airstreams. I hope you all survived unscathed. We had a great, although chilly, New Years Rally at A.H. Stephens State Park. Matt and Beth had several activities to choose from each day such as exploring the small Georgia towns in the area, historical sites, a brewery tour, and a roaring campfire each night, and during the day to stay warm! Each rally held, in my opinion, hit the sweet spot for what we as a new unit are trying to do, fun, fellowship and exploration. Our excellent volunteer hosts have planned and provided opportunities for our members to get out camping in our Airstreams and do things that we might not have since we didn't know about the … If you have joined us, you can fill in your event, was it finding a new to us old covered bridge? Learning about the impact the Callaway family had on Georgia? Or tasting Matt Hackney's awesome lasagna? The fellowship of other Airstreamers is a bonus on top of being out and having fun, how many stars were on that last Airstream? While many of us can't yet participate in the long caravans through the WBCCI, there will be opportunities for shorter weeklong caravans through our unit. A quick Google search of "Driving Tours in the Southeastern US" brought up many interesting options. There were enough of them to go quite a few years without repeats. Any volunteers?

As others will surely have mentioned in this newsletter, we are now OFFICIAL! At the Mid Winter IBT meeting, our unit charter was approved as well as our unit flag. We are now the newest unit in the WBCCI. (Is it bragging to say we are the fastest growing as well?) There were 22 rigs from our unit gathered at the Canopener Rally at Top Sail State Park able to celebrate when it was announced. I wish we could have attended and joined the celebration. Our unit web page (http://secamping.wbcci.net) has a link to "Moving WBCCI Forward". The thoughts expressed there are the exact things we have been discussing around the campfire during our rallies. I am grateful to be part of WBCCI's newest unit, and look forward to being part of the revitalization of the largest and oldest Airstream affinity club in the world.

Safe Travels,

Craig

Joe and Annette Conoly are hosting us at Payne's Prairie near Gainesville, FL. If you are planning to attend, please let Joe know and make your own reservation with the park. Note that we plan to arrive on Friday, February 14. Ocala North RV Park is about 15 minutes from Payne's Prairie just South off I-75. The campground has full hookups and will charge between $15 and $17 per night. Be sure and tell them you are with the Airstream group from Payne's Prairie. Call to make reservations (888) 699-9151. Their web site is www.ocalanorthrv.com

Annette and I are excited about seeing everyone coming to the "Little Rally on the Prairie". Over 20 rigs have signed up and there is still room at the overflow campground Ocala North RV park. We hope to make this a relaxing, get aquatinted rally so the folks going down to Sarasota will be ready to enjoy Alumaflamingo.
Friday we will host a BBQ dinner.
Saturday will be hiking in the morning and pot luck for dinner.
Sunday morning breakfast hosted by Bob and Lia. Those wanting to can tour Micanopy or Cross Creek, hike or bike the park but be sure to make the late afternoon Blue Highway Pizza joint for dinner. One of the best in Gainesville.
Monday for those that want can go to Harry Beckwith gun shop and range for some indoor shooting. We will leave around 10:00 AM.
Everybody have safe travels and we'll see you when you get here.
Joe & Annette Conoly

Jerry O'Connell enjoying Oysters at the Canopener

Notes on Alumaflamingo

The Southeastern Camping Unit will have over 20 rigs at Payne's Prairie. Most are headed from there to Alumaflamingo on Tuesday, February 18. Those entering together can be parked together. (Note - those who reserved rally electric will be in a different section than those with 30 amp). If you are attending Alumaflamingo but not attending the rally, you can meet the group at the Rest Area on I-75 north of Sarasota or in the Bullpen the 18th. Contact Roy Beavers (egrbeav@bellsouth.net) to let him know of your interest.

We will have a very large attendance at Flamingo and have been asked to staff a WBCCI Table. Volunteers will be in the Vendor Area sharing information about the WBCCI, Region 3, and the Southeastern Camping Unit. There are many attending who aren't currently members. Roy will be putting together a schedule, so please let him know you can spend a few hours meeting new people.

Rally Report from the Canopener

There were 22 rigs representing the Southeastern Camping Unit (and WBCCI) at the Canopener in Santa Rosa Beach, FL. In case you can't tell from the photos, a great time was had by all. The highlight for many was the Friday celebration of IBT Approval of our Charter and Flag. There must have been at least 50 people gathered to help in the festivities. Ed Overcash and the folks at Felver Designs put together a banner which will be come our Rally Host Banner:

As Beth mentioned in the Membership report, we continue to grow. The AirForums offer an opportunity to inform non-WBCCI members of the Fun, Friendship, and Adventure we offer.

Aluma-events offer another fantastic opportunity to meet and inform non-WBCCI Airstream owners. We hope you will join us there

See you down the road!

Southeastern Camping Calendar of Events

Alumalina

Sandlapper has invited all SE Camping Unit members to participate in 2014's Alumalina March 28-30. The campground is full. For more information see: http://www.airforums.com/forums/f288/alumalina-2014-a-111542.html

SE Camping Spring Fling

The 2014 SECU Spring Fling will be hosted by Roy and Elaine Beavers at Beautiful Harrison Bay State Park on Lake Chickamauga near Chattanooga April 25-27. http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/harrison-bay. For reservations, go to https://tnstateparks.itinio.com/harrison-bay Let's try to group up in campground C starting at site C14. This will be our Pre-Region 3 rally that will include a caravan to Region 3 on April 28 & 29. Contact Roy Beavers at egrbeav@bellsouth.net.

Virginia Mountains Rally

Memorial Day weekend 2014 (May 23-26), Chuck and Susan Nesbit are hosting the unit at the Virginia Highland Haven Airstream Park http://www.vahighlandhaven.org/. Listening to bluegrass music is a tradition on Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons in nearby Floyd, Virginia. Timing of the rally is perfect for those traveling to attend Alumapalooza 2014 in Jackson Center, Ohio May 27-June 1. If you plan to attend this rally please let Chuck and Susan know so they will have a headcount for planning activities. Reservations cannot be made on the Highland Haven website. Make reservations by calling the park host directly at 540-651-9050. Tell the host you are with the Southeastern Camping Unit rally as well as the dates you plan to be at the park.

Caravan to WBCCI International

Matt Hackney, our unit wagon master, is planning a caravan to International, in Gillette, WY. Dates are TBD. Contact Matt at eroney@aol.com if you would like to attend.

America's Pastime Rally

Bill and Kathy Narowski are hosting a rally. It will be at Bald Ridge Corps of Engineers Park on Lake Lanier August 8-10. An optional trip to The Ted for a Braves-Nationals game is in the works. For reservations go to http://www.recreation.gov/unifSearchResults.do?topTabIndex=Search. For more information, contact Bill Narowski at wnarowski@msn.com.